

Jesus Loves Kzoo "Glossary"

No need to be confused! Everything you ever needed to know about JLK...

C

-**Catalyst Week:** JLK is a movement of unity that is a lifestyle, not an event. Nevertheless, we believe it is important to have **at least one big event** during the year that will bring the churches together in a visible way to share Christ's love. This week will serve as a 'catalyst' for the 'Church' in our region, igniting passion for the Lord, community healing, revival, unity and birthing new ministry collaborations throughout the year.

E

-**Eastside:** Neighborhood in Kalamazoo that is situated on the hills which overlook the center of the city from the east. JLK has held a grill night in various Eastside locations every year.

G

- **Grill Site:** The base location within a neighborhood during the *JLK Prayer & Grill Nights* outreach. Whether it is in a park, apartment complex or on a church's property, this is where we will set up the grills, serve a free dinner, have children's activities and some large group games. There is also a ministry tent with Bibles and resources, and most importantly lots of general fellowship, love and prayer going on! Street ministry teams will organize and head out from the grill site into the neighboring streets, pulling coolers with bottled water and freeze pops and encouraging those they interact with to go to the 'grill site'. (see also "Prayer & Grill Nights")

J

- **Jesus Loves Kzoo:** In 2008, "*Jesus Loves Kzoo*" started out as a small Vanguard Street Ministry outreach event to the north side of Kalamazoo with student volunteers from two local churches. Since then, *Jesus Loves Kzoo* has grown to become not only an event but a "movement" that has unified the Body of Christ to share the love of Jesus throughout the Kalamazoo area.

- **JLK:** Acronym for *Jesus Loves Kzoo*

- **JLK/365:** This is the follow-up strategy for Jesus Loves Kzoo. The goal of JLK/365 is to extend JLK's mission by helping the individuals reached during Catalyst week and other ministry outreach efforts continue on their journey until they are fully thriving in a faith community. This is a Kingdom effort and volunteers must have this mindset as they discern the best church/ministry fit for the person they are working with.

JLK/365 is continually seeking new and creative strategies for building relationships and improving the follow-up process. Our past and ongoing events include a Connections Brunch in the fall, Holiday Food Basket, a Family Christmas Celebration and weekly discipleship groups for men and women.

- **JLK T-shirt:** We ask every volunteer to wear one. We ask for a donation of \$10/shirt, but you can wear the same one each year to save some money! The shirt helps to "identify" (so we know who is a volunteer) and "unify" (as we come wearing only the banner of JESUS, not promoting separate church names).

M

-Mission: The mission of *Jesus Loves Kzoo* has been growing and developing as the Spirit has moved in different ways over the past 15 years. At this point, we have identified **four main purposes** we are focused on:

- Cultivate Unity among Christ-following churches and ministries in the greater Kalamazoo area
- Reveal God's Kingdom through acts of love and compassion done together in the name of Jesus Christ
- Engage "The Church" in community outreach
- Connect seeking individuals to resources and discipleship

N

-Northside: neighborhoods in Kalamazoo north of downtown. *Jesus Loves Kzoo* usually holds one or more grill sites on the Northside during Catalyst Week.

O

-OneWorship: These are "trumpet call" events (Neh 4:19-20) -- times of when we call the Body of Christ to come TOGETHER to worship and intercede for our Region. We will hold a OneWorship event on Sunday at the start of JLK Catalyst Week in July.

P

- Pastor/Leader Prayer Meetings: *Jesus Loves Kzoo* has been calling pastors and leaders to come together in unity to intercede for the Church and the Kalamazoo region. They meet the 3rd Thursday of every month at noon. Each month a different church sponsors the prayer meeting.

-Point Person: The person(s) from a church or ministry who will be the *Jesus Loves Kzoo* COMMUNICATION LINK and MOBILIZER for their organization. We encourage pastors to choose someone other than themselves to fill this role. The Point Person should be a solid believer, organized, responsible and enthusiastic about encouraging others to engage with *Jesus Loves Kzoo*.

-Prayer & Grill Nights: This is how *Jesus Loves Kzoo* began and it is still the main avenue through which the body of Christ comes together for one week in the summer to serve and to show God's love to the city (*see also "Grill Site"*.) The "Prayer & Grill Nights" happen at various locations throughout the area. They follow a simple format: serving meals, praying with people, sending out street teams, face-painting and playing games with children, and most importantly, sharing the good news of Jesus with those we come in contact with. (*also see "Grill Site"*)

Here are some of the different ways volunteers can serve during the Prayer & Grill Nights:

- **Street Ministry/Prayer Teams**
Teams of 3-6 people will head into the neighborhoods, distributing flyers, water, freeze-pops, interacting with residents by inviting them to the grill site. They will be taking prayer requests from people they meet and may also be praying for them right there on the street. Volunteers will divide into teams on-site each night before heading out.
- **Grill & Food Area**
A limited number of volunteers will be needed to help in all areas of prepping and serving food.
- **Floater (On-Site Ministry) at Grill Sites**
Volunteers who are willing to talk and pray with the guests – similar to the Street Ministry groups, but these volunteers will stay on site.
- **Prayer Team at Grill Sites**
Prayer warriors that will stay on site, lifting up the street teams and generally interceding for the event and for anyone who is seeking deeper prayer
- **Children's Activities**
Volunteers will do face-painting and simple crafts or games with young children
- **Children's Games**
Volunteers will interact with older kids helping organize games or just kicking a ball around

R

-Revival: Revival may mean different things to different people, but in essence, revival refers to a spiritual reawakening from a state of dormancy or stagnation. The evidence of revival, a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon believers, is changed lives. It encompasses the resurfacing of a love for God, an appreciation of God's holiness, a passion for His Word and His church, a convicting awareness of personal and corporate sin, a spirit of humility, and a desire for repentance and growth in righteousness. In corporate revival, great movements toward righteousness, evangelism, and social justice occur.

"The only way God's Presence in revival will impact cities, towns, and entire regions is if the local churches comprising the Church of Jesus Christ come together to stand in unity around one banner – the banner of the risen Christ." ~Stuart Bell, In Search of Revival

S

-Southside: in the context of *Jesus Loves Kzoo*, when we refer to the 'southside' we are talking mainly about the Edison neighborhood area. This is the most populous neighborhood in Kalamazoo, and is located on the southeast side of the city.

-Street Ministry Training: This is an equipping opportunity that is helpful and highly encouraged for everyone! The training includes a hand's on "Activation" and also focuses on "Hearing God's Voice". If you are already well-trained in these areas, come help equip others.

-Street Teams: Teams of 3-6 that will head into the neighborhoods during the *JLK Prayer & Grill Nights*. They will distribute flyers, water, freeze-pops and invite residents to the nearby grill site. They will be taking prayer requests from people they meet and may also be praying for them right there on the street. Volunteers will divide into teams on-site each night before heading out.

U

-Urban Alliance: *Jesus Loves Kzoo* began in 2008 as a community outreach of Urban Alliance (UA) under their outreach program which was at that time was called "Vanguard Street Ministry".

V

-Vanguard Street Ministry: Vanguard Street Ministry was started in 1999 by a core group of people who attended different churches and had a heart for the community. The hunger for revival led leaders, Nathaniel Bull and Bobby Blakely, to pray for the community while posting themselves upon inner city neighborhood streets. Through this act of faith, God began to reveal His love for the lost and His desire to reach people on the front porches of their homes, the corner stores, at parks, or as they walked down the streets. He also revealed that unity in the church was a must in order to reach the people by the masses. Because of these revelations, street ministry, prayer, and unifying the church became the focus of the group.

-Vision: The Vision Statement for *Jesus Loves Kzoo* is: "***Sharing the Good News and Love of Jesus Christ Together as the Church; Positioning the Church for Revival in the Kalamazoo Region for His Glory.***" Some of the verses that have been a basis for understanding the vision are: Luke 4:18-19, Phil 2:1-4, Neh 4, John 17:20-23.

W

-The "Wall": During the 2012 OneWorship service, Pastor James Harris (Trenches Community Church) used the example of a "wall" (see Nehemiah), with each Pastor/Church/Ministry representing a section of that wall. The 'wall' around Kalamazoo has crumbled in places and there are gaps where satan has gotten in and brought destruction. When leaders stand arm in arm in Unity, recognizing they need each other, the enemy cannot get in!

More Questions? Contact us at Jesusloveskzoo@gmail.com