

- How has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the life of you and your family?

I felt that we got closer as a family during this time. We learned to appreciate little things. We took lots of walks and hikes. We missed our friends and things we used to do. but I was proud of my kids that they knew that we were doing the right thing not having a birthday party. or attending online school.

- What is the most moving thing you've seen during the pandemic?

I felt that the city going through the BLM protests for the death of George Floyd was the most moving thing. That people were taking to the streets to stand up to police oppression, and that the pandemic highlighted all the things that are wrong with the American experiment - that during such a dark and terrible time we could still find things that gave us hope. That maybe there were enough of us who cared. who said "enough is enough," and that real reform might be possible if we just keep our eyes on the prize. it's easy to give up hope. and feel isolated. But I felt that our family and many families around me were woken up. And said NO! To oppression, injustice, and all the economic inequality rife in our system.

- Have you experienced a significant life event, such as a birth, death, wedding, graduation, or new job? Have you moved? How has the pandemic impacted these events?

We moved to a new house. We felt it was a strange thing to do, but it worked out. It was the right time and the right thing to do for our family, but we did of course feel that we were incredibly privileged to be able to do so when so many were struggling.

- Have you developed new habits or skills since the pandemic began?

Well I have tried to get over the fear of missing out on things. WE also found out that we loved hiking and walking more. Our kids learned to ride bikes during this time. And we have kept up with that. We have been outdoors as much as we could.

- How do you think you will remember this period of your life in 10 years? How will your family and friends remember it?

I want to forget this time. I want to move on. I have heard of so much suffering and death. We were just lucky it spared the ones closest to us. So, I like to think that I will only remember this time personally for the time I had with my children, who I love so deeply and am so proud of. That they will move on from this time being more empathic and kind, and that no matter what they do in life they will be able to put themselves in someone else's shoes and fight for a just and better world. I am a student of history and I know that with many soldiers' narratives returning from war they don't want to remember what happened. and don't want to talk about it. I just want to move on from it. I have put "one foot in front of the other" every day for more than a year now. I want to move on from talking and speaking about it. and wait a good 20 years to read about this time after all the historical record can solidify.