

Transcript of Oral History Interview with Speaker 2

Interviewee: Speaker 2

Interviewer: Speaker 1

Date: Unknown

Location (Interviewee): Unknown

Location (Interviewer): Unknown

Transcription Equipment: Otter.ai

Interview Technology: Unknown

Abstract: Speaker 2 talks about how their faith has been affected the COVID-19 pandemic. They also discuss how their church has adapted to COVID-19 restrictions and what community service efforts it has been involved in.

Speaker 1 0:00

So, first question is: how has COVID-19 affected your faith or belief?

Speaker 2 0:05

Um, I think it affected in a good way, where, like, people always tell me, like, "God's gonna provide for you, and he's there for you." And I'm like, "uh-huh sure," but I got lucky enough to get a job that's essential. So, I still get to work and still get to be with people that I love outside of my family and get a pay raise and enough to pay my bills and, and it let me like really believe that God is actually providing for me and made me actually, like, have a stronger faith than I was having before COVID, so.

Speaker 1 0:40

Alright. Is your religious community still gathering currently? How has COVID-19 affected your participation in your religious community?

Speaker 2 0:50

So, we're not gatherings typically, we're gathering, gathering online. So, I volunteer for the youth groups, our youth group is doing live services on Wednesdays on our Instagram. And we've gone from 20 views, like the first one that we've done in like a month ago, to 80 views this last Wednesday. And so we're trying to reach out to the community try to reach out to other churches that are struggling in this community to be like, "Come join us for church like we would love to host this church for you." And our church, our greater church, the church that I attend, is doing live services too every Sunday and Tuesday and Wednesday. And so they're very like, it almost feel as if you're not missing church, so they're doing a really good job at like, can be at home, but still have church at home and watch us live on Facebook or Instagram or whatever it is.

Speaker 1 1:40

Gotcha. Is your, is your religious community supplying or engaged in any kind of community service in an attempt to help alleviate issues caused by the pandemic? If so, what are those efforts?

Speaker 2 1:52

So, we have a group of experts called Love Now and they have been putting like home kits together to people who can't necessarily leave their house, because they're at risk. And so

they've done like a toilet paper and flour and the things that like are essential to them that they need and have delivered it to their houses and have kept it clean and sanitized it so that people aren't at risk [UNINTELLIGABLE] the products that they need to just kind of live right now. And our pastor has done a really good job at just being the live face. He's been so involved, like, on Instagram and on Facebook, so people can reach out to him and be like, "Hey, I need prayers for this, I need prayers for this." He's been very, like, really good at just being responsive and being aware that people are scared and don't know how to handle this and he's been trying to do the best he can from his home on how to like address the situation.