

ALUMNI RESPONSES TO COVID-19

Resource Development

- **Rachel Davis (MACT '20)** is a missionary and teacher, who after becoming ill last year returned to the states with an autoimmune disease. Now one of her small endeavors from home, and often from her bed, has been to bring greater awareness of the emotional, relational and spiritual needs of the chronic illness sufferers to the community. She has recently been writing recently as a response to the challenges that isolation has placed on individuals who have never before experienced it. Her goal is to draw parallels for them in a very personal way between what they are feeling now, and what chronic illness Warriors fight against on a regular basis.
- **Tammy McLeod (MASF '16)** She and her husband lost a son to ambiguous loss through a traumatic brain injury in high school football scrimmage. Zach is now severely disabled for life and living in a group home. They tell their story in their book *Hit Hard: One Family's Learning of Letting Go of What Was and Learning to Live Well With What Is*.

Now with COVID-19 the whole world is living with ambiguous loss. See definition in her article "Understanding and Help for Ambiguous Loss During the Ongoing Pandemic" through this link: www.patandtammymcleod.com under the tab "Ambiguous Loss."

Last month they started COVID-19 Conversations on their website, too. They continued through June.

<https://patandtammymcleod.com/covid-19-conversations/>.

In the past month, they have given online talks to Harvard Chaplains and students, Harvard In-Tech, The COVID Foundation, Community Rowing, Inc., VOCA Center, churches and campus ministers.

- **Steve Reynolds (M.Div. '81)** after 32 years in pastoral ministry, he now serves as a church consultant, supply preacher, lay studies instructor, and with helping churches in his denomination with pastoral placement. During the pandemic, he has been helping people cope with the pandemic through daily Bible readings and a short message on social media. In these daily sessions, he makes it very clear that it is a safe place for anyone to come no matter where they are in their spiritual journey. At the same time, he makes it very clear that Jesus Christ and his gospel is the focus of what he is trying to do.
- **David Brown (M.Div. '73, D.Min. '98)** spent the month of Quarantine leading up to Easter writing 27 devotions from The Book of Revelation. It is called "The Time is Near: A Pastor's Encouragements from the Book of Revelation."
- **Denise Plichta (MABS '15)** is using her first Master's degree in Infectious Disease Epidemiology, she's shifted to compiling information about COVID-19 and putting it onto one page of her website.

Alumni

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You can view at <https://redemptivehistorytheology.com/covid-19-information/>.

- **Matt Reffie (MACH '18)** is a Content Writer - KRC English/ProjectArctos.com. They are hosting a small interactive online 'Hearing God' workshop in addition to producing their usual quarterly articles for print and online.

To view additional responses, please visit gordonconwell.edu/alumni/covid-19-responses.