

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 the COVID-19 pandemic has affected their faith and beliefs as well as changes to participation in their church community. They also talk about how their church's free lunch program for elementary and middle school students has been impacted.

Speaker 1 0:00

Okay, so for the first question: how has COVID-19 affected your faith and or beliefs?

Speaker 2 0:07

Actually, I believe, in an odd way, it has made my faith stronger and my beliefs more solid. Instead of falling into the frenzy in this the panic that's out there because of the unknown. My ability to lean into God and rely on my faith has really made me calm, I guess you'd say.

Speaker 1 0:33

Oh okay, cool. Thank you for the answer. For the second question and it is: is your religious community thought gathering currently? And how has COVID-19 affected your participation in your religious community?

Speaker 2 0:47

The church has not been meeting in person for several weeks, probably, like, almost five weeks now. But they already had an online presence. What they have done to make sure they don't leave people feeling like the church has left them is they've upped that, instead of just the couple Sunday services, they're doing several times to the week as well. And the people that are viewing and watching online has gone up dramatically, which is very encouraging.

Speaker 1 1:17

Okay, cool. That's awesome. And then for the next question. Is your religious community supplying or has it engaged in any kind of community service in an attempt to alleviate issues caused by this pandemic? And if so, what are those efforts?

Speaker 2 1:34

I'd say the biggest community effort that my church has made, is to continue the program they already had in place and expanded actually, for elementary, middle school students that couldn't afford school lunches. And what they did- have done is, like I said, to expand it, especially since that may have been the only meals these kids were eating, is that they've gotten together and knowledge of whether, generally, the children live and are doing neighborhood drops for the lunches that they've prepared for anyone that's interested and still making sure that those kids know that, you know, the church is reaching out and showing God's love and making sure they are not forgotten.

Speaker 1 2:17

Wow, well, that's really awesome. Well, that was really all I had to ask. I just wanted to get your insight on what's been going on and do this project for my class. But thank you so much.

Speaker 2 2:28

You're welcome.

Speaker 1 2:29

Okay, well, have a great day.

Speaker 2 2:31

Okay, you too. Buh bye.

Speaker 1 2:32

Thanks. Bye.