



Director's Corner

December 22, 2020

In the past week, my wife and I both tested positive for COVID. I felt like we had been ducking and dodging for months, **and then we didn't look quick enough and it caught us.** Both of us had mild symptoms, but the Health Department said we were to quarantine for 10 days following the positive test. That means we postpone Christmas with our family, miss Christmas Day church and just spend the day alone. We are grown-ups and used to being alone. In fact, we often enjoy time with just the two of us. The problem is that we were so looking forward to all the kids and grandkids on Christmas. We rarely get to spend Christmas Day with all of them because they have to accommodate their other families and their personal plans. We were so excited.

So one morning when I woke up, I **started a short "pity party."** I **didn't get very far when I** remembered that most of the residents of LifePoints will be spending Christmas Day in their room and without family. Some have recovered from COVID and can now go with family, but many cannot. I thought about the staff who will be at work and not with family and friends. I thought about the families who count on Christmas as one of the special times to share with their son or daughter.

I usually try to put a positive spin on things. This one is harder to do, and if I tried I think it would come across hollow. I think it is better to just recognize it has been a rough year and a real bummer to have to sacrifice Christmas to a virus. Our staff are amazing at doing creative things to remind everyone it is Christmas and to bring a smile to residents' faces. Families are doing the best they can to call or use video to connect with their loved ones. We are all looking forward to the end of this, whether it is through vaccination or everybody just gets it.

All of this makes it harder to wish a Merry Christmas, but it does not keep us from saying Have a Blessed Christmas. So I wish you a Blessed Christmas. And **hopefully we can say "Happy New Year."** Through it all, we trust God is alive and well and sustaining us through our faith in Him.

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