

# SOMA

A Church of the Christ

## Between Now & October 5...

"I thought you were a church right now? What do you mean when you say Soma is launching in October of 2008?" Believe it or not, we hear these questions a lot. We talk a lot about getting Soma ready for our big "launch" on Sunday, October 5 but what exactly do we mean by that?



Simply put, from now until that first Sunday in October, we are developing everything we need in order to start Soma's weekly worship gatherings and ministry systems. We think a community of Christ-Followers is healthier when it begins with certain things in place (worship, service, a safe place for kids) then if we just begin right now. In other words, we want to be intentional about making Soma outward-focused and in rhythm with our mission to be Jesus to the people around us.

From now until October, we are organizing everyone on our launch team around 5 LiFE group areas (groups of people doing life together):

- ◆ Worship & Creative Arts
- ◆ Service
- ◆ Soma Kidz
- ◆ Pathways
- ◆ Spiritual Seeker Groups

For a quick low-down on those different areas, feel free to check out [www.somasalem.org/nowoctober.php](http://www.somasalem.org/nowoctober.php).



## Service Sunday

On Sunday, April 27 we had 19 people join us in loving the Edgewater District by picking up trash and weeding various roundabouts. The best part was that our neighbors—Nate and Melissa—headed everything up. Afterwards, we put on a block party BBQ in Dwayne & Julie's front yard with people from Soma and our local neighborhood (around 45 people).

All in all, it was a powerful day of loving and serving the neighborhood-and the people -to which God has called us to.

## Please Pray 4...

- **People.** They are the reason we do ministry. May God send us into people's lives to bring Jesus.
- **Work Funds.** We've got a great plan to get into the community; now, we just need some working funds.
- **Broken Barriers.** There are a number of things that keep people from coming to faith in Jesus. We want to see those barriers broken and know that only God can do it. From doubt to past pain to fear of failure, would you please pray that God would defeat the enemy and prepare hearts for Jesus.
- **Potential Partners.** Please pray for a number of people considering joining Soma right now.



## Giving Made Easy...Even at Tax Time



With so much going on at Soma, we felt like it was a good time to remind you of the steps for making financial gifts in support of this mission work. Because we're anticipating a large launch on October 5, 2008 we are currently trying to raise \$60,000 in working funds (we're approximately 23% there). To make things easy for you, here's a quick step-by-step to make giving easy:

1. Pray about how much you should give (if you're married, we think you should even include your spouse)
2. Make your check out to "Kairos Church Planting" and put "Soma Work Fund" on the memo line
3. Mail check to... Kairos Church Planting  
11124 NE Halsey, #497  
Portland, OR 97220

If you have any questions or want more budget information, please don't hesitate to ask. Our budget is available for all to see.

**And...here's a wild idea...**since we're in the midst of tax season and many of you are receiving tax returns, would you please consider making a special contribution to Soma's work fund?

Again, thank you for being a part of our mission to be Jesus to an emerging generation. We're glad you're a part of the body.

### Good Press

God opened two amazing doors this past month. With so many people working hard to love our local neighborhood, someone was bound to notice, right?

First, a student from Corban College wrote an article about Soma for the student body and then a journalist from the Statesman Journal contacted us about doing an article on Soma.

Incredible things are happening around Soma and we can't thank you enough for your prayers.



### What they said...

*"The main thing I took away from this Spring Break Campaign was seeing how much community meant to people, and how much it should mean to me as a 'Christ-Follower' and why it's important."*

Melanie Shinsky  
ACU Freshman

*"This is exactly the kind of thing we've been looking for in our lives."*

Someone who Dwayne met with recently about being a part of Soma

*"Spiritual seeker? Oh yeah, I'm definitely a spiritual seeker. Maybe there is room for me in a place like Soma?"*

Bree, a self-professed Buddhist who was asked to consider exploring Christian faith at Soma

*"We don't GO to church; we ARE the church!"*

Riley Hilty when asked about where he goes to church

*"What's the catch? You mean, you guys are just giving away muffins for free?! No one just gives stuff away for free."*

one person's response after receiving a muffin that we passed out at our last service event

*"Still need an intern during the summer?"*

Bethany Suppes  
ACU freshman  
and possible intern over summer

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Being Jesus to an Emerging Generation

by

Creating Authentic Community,  
Practicing Missional Living,  
Engaging in Creative Dignity,  
& Nurturing Spiritual Formation