**DECEMBER KAIROS LETTER**

My brothers at Pender Correctional,

It’s December and Christmas is fast approaching. Yes, it is a time of joy and celebration. But that’s not all. Often we find ourselves missing what’s been lost since Christmases past. Awhile back my best friend died of COVID. I won’t be seeing him this year. It’s natural to feel a little lonely around the holidays when we’re separated from those we love and those who care deeply about us. Nobody likes feeling left out.

I’ll bet those shepherds “living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night” on that first Christmas felt pretty much left out. Other folks were snug at home with their families and settling down for a restful sleep. And here they were up through the night watching over some sheep. But that’s when it happened. “Then an angel of the Lord stood before them.” The angel announced: “to you is born this day a Savior, Christ the Lord!” Left out? No way! They were as in with God as they could be

So are you and so am I. “To you,” the angel said. To you and you and me and to everyone God has sent his Son, the eternal sign of his love. With God we will never be

left out. Jesus Christ is God’s assurance that we will always be included in the most wonderful in-crowd ever — the family of God.

Please know that we of Kairos keep you in our prayers.

In Christ,

Eric Royer

Kairos Volunteer