



KAIROS

Beloved Community

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Two Neutral Bodies Have Coffee Together

By Rachel Creager

We are here to discuss
 My body is a wholly neutral thing,
 and I have no idea where to go with it
 but I'm feeling really good in this body
 today, the sunlight in the leaves
 and the woodpecker and the coffee
 recalling me to a place I met the ¡pura vida!
 She launches into it though
 and Buddha is present and
 the tortoise who ran to her
 in South Africa while she wept
 in the presence of the Twelve Apostles
 and if the murderer's body is held accountable
 then what of us? 1996. Smoke rises
 unhurried in the sunlight. The drums beat
 joy and grief and life. We will worship
 together with St. Joan of Arc
 and all our pagan foremothers
 and our children in ways that
 only a mother can, who has taken
 a child to the breast. And when we
 part, she says, "Thank you for holding
 space." She says, "You are a magnificent
 soul."



**"Building Community and
 Celebrating Jesus"**

Photos by Frank Vasquez

The Wilderness of Long River

Writing and Photographs by Courtnay Veazey

Day 1

I visited the river exactly one week after being diagnosed with COVID.

It felt so good to move my body--
to re-connect with my body after she worked so hard to recover.
To feel my muscles and tendons and nerves re-firing--
to feel the sun warm my skin--
to smell winter's fresh, crisp, and dry air.

The river was barren--
dry twigs entangling one another.
She was fuller than usual
but had receded recently as evidenced by the debris left behind.
The river felt like a desert-- wide open with nowhere to go nor hide--
quiet and expansive.

Her presence invited me to wonder if there is life in the barrenness.





Day 2

Warmer temperatures
but felt colder and harsher
due to a 13 mph wind
coming from the north.

The river's waters moved more quickly
as they continued to hold everything--
tree limbs, barges, trash.

Trash appeared along the water's edge.
Death within life.

The river holds it all.

I leaned against a downed tree--
and together--
the tree and I witnessed the river
as she witnessed us.

The external landscape matched my internal one,
and I felt seen, held, and welcomed.





Day 3

On the third day, I finally sat on the banks of the river and rested. The river-- ever-changing yet oddly the same -- greeted me once again.



Texas Moonrise

By Langley Hoyt



Christ Follower?

By Sarah Dixon

I'm following Christ
But I haven't seen him in awhile
I think I may have lost him
I lost him around November

Maybe I've seen glimpses of him
In the park, in the corner of my eye
I thought I saw something
But when I looked I didn't see him
He's a sneaky one

But I felt him in my tears
Heard him in the hymn stuck in my head
Yet I lost him in the medical ICU
I think someone else found him though
I think I'll trust her, she saw him in her room

I thought I lost him
But I found him in the psalms last week on my couch
I thought I had lost him
But still can't shake that feeling
That I may lose him again



Please send submissions to kairos@student.austinseminary.edu by March 1st for your work to be included in our upcoming publication.

Students, faculty, staff, family, and other community members are all welcome to submit art, poetry, and writing to Kairos.

Langley Hoyt, a Junior MDiv student at APTS, is the editor of *Kairos*. Please reach out to her at kairos@student.austinseminary.edu with any questions or comments!

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