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What were your thoughts when the first COVID-19 cases were being diagnosed in China? Did you expect it to spread to the US?

I felt sorry to hear people in China were sick. I did not expect it to spread to the US! I had NO idea what was coming.

How have things changed for you and/or your family since the outbreak?

I miss working with the students. I miss seeing my family and friends. I became a grandmother again during this time. Very scary. All went well and her birth has given me hope for the future. Life does go on.

For you, what is the worst thing about this?

Not being able to socialize with people.

In your experience so far, what, if anything, has been positive about this?

Time to accomplish chores around the house that I didn't have time for before. More time to read and play with my dog. Time to reach out often to friends by phone. Also, writing notes to loved ones telling them how important they are to me.

Tell us about a moment or experience during this time that you will never forget.

1) The birth of my granddaughter. What joy she brought to the family. 2) The kindness of people. Strangers helping those in need. People stepping up to help in so many ways. A complete stranger helped me get masks. People thought she was running a scam because the price was so reasonable! After I received my masks she told me to please call her if I needed anything. She was just a Somers mother helping others because she could. Restored my faith in trusting people.

Pretend it is the year 2050 and another pandemic is looming--what would you tell someone who has just asked what it was like to live through the 2020 pandemic?

Always have some face masks and gloves in the house. I know I will. I'd suggest they stock up on toilet paper, paper towels and cleaning products! Also, always have cans of soup and peanut butter and jelly on hand in their cabinet. It's also one of the reasons you should always have a "go to" fund for extra money. Save your money today as you don't know what the future will bring. Most importantly, have faith in God.