

# What a difference a year makes in our lives

One year ago, on March 19, 2020, Larry and I were scheduled to fly to London, England, to celebrate our 26th wedding anniversary. Then, the day before, Covid-19 shut everything down. Fast forward one year and I am flying home to Nebraska for my mom's 80th birthday on March 19. She has no idea I am coming home. In fact, she thinks we will be having our weekly ZOOM call on Sunday. It is a bittersweet opportunity, as up until Feb. 18, I was not sure I was going to be able to make the trip. In talking with my brother and sister, the plan was that unless I could be fully vaccinated as well as our mother, I could not come. We just could not take the risk that I might bring the virus home to her. I fortunately was able to be vaccinated thanks to my



work, and after gently prodding and asking my mom her status of getting vaccinated, the news I was waiting for came when she received her first shot and then was scheduled to get her second shot March 18. I texted my sister and brother and said, am I good to book

my flight, moments after my mom emailed, she had received her first dose of the vaccine. My sister gave me the go ahead. My brother never replied. My sister working in a nursing home has lived with Covid-19 complications this entire time. She has remained virus free, now also fully vaccinated. My brother also has been virus free and unfortunately has also become quite paranoid. In talking about logistics of getting from the airport to my mom's house, I asked my brother if he would pick me up from the airport since he lives in Lincoln, where am flying in to. My sister lives in our hometown of York about an hour away from Lincoln. As we discussed the logistics of our mom's birthday, my brother became

serious. At first neither my sister nor I thought he was serious. It started when he tried to figure out how to safely meet me at the airport. My brother for years has worked from home for an organic farm certification company out of California. So, when it became common place for people to work from home, my brother was all set. Unfortunately working from home and not having to go out for much of anything has resulted in his concern about the virus to escalate. He commented that for the past year he has only had his wife Sheila in the car with him. They have no children. The more he talked, the more it became apparent that he was not comfortable having me in his vehicle or driving me anywhere, let

alone an hour west on Interstate 80. I tried my best to calm his concerns, offering to wear double masks, using hand sanitizer and sit in the back seat of his vehicle the entire time. My sister joked that she would get plexi-glass to put up in his car as a barrier between the two of us. It was only after he actually contemplated how that might work, that my sister knew our brother was serious. That and the fact he commented that maybe we could have the windows down in his car as we drove 75 miles per hour down I-80. My sister commented to me later that he would have never made it in either of our jobs this past year, given his concern about the virus, which we both get, we just have worked to be as cau-

tious as we can and continue to do what we do in life. So, to ease my brother's anxiety, my sister decided to take the day off work and will pick me up from the airport. What will take place once we get to York, I still do not know. We had hoped to take my mom to her favorite Mexican restaurant, however, again, my brother is not sure how he feels about eating in a restaurant, so it may be a to go meal at her home. One thing is for sure, no matter where we celebrate or how we celebrate, I am grateful for the ability to go home and see my mom on her monumental birthday. If Covid-19 has taught me nothing else, it is how precious life is and how important it is to safely make sure those you love and care about know just how special they are to you.

## Taylor

Committee emphasized spiritual discernment and prayer, and it was clear that those who love Taylor were prayerfully supporting this important effort." Lindsay was the unanimous selection of the Presidential Search Committee, and he was elected unanimously by the Board of Trustees. He will enter the Office of the President on Aug. 16, 2021, assuming the role from previous Taylor Board Chair Paige Comstock Cunningham, Ph.D., J.D., who has served as Interim President of the University since Aug. 15, 2019. "The Taylor University Board, faculty and campus community are extremely grateful to Dr. Cunningham for her outstanding leadership, steady governance and faithful commitment to fulfilling the vision of the University," said Goeglein. "Not only have the Institution's foundational positions and policies been strengthened during her tenure, but she

provided stability in a critical time with the COVID pandemic. All of us will be forever grateful for her exceptional and sacrificial service to our alma mater." Goeglein and Rosado said Lindsay's extensive experience and strong track record of success meet all the desired requirements for the next Taylor University president. They called him, "A scholar, public intellectual, author and advocate for Christian orthodoxy, he has conducted far-reaching studies on leadership and the role of evangelical Christianity in American culture. Lindsay is also a visionary who excels in strategic planning and in marshalling resources and people to bring those plans to completion." Since 2011, Lindsay has served as president of Gordon College in Wenham, Mass.. He previously announced his intention to step down as Gordon's president effective June 30, 2021. Under his leadership, the school experienced record

years of opportunity and growth, representing banner results in terms of fundraising and endowment growth; campus diversity, academic and student program development; sponsored research; athletic success; student satisfaction; and faith expression on campus. Gordon recently ended its best fiscal year ever and this spring is completing the school's most ambitious and successful fundraising campaign to-date, including the largest gift ever given to a Christian college. Prior to arriving at Gordon, Lindsay was a member of the sociology faculty at Rice University, where he won multiple awards both for his teaching and academic research. He is the author of two dozen scholarly publications and numerous books, including "Faith in the Halls of Power," which was nominated for the nonfiction Pulitzer Prize in 2007, and his award-winning View from the Top, which has been translated into Chinese and

Japanese. His forthcoming book, "Hinge Moments," will release April 27, 2021, with InterVarsity Press. Lindsay earned his Ph.D. in sociology from Princeton University and graduate theological degrees from Wycliffe Hall at Oxford University and Princeton Theological Seminary. He is a summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Baylor University where he has been named Outstanding Young Alumnus. Lindsay and his wife Rebecca have been married for 25 years and are parents of three daughters: Elizabeth (17), Caroline (10) and Emily

(10). Rebecca Lindsay is a teacher and speaker who will serve as Taylor's Ambassador for the University. "The Taylor University Board of Trustees enthusiastically welcomes Dr. Lindsay, Rebecca and their three

daughters to our campus community," Rosado added. "We look forward to working together to facilitate his entrepreneurial vision of leading, empowering and equipping a thriving team to move creatively and strategically into the future."

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