

# Amanda Veasy

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Activism, Addiction, Allyship, Christianity, Christians, Community, COVID-19, Counseling, Disability, Family dynamics, George Floyd, Health care, Homelessness, Homophobia, LGBTQ+, Mental health, Ministry, Nonprofits, One Love Longview, Poverty, Racism, Southern hospitality, Volunteering, Unsheltered population

## SPEAKERS

Elizabeth Melton, Amanda Veasy

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**E** Elizabeth Melton 00:05

Hi, I'm Elizabeth Melton, the ACLS Leading Edge Fellow for the Institute for Diversity & Civic Life, and I'm conducting an oral history interview for the Voices of Change collection in the Religions Texas archive. Today is Friday, February 18, 2022, and we are meeting via Zoom. I'm calling from Boone, North Carolina. Amanda, would you like to introduce yourself and tell me where you're calling from?

**A** Amanda Veasy 00:35

Hey there, hi. I'm Amanda Veasy, and I am the founder and executive director of One Love Longview, and I am here in Longview, Texas.

**E** Elizabeth Melton 00:47


Awesome. Thank you so much for taking the time to meet with me today. I know that, as you said, it's always a hectic timetable and schedule.

**A** Amanda Veasy 00:58

Absolutely.

**E** Elizabeth Melton 01:00

But to get started, let's talk a little bit about your early life. Can you tell me where you were born and a little bit about your family?



A

Amanda Veasy 01:09

Yeah, certainly. So I was born here in Longview. Man, early life, that's a long story. So I guess probably the biggest point of impact for my childhood would be when I was five years old, my father got in a car accident, he was drunk and high, and it left him permanently brain damaged. So the entire part of my early childhood was - well, of course, before I was five, my dad was severely addicted to drugs and alcohol. But then, until he passed away when I was fourteen, he had the mentality of an eight year old. So we learned to read together at the same time, and I actually taught him how to tie his shoes, so a little bit of role reversal there. So that impacted me greatly.

E

Elizabeth Melton 02:22

Thank you for sharing that. So what was your community like outside your family when you were young?

A

Amanda Veasy 02:31

Outside my family, gracious. I remember we got to play in the street when I was a kid. So I remember there was one area that we stayed in longer than anywhere else here in Longview, and we had lots of kids in that neighborhood. So from sunup to sundown, we would all play in the road. Of course, as a kid, that is your community. So you couldn't wait to get out of school during the school year to play in the street. And I think about my kids playing in the street now - gah! I think about how different it was when I was a kid, and that it was okay for - We didn't have cell phones, so we just went out. You hear people say all the time, when the street lights came on, you knew it was time to go inside, because that's really a thing.

E

Elizabeth Melton 03:32

Right. Can you tell me a little bit about your current work?

A

Amanda Veasy 03:38

Yes, absolutely. We started One Love Longview just about a year and a half ago, it was in June of 2020, right in the midst of lots of racial divide and political unrest, not only here in our area, but all over the country. Actually, I had a good friend then call me and say, "Hey, listen, people in our community need to see that Black people and White people can work together. So why don't we just go out and hand some cold drinks and gift cards out to people just to be kind, just to be nice." So considering no one had been allowed to leave the house at that point, and some of the restrictions were starting to be lifted, we all masked up, and we just put it out there to the community that we were going to go out and serve some of the essential workers that had not been honored quite like our nursing staff or our doctors, things like that. So people that worked in custodial services, who still had to go to work every day.

A

Amanda Veasy 04:52

Or for instance, this is crazy. My husband is a pharmacist. So McDonald's actually used to, during the beginning of this pandemic, they would serve essential workers free breakfast. So my husband goes through the line at McDonald's, and says he's there to get his free breakfast, and they said pharmacists were not considered essential workers. I know. I'm so to see the amount of stress that my husband was going through, and know just how terrible it was for the pharmacy, just like it was for the doctors' offices at that point, it really made us think, "There's so many parts of this community that need a little love." So that's how we started. Before this organization started, I worked in homeless camps just because it was my thing, which is probably, I should save for another question. But I worked in homeless camps for about five years. I had quite a bit of church hurt, and so I left the church and my husband and I would put our tithe up on the fireplace mantel every week, and we would just go out to homeless camps and meet needs there.

A

Amanda Veasy 06:09

So when we started this thing in June of 2020, it snowballed. People were so ready for positive change, that everybody was so quick to get on board. So people started giving, and, "Here, I want to buy gift cards. Here, come get my gift cards. I'll buy Gatorades. I'll buy snacks," until it turned into a unity and kindness movement. So we began to start hosting some events, to promote family, unity, and events that were really inclusive. So we wanted to make it a point to celebrate all cultures, and all religions, and all walks of life. So we hosted several different events and invite - we're really, really aware of making sure we involved every culture and that every culture was represented, and every walk of life. As it snowballed, things just fall into place, and you never get to get away from what you're actually supposed to be doing.

A

Amanda Veasy 07:17

So naturally, things just fell into place. It shifted from a kindness movement into me sitting down with city leaders. I spent months doing that, meeting with city leaders. So I met with pastors in our area, I met with other nonprofit leaders. I met with city council members, anybody who was a somebody in our community, even some of our local gang leaders, as crazy as that sounds. I invited them to come to the table, and to talk to me about what needs they saw in their community. And when I say across the board, it was mental health. Mental health was and is still, even with all we're doing, the most lacking resource that we have in our community. So October 5 of 2020, my partner and I here now, Tina Rushing and I, had gotten connected in August on my way to an out of town event. And I was like, "We need a free mental health clinic." And she's like, "Okay," because this is just a simple thing, right? She's like, "Okay, you get the building, and I'll find the counselors, and we'll just get some people to volunteer." Again, 'cause that's so simple, right? So she jokes now and says, "I thought this woman was crazy, and that she'd call me in a year." But I was on fire, and so was she.

A

Amanda Veasy 08:47

And so the next week, I called her, and I was like, "Hey, I found a local insurance agent, and a U-Haul business who said that we could use their space and their office and see patients. So we're ready to open a mental health clinic, a free clinic, right?" And then it's just naturally fallen into place to where we started offering free mental health services to people in our community

who were - we serve three categories, which pretty much almost everyone falls under that: unsheltered individuals, so any individual who is couch surfing, staying in a local shelter, living in the woods, by any definition battling with homelessness at all. And then individuals who are currently uninsured or part of our underserved community, which would include minority populations in our area, and our LGBTQ population. Anyway, that continued to snowball, until we moved into a closet-sized building and had our own space. And then within just a few months, we actually had gone from seeing ten patients a week to almost between thirty and forty patients a week. We moved in our building in November, and so from November to February, it became evident, the building that we had was not large enough, so we moved into a larger building.

A

Amanda Veasy 10:23

Now, all of a sudden, we've got individuals coming in for other resources. So over time, we've continued to add whatever resources we're lacking. So if someone came in and said, "I need help getting an ID," then we don't say no. And then we started to notice that people who had never had access to mental health care had also never had access to health care. So we brought in some volunteer physicians. So now we provide free medical care and prescription coverage for our unsheltered and uninsured and underserved populations. We have a salon here, we give out clothing, we give out hygiene products, food boxes. If someone comes in and asks for it, and we can't find a place that we can connect them to that has it, we're like, "Okay, whatever, we'll do it." I feel like the whole goal has been to say "yes" to answers that have always had a "no."

E

Elizabeth Melton 11:25

That is incredible. Thank you so much, both for sharing and just for doing this work. So I'm a native Texan and someone who's also grown up in Longview and in that area, but for folks who may not be familiar with Longview and what that community looks like, can you describe or explain a little bit about that to someone who may be less familiar with East Texas and with Longview?

A

Amanda Veasy 11:56

Oh yeah. So we are right in between Shreveport and Dallas, or Shreveport and Tyler, so if you're familiar with any of those areas, we are right in the middle. And it's not really rural, but we're not really big city. We're somewhere hanging in the balance, which puts us in a really, really interesting place, because there's more resources than we have in rural communities, but not nearly as many resources as you would have in a big city, so it's left a lot of our community at a disadvantage. But it is really hot here. I don't know if that's what you're looking for. I mean, there's lots of trees. Is that what we're looking for here, or am I just nuts? I'm like, "There's pine trees, and it's hot." [Laughs].

E

Elizabeth Melton 12:54

Sure, no, I mean, I think that's useful. It's a useful explanation. I was also thinking as you were talking earlier about where your organization came out of, and the racial unrest that was

happening in the country, but that was also present in that community and more locally, what does that dynamic look like?

A

Amanda Veasy 13:14

So to give you an example, this was the event that really, really set me off right before we started One Love. In our community, specifically, as we were seeing all of these events happen, and there had been this huge media presence with the issue with George Floyd, which brought on all of these other issues that were happening right here in our local community, there was so much tension. So then you get this video that is recorded of two young Black gentlemen - or there was more than that, I think there was just a small group of Black gentlemen, that were in an altercation with two officers. So that video was devastating, and so I could look at it and see fear on both sides of it. And I saw the devastation on both sides of it. But most of our community was either one side or the other. You couldn't do both. You had to be one or the other. So there was part of our community who had spoken out about this awful viral video that shamed one side, and then another part that shamed the other, and no one could agree. We have a highway - highway 80 runs forever, but it runs sort of the central mark of our city, and it runs through the middle. So what I've noticed is that it also serves as a barrier, so it creates this hard line between North and South Longview. So we really have, literally, a line in the sand that says, "Don't cross." And that's for both sides. With that dynamic and seeing some of the things that have happened and increasing racial tension in our area - man, such a need for so many things.

E

Elizabeth Melton 15:27

Absolutely, yes. Thank you. So building on what motivated you to open One Love, you talk about this fire under you and this other work that you've done in homeless camps, what else do you think led you to this work as you think about your longer story? What brought you to this place?

A

Amanda Veasy 16:01

So I, in my adult life, have gone through lots of years of severe poverty. Holes in the roof, holes in the floor, not knowing how I was gonna feed my kids, no running water, no electricity in my home for periods of time sort of thing. And then the other aspect of that is that I was also very, very - I was married to a pastor for about seven years before my current marriage, and I was very, very church hurt. So I just decided, when I got out of that marriage, that I would never go back to church again. And I did, I did eventually go to get back to church, but every time I went back to church, I got burned. Which was obviously divine nature to land me here, but God, it hurt. So every time I would go back to church, there would be some major event that wouldn't typically happen to normal people. Like the expression, "You can't make this up." That sort of thing. I had always wanted to work in ministry, since probably my early twenties, and was trying to move in that direction, despite severe poverty.

A

Amanda Veasy 17:48

After I kind of got over the initial first and second church hurt, I got plugged into a local church, and I started to serve as one of the worship leaders there. And I was scrolling on Facebook one day before worship service started, and I came across this post. It was a stranger, one of my friends had shared a picture of this weird guy - that's so funny, because he's one of my favorite people now - but I'm like, "He's so weird." He's all spread out in front of this rainbow flag, and the front of his shirt says, "Free dad hugs." And he's got this little write up about the LGBT community, and at this point, I had been heavily, heavily involved in church, and I'm like, "This is crazy. That's a sin." And I had no idea, and I was uneducated on it, and again, I was very, very embedded in religion. So I thought that I was on the track to doing what I'd always wanted to do, right.

A

Amanda Veasy 19:04

And then for some reason I got up on stage after seeing that post, got up on stage, and literally, it is the only thing in my mind while I'm on that stage. And I can't get it out of my head. So after church, I go back and find the post again. I read the whole post, and it broke my heart. So I reached out to the guy, still thinking, "The church says this is the worst sin," right? I reach out to the guy on Facebook, on Messenger, and I'm like, "Hey, I know you don't know me. I don't know what you're doing, but can you tell me how I can do it?" And at that point, I think, "I would like to deliver everyone. Everybody needs to be saved," right? So I couldn't shake it, and the more I learned, the more I withdrew from church. Actually, at one point, I looked up some statistics on the Trevor Project website. They have this extensive list of suicide statistics for LGBTQ youth. Again, it just broke my heart. So I print these out. And at this point, I'm in leadership at the church, but I'm also on track to go to seminary that the church is putting me through, and I'm in my last interview. My last interview for seminary is coming up. So I'd already gone through all of the application process, all of the interviews, and I'm waiting on my last interview to come up.

A

Amanda Veasy 20:51

During this time, I start to see this rainbow flag more and more and more. So I print out these statistics, and I take it to the church board, because I had mentioned it already like, "Listen, I really think God is calling me to work with the LGBT community." And I think, at that point, I had seen enough and knew enough to know that there was hurt between the church and the LGBT community. And at that point, I really believed, and I still believe, if the church is who the church says they are, then the church has to go first in repairing the hurt. So I take these statistics, and I put them down in front of the church board, and I'm like, "We have to do something." And it so happened that, of course, my belief system had already begun to shift at that point. Because when you start to create relationships with people, it changes your perspective. So I still wasn't really sure how I felt about it, or what I thought God thought about it, I just knew it wasn't our job to change people. So I'd already shifted [from], "I gotta save people," to "People don't really need me to save them."

A

Amanda Veasy 22:08

So, of course, the church's idea of ministering to the LGBT community, and my idea of ministering to the LGBT community, became really different. I got to go to this weekend conference - what my understanding was, it was supposed to teach church leaders how to do

LGBT ministry, which is very much what I still wanted at that time. It was a disaster. So I went in, and it was basically a gay bashing conference. They had brought in church leaders from all over the place who had - I'm using air quotes right now, because I know the video is not going to show - quote, "been ungayed." All of these church leaders, who said that they were previously gay, and then God delivered them. So it was a whole weekend of, "This is sin, and we've gotta keep this from spreading out against our churches and attacking our families." When you talk about extremist views.

A

Amanda Veasy 23:28

And there was one young man. I'm not gonna say his name. I'm gonna call him "A." So I saw A in there, and I could tell immediately that he was gay. So I'm watching him, and I know what he's hearing about his own self, right? And I'm thinking, "This can't be right. This can't be right." So naturally, I went and sat by him, and I find out that he has saved money and has been following one of these leaders and has traveled across the country alone to come to this conference, because he believed he needed to be "ungayed," or he was going to go to Hell. So I sat through it for about a day and a half, and then I got out the next day. I walked out early, and that was my deciding factor that it was time to leave the church. So I did. I did leave the church. And somehow, somehow along these lines - and I think that's just it. I say "lines," but I think somehow I knew that we had to not have lines anymore. And that is the very basis of how One Love Longview has transformed into what it is. It's just removing the lines. Did I even answer your question?

E

Elizabeth Melton 25:08

Absolutely. Absolutely. I mean, you don't have to share, the church name or anything like that, but I am wondering what denomination or if that had a particular belief system.

A

Amanda Veasy 25:25

I was a member of the Wesley-Arminian theory, and I'll just leave it at that.

E

Elizabeth Melton 25:33

Okay. Because it sounds clear to me just listening to you that clearly you still have your faith, right, and it's this line between church and faith. Does that resonate?

A

Amanda Veasy 25:48

I would say initially, I think when I first came into this - so Tina, who is our Director of Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Services, she is gay. So when I originally sought her out, I knew she was a counselor. I had no idea she was a social worker or what she did, I just knew that I was putting together this meeting where I needed every area of Longview represented. So this is the meeting where I pull in gang leaders and ask city council and pastors to come all to the same table, and talk about what we really need. And I needed - okay, this is so terrible. I can

say this now, I'm so ashamed. But I need a good gay [laughs] if that makes sense. I knew that if I brought pastors to the table with a drag queen, they would not be receptive to anything that they said. So I needed someone who would be approachable. So here I am, a brand new ally, and have terrible verbiage. And I'm like, "I need someone who's gay," this is so funny, "Who's gay, but not gay, gay." That's funny, because someone just said that in our center this week.

**A** Amanda Veasy 27:11

So I am calling Tina to invite her to the table to come to this meeting, so that she can represent the LGBT community. So the conversation transformed, and then we start talking about mental health and opening a free mental health clinic. So over time, over the last year, because it's been a little over a year now since I had that first conversation with her on the phone, I still was not sure what I believed when I left the Church. And I spent months before leaving the church, literally, I would get up at two o'clock in the morning when my family was still asleep, and go in the bathroom, and fall on my knees, and I mean, cry. "I don't know who you are. I don't know who I've always thought you are. And I don't know what you want. But what the heck? I'm so confused. I don't even know what you think. I know what the Church says you think. But what do you think?" Because at this point, I still think it's sin, but it's not my job to save them. So I'm transforming, steadily progressing and growing as time is going. But what happened was, Tina became my best friend. And I couldn't look at Tina and think, "I love this person, but I believe she's going to Hell."

**A** Amanda Veasy 28:51

So it's made me question my faith all together over time. So I think what I've come to is the the more I do this work, the less I feel like I know who God is, but the closer I feel. So every day, I'm like, "I don't even know what to call you. I don't know who you are, what you believe, but if you'll just work this out today." It opens your eyes to so much. And then you think about small East Texas. You know, you were here. East Texans believe that we have all of world religion figured out, don't we? That is such a thing. Everyone in East Texas who is within the church is going to heaven, but the rest of the world, we're all Hell-bound. So it's such a small view of who God is and puts God in such a box. So I think I don't know what I believe. I think probably God loves the whole world. So that's what I've come to. So as far as spirituality or what has ever happened, that's where I'm at. It's that I don't know [laughs].

**E** Elizabeth Melton 30:18

Sure. Well, thank you so much for sharing. I feel like I love your honesty in talking about this, because it is, I think it's a journey a lot of the time, right, and it's a relationship, whatever it is. Whatever it is, and whatever it isn't. You've talked a lot about lots of different things that you've had to do. I was wondering if you could share a story just about a day in the life. A day in the life of Amanda.

**A** Amanda Veasy 30:53

It is sheer chaos. Okay, so I'd never worked in nonprofit before, starting a nonprofit. So I have no qualification whatsoever to be here. Some days I wonder why in the world anyone would let



me be in charge of anything. I'm the least organized person on the planet. I'm terrible at paperwork. I keep going on and on. But my heart. This place is my baby. This is my whole purpose and passion in life, is to be right here in this building. We've had some staffing changes over the last probably three or four weeks. So I'm back now to working anywhere between twelve and sixteen hour days. So sunup to sundown, I'm nonstop working. I never stop. But I'm so peopley. So when whenever someone walks through our doors who isâ€”I hate to say broken, because it sounds like such a churchy term - but so traumatized. Immediately everything else in the world turns off for me, and just listening to that person, which is ultimately how I think we got here in the first place. The five years that I spent in homeless camps was only to listen. I would sit on tree stumps and listen to people talk for hours, and say, "I know what the people say you need, but what do you need? What would solve homelessness?" We get the same few answers over and over, like keys.

E

Elizabeth Melton 32:57

You muted yourself.

A

Amanda Veasy 32:59

Helping to fill out applications. All of those things, that is the perception of what would solve homelessness. But now I've completely got off track again. A day in my life. Crazy chaos.

E

Elizabeth Melton 33:22

Well, you've talked about a lot of challenges that you faced, but it seems like you've also had a lot of successes along the way. It seems like you've been able to find a lot of solutions. Can you think of maybe one example of a challenge and a success that you've celebrated or something you're really proud of? Everything is worth being proud of.

A

Amanda Veasy 33:46

Will repeat your question for me? I'm sorry.

E

Elizabeth Melton 33:48

Yeah, what's something you're really proud of? What's a challenge that y'all have had and that you've been able to face successfully? And it can be really small even. It can be some really small, it can be really big.

A

Amanda Veasy 34:08

I think I would say two things. We have done the opposite of what everyone has told me to do. When we got started, we've grown so rapidly. We moved in our current building on March 15 of 2021. We haven't even been here a year. We moved in with two offices. We now have every office in our building and two large spaces in the building over. And we are currently looking for a bigger building, because we are out of space. So we have so many plans for the future that we are trying to prepare for. Everybody told me, "You gotta slow down. You're not going to be able to sustain this growth," or, "No, don't do it this way. Do it this way." And if I had listened, if Tina had listened and bailed on me because I wasn't listening, we wouldn't be where we are.

A

Amanda Veasy 35:23

And the second thing, which is probably the thing that I'm most proud of, is that we have conquered the art of helping effectively. So there's lots of help, but all help is not effective. So by helping people, one of the first questions that we ask when we sit down with someone who comes in for resources, or for counseling, or to see a doctor, or because they are currently experiencing homelessness, and they want to get off the street, is, "How do you want to be helped?" The shelter here - we have a few faith-based shelters who are doing a great work for a large population of our homelessness, but it's not for everyone. So when we go in, and someone says, "I don't have anywhere to go right now." We say, "Do you want to go to the shelter?" Our verbiage is, "Are you willing to go to the shelter, because that provides an immediate short term solution while we're working on long term solutions?" And if they say no, that's the end of the discussion, because they're adults, and they get to decide. So I'm so proud of the way that we have been able to maintain that: help people how they want to be helped. It is a choice.

E

Elizabeth Melton 36:48

Yeah, that's incredible. And it's a very community-based focus. I think that's amazing. I am keeping an eye on the time, so I'm not gonna take up even more of your busy day. But what is

your vision for this community? What do you hope to create?

A

Amanda Veasy 37:30

I'd like for the lines to be erased. I would like it if highway 80 was not a barrier. I would like it if every side of our community would see that we are all the same and treat one another as such. I always say, the same things happen behind the door of a mansion that happen in a shed. We can all get cancer. We can all experience abuse. We all experience trauma. Any of us at any point could have been the person that we look at and don't want to be like. And so ultimately, I would say that would be the goal.

E

Elizabeth Melton 38:32

I like your vision of erasing those lines and breaking down those boundaries, and I will say that the times you've mentioned bringing a drag queen, gang leaders, and political leaders to the table once really captured my imagination. How did those conversations go, when you were bringing different parts of the community together that normally don't talk?

A

Amanda Veasy 39:04

Interesting. We actually put together a series of speakers at that point, because I don't think that people were ready to talk to one another then, but that is a conversation that we do want to happen. And that's a conversation that is happening a little less how I envisioned, but it's organically happening. So I think ultimately, the different parts of this community need a mediator. So what I love is that One Love Longview, one of the most valuable things that we can do, or that I can do as someone who serves the part of the community that we serve, is to tell their stories, which can sometimes prove to be really challenging. You'll hear so much, like, "Oh, well, they're just an addict," or, "You're just crazy." So the more that we can take the labels off, the more the conversations just naturally, organically start to happen. And more people from different social classes stop and slow down, because that person on the street, there not just somebody who's using drugs now. They all have a story. Everyone has a story. So I thought that maybe we would all come to a table and talk. Instead, I think there's a little bit of a deeper healing that's happening than maybe just a conversation at a table.

E

Elizabeth Melton 41:00

Sure, and that's a long game. But I mean, that's what you're talking about, too, is this, "How do we support the people who don't have it? And how do we bring that healing to everyone?" Some of what we're doing, too, is thinking about how all of these stories, the work that you're doing and other people's stories as well, how it's all shaping Texas and what Texas is. So how does being from Texas influence the work you do, if at all? Or what does it mean to you to be a Texan and to be doing this work?

A

Amanda Veasy 41:45

Texas is supposed to be known for our hospitality. So I would just say that I've been to some

other areas, and people were always kind, but there is nothing quite like Southern hospitality. So I would say that, I don't know, if I had to just have an answer there, it would definitely be the southern hospitality thing. It's who we are. You do the right thing, and you say, "Yes, ma'am," and, "No, ma'am," and you drink sweet tea, but we don't all ride horses.

**E** Elizabeth Melton 42:18

That's right. So also thinking about this interview as something that will persist in an archive, can be something that people much further down the road, future generations can listen to, what advice do you have for future generations? Or what would you like to share with people who might be listening to this twenty, thirty, two-hundred years from now? Take your time if you need it.

**A** Amanda Veasy 42:51

So I'd hope that the things that I said today will be long outdated, and that the goal that I have today would be accomplished already. One of the hardest things that I've done is to consistently go against the grain of what's acceptable and what is good. I cannot make this up. I've had someone tell me, or not say to me, but make a comment about me, that my narrative is ushering in the Antichrist. Cannot make that up. I know, I know. I'm like, "I'm not that cool, but thank you." [Laughs]. Whenever there's resistance, it's because there's growth. And I would say, I would assume that someone who would be listening to this in a hundred years or two hundred years would probably feel like I feel right now. Just that they would also be the brink of change, and in pivotal moments that will change history and grow their communities. So they're listening and maybe grasping for some hope, because that's what I would do. And I would say, keep pushing. Keep going against the grain. Don't listen to the voices. Listen to your heart. Do what you know is right. I spent so much of my life feeling like I was different and not normal, and that there was something wrong with me. I literally spent my whole life trying to conform and fit in, thinking, "There is something so wrong with me," and that there was no way I could ever get to heaven or achieve. And then all of a sudden, I found my place, and everything makes sense. So keep pushing. Don't stop. You're not crazy. Do the things [laughs].

**E** Elizabeth Melton 45:19

Well, thank you so much for talking with me today. Is there anything you can think of that you'd like to add that we haven't talked about or other parts of your legacy or inspiration?

**A** Amanda Veasy 45:36

Say the last part again.

**E** Elizabeth Melton 45:37

Anything about your inspiration or anything else that you'd like to talk about.

A Amanda Veasy 45:46  
No, I can't think of a thing.

E Elizabeth Melton 45:48  
Well, thank you so much. I've loved hearing your story, and learning about One Love Longview.  
So I'll stop the recording now.