

Transcript of Oral History Interview with Speaker 2

Interviewee: Speaker 2

Interviewer: Speaker 1

Date: Unknown

Location (Interviewee): Unknown

Location (Interviewer): Unknown

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Abstract: Speaker 2 talks about how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected their faith and beliefs. They also talk about changes in their religious community's practices to accommodate for COVID-19 and what community service activities it has engaged in to help those impacted by the pandemic.

Speaker 1 0:00

So, how has COVID-19 affected your faith or beliefs?

Speaker 2 0:07

Um, I think it's probably, I guess made it stronger, I guess, and sometimes it's hard to think that like there is a greater purpose for all of this, but at the same time, I think having faith has kept me grounded and it's also given me a source of community and kind of like a sense of peace during this time.

Speaker 1 0:37

So, going off of that: is your religious community still gathering currently? And how is COVID affected your participation in your religious community?

Speaker 2 0:48

Yeah, so my church is meeting. Every week they do, they pre-record an online sermon. So, I've been watching that every Sunday. And then, every week, my community group has been doing Zoom conference, not conferences, but like Zoom meetings, to, yeah, just continue our community groups that I know there are other groups that are meeting and they do a prayer group every Tuesday night at 8pm. So, they're definitely keeping the same kind of meeting cadence, but then also adding in some extra stuff for the COVID related things.

Speaker 1 1:38

So, because of that, do you think is: your religious community supplying are engaged any kind of community service in an attempt to help alleviate issues caused by the pandemic? And if so, what are these efforts?

Speaker 2 1:53

Yeah, they definitely are. They're still taking like the everyday offering and, and, or not every day, but every week offering, but they, so they've added a portion of that offering to a separate COVID fund that they opened in addition to that, so when people donate to the church, they can

either donate to the offering page and specify that they want that to go towards families that are in need in the church, or families that are need in the community that they want helped. Or I think they've been doing various drives for like clothing for food, and that sort of thing. So, yeah, I would say that's probably about it. Overall, just a fund and they're allocating it as they see fit. And I know that they're a big thing that they're doing is doing rent support for people that have been furloughed or laid off.

Speaker 1 3:04

Okay, perfect. And that's it. Thank you so much.

Speaker 2 3:10

Thank you.