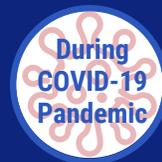




Monday Messages to Students from Alumni



From a 1970s Graduate: *Although I'm ancient by BC student standards today, my freshman year at BC and in Blue Ridge was trying. Growing up in a little coal mining town in West Virginia made coming to Berea seem like going to the moon. New people, new ideas, a roommate who had very different ideas than mine. Additionally, the 1970's had the Vietnam war, environmental issues, rising gas prices and inflation. But as one of the two campus ministers was fond of saying "the larger family of Berea College always wraps its arms around your family" Henry Parker was that minister, and he and others taught us that any fears or calamities that came our way could be overcome. You are not alone! Reach out. BTW, that roommate is still my best friend....*

From Jack Lykins, '64: *This too shall pass. College life is stressful with schedules, class deadlines and personal expectations; all in an unfamiliar environment. Your present Berea COVID experience adds even more stress with health concern, the new 7-week sessions, online learning, masks and more rules (some say campus rules are 'draconian') with penalties ... all intended to keep students and faculty safe and avoid a campus lock-down. It's hard and you may feel you're being deprived of that college social 'networking' experience but you're not, the experience is just different (those feel-good things are good but are way overrated). Ask questions, focus on things you can control and what would be best practices in the topics you study. That ability to understand and reason will serve you well at Berea and in life.*

From a 1970s Graduate: *This challenge grows our awareness of what life really means to us. How we respond reflects our true heart; do we care for others or self! Decisions have consequences so just because the day is challenging don't give up your dreams!*

From a 2000s Graduate: *This too shall pass. Decades from now, this will be only a mere memory.*