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It is a beautiful thing to see a life surrendered to God. It is even more beautiful to see how God takes what was broken and makes it whole and perfect again.

This is Audrey, a minutes old member of God's family on the day this newsletter is being written. With her is Brianna, who walked with her the last few steps of a journey that led to her surrender and continues from here.

Audrey was raised by "recovering Catholics." She didn't grow up going to church and didn't care if there was or wasn't a God. As a teen she would challenge her Christian friends and bully them for their faith.

Audrey was already in another relationship when she met a guy on

JESUS SAVES!

a dating site. She told him she knew all she needed to about God.

He asked if she had ever read the Bible. She had not.



"How can you make a decision about God if you've never read his book?" he asked.

Two months later, she has read the book and fallen in love with the Author! When asked if we could share pictures of this moment, Audrey's response was, "I want the whole world to know!"

Moments like these get us out of bed in the morning. They represent the best of what we get to do. Audrey's life is forever changed because God entered the world and entered her soul.

We also celebrate Brianna in this photo, not as the rescuer, but as the receiver. Bri, because she has experienced God's healing, is prepared and delighted to help others take this step.

*No One
Plants
Alone.*



**For more Kairos
news, check out our
annual report!**

WHAT WOULD IT TAKE?

10 ELEMENTS OF A CHURCH PLANTING MOVEMENT

As we near 20 years as a church planting organization among the Churches of Christ, it is tempting to celebrate all the victories and point to all the things **we** have done.

We have helped some amazing ministers start some amazing churches, identified young leaders who might develop into church planters, and witnessed many lost people's lives being changed by Jesus in new faith communities.

We've helped plant 40 churches in 20 years. This is a good start. Wouldn't it be great to do much, much more? The truth is, we've barely scratched the surface.

So we find ourselves asking the question: **What would it take to launch a major American Church Planting Movement?** What if our dreams and hopes are bigger than what we have asked or imagined?

Here are the top 10 things we believe it will take to launch such a movement.

- 1. God's *kairos* timing for the world**
- 2. Desperation for God to rescue lost people like he rescued us**
- 3. A response of generosity when people see him moving**
- 4. The Lord of the harvest to raise up workers**
- 5. Shared experience of his presence to spur us on together**
- 6. Holy Spirit Movement in young leaders**
- 7. The joy of Gospel Partnership**
- 8. A solid financial foundation & regular givers**
- 9. Unity of mission: the sense that we are all building something together**
- 10. Celebration of the saving power of Jesus**

1

KAIROS TIMING

Have you ever prayed for something for a long, long time, not knowing if God would answer? Do you remember your excitement when God answered that prayer?

Then you know our excitement over Trekko, a new church launching in Tucson on September 8. We have prayed and worked for a new church in Tucson since 2017, when The Mountain Avenue Church of Christ closed and designated funds for a new plant.



Brendin and Kaitlyn Williamson at Trekko will work closely with Amy Kendall and The Well Campus Ministry to invite new people into relationship with God.

2

RESCUE!

We are desperate for God to rescue others like he rescued us. So many Christians these days don't really believe people are lost. But if you know many people at all, you know how lost they really are. Harassed and helpless. Sheep without a shepherd.

We don't recognize their lostness with pride, but compassion, because we remember how truly terrible it is to be lost and how astonishing God's grace has been for us. Rescue is good news!

Just within Kairos, we have been rescued from addiction, codependency, pride, fear, anger, and more. We don't talk about God's grace as a concept. We know it as a life-altering truth. This grace and this love **compel** us to share the good news that saved our lives with others who need it to save theirs.



Alex Herring captures our need for rescue during a testimony at Renovatus Church of Christ

3

GENEROSITY

God has called us at Kairos on mission for him. Each of us has made sacrifices and commitments based on faith that this is where God has placed us in this season.

Is he asking you to join in this mission to reach lost people? Ask him. If he says yes, consider becoming a financial partner.



4

YOUNG LEADERS

A major church planting movement is going to take leaders, not just for today, but into the future. Have you hung out with any young leaders recently? There is something about a 20-something year old with dreams, ambitions, and goals that cannot be replicated in older decades.

Whenever we despair about the current state of the church and whether she has a future, we should find some young people to hang out with. Their energy and idealism and their personal experience of the Holy Spirit give us hope that God is going to take care of his bride long after we are gone.

5

JOY OF GOSPEL PARTNERSHIPS

In Philippians 1:3-11 we read of Paul's joy because of his gospel partnership with the church in Philippi. We rejoice greatly when lost people are found, when new churches launch, when new leaders are formed. But these events are rare. What gets us through the daily slog is are the gospel partnerships we share with our supporters, planters, other people on mission, and our Kairos team.



6

FINANCIAL FOUNDATIONS

Kairos runs on the generous donations of individuals and churches who catch the vision of why starting new churches is important. We **LOVE** one-time donations. But we **LIVE** on monthly and other ongoing support.

Will you be one of 100 people to dedicate \$100 a month to help identify, recruit and equip new leaders for new churches and other ministries?



7

MORE WORKERS

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Matthew 9:38

8

SHARED EXPERIENCE IN GOD

God's grace changes everything. Each of us must encounter it on our own. As we discover and embrace God's grace freely offered, we experience freedom and healing.

Wonderfully, we also find his grace when we gather in his presence in community with others. To meet him together is intensely beautiful.

The power of shared memory is like a mile marker, or Ebenezer, in our lives. At Kairos, we have been blessed by many times we knew God's promise among us.

These moments carry us through from one trial to another. They remind us, and we remind each other, that God is not



only real. he is present. He loves us. He sees us. He abides in us and we abide in him.

In June, we spent a week at Pathways Lab assessing young leaders for starting or serving in campus ministries. They took us into the presence of the divine and reminded us that God is for us.

If you are not experiencing the fullness of God's presence in community, put it at the top of your prayer list. It will change your world.

Meanwhile, our hope and prayer is that God will continue to reveal himself to his people in communities of faith and that those shared encounters will propel us deeper into his service.



9



Mike Cope, Abilene, TX

Kairos is just one small participant in the body of believers God is using to equip his church for the future. 2024 has been a year to celebrate and embrace gospel partnerships and to recognize that we cannot and will not reach God's lost people alone.

UNITY OF MISSION

It is with great joy we introduce to you the two newest members of the Kairos board, Mike Cope and Michael Holt.

Mike Cope has been a minister for 34 years. He is the Director of Ministry Outreach for Pepperdine University, currently directing the Harbor program and three initiatives funded by the Lilly Endowment.

Michael Holt is a Martial Arts Franchisee and owner with Tiger Rock Martial Arts, father of 3, and foster parent to over 20 children over the past 7 years. He is a leader at University Church, a Kairos Partner church in Tuscaloosa, AL.

Holt says, "I love the idea of Kairos and the work it does in equipping future and current church leaders to go out and

make disciples. I hope to use my experience in the franchising world and in business development to partner with the Kairos team to expand and equip."

We are thankful that both of these men have decided to join us in working for kingdom growth, not for our glory, but for God's.



Michael Holt, Tuscaloosa, AL

new churches new places new people