

Unity in the Body of Christ through Collaboration

By Kathy Klag, Director of Strategic Initiatives

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one. I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me." —John 17:20-23, NIV

This is Jesus' prayer for believers and it is being answered today as Christian organizations find ways to work together to advance God's Kingdom. Stephen Douglass, President of Campus Crusade for Christ, states, "We are in an unprecedented time of partnership in the Christian world. I really see an outpouring of generosity, humility and unity. It's crucial . . . to be a part of that."

God is opening doors for Stonecroft Ministries as we identify ministries and organizations whose hearts beat with ours in at least one or more of the following areas:

- Evangelism
- Equipping and encouraging women
- Leadership development
- Discipleship
- Prayer

The apostle Paul modeled an attitude of collaboration throughout his career as he preached unity among believers. Paul teaches us that God's purpose is best served when we work together instead of in isolation. Simply put, we are stronger together than we are separate. The right collaboration serves to leverage our own contribution far beyond what we can accomplish by ourselves.

What a privilege it is to learn about the mission, vision, and challenges of like-minded organizations and to spend time in prayer with them as we seek God's wisdom and direction in how we can pool our resources for the cause of Christ. In the months ahead, I look forward to sharing with you exciting news about burgeoning relationships with organizations such as Child Evangelism Fellowship, Iron Sharpens Iron, and Trans World Radio and its Project Hannah ministry.

As members of God's body on earth, we can work together with others to make Him known. *"From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work"* (Ephesians 4:16, NIV).

