

Chai Can't Even | Kinsey Horringtona

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SPEAKERS

Kinsey Horringtona, Brittany Mangelson

Brittany Mangelson 00:26

Welcome to Chai Can't Even, a podcast where we chat with young adults about life, faith, struggles and joys and why they choose to stay in Community of Christ. I'm your host Brittany Mangelson and today I'm really excited about our episode with my friend Kinsey Horringtona. Uh, Kinsey, we had Kinsey's husband on, Tyler, a few weeks ago and now it's Kinsey's turn to tell her story about, uh, Community of Christ and her relationship with Community of Christ. So, Kinsey, welcome, and why don't you introduce yourself?

Kinsey Horringtona 01:00

Okay. Um, I'm Kinsey Horringtona. I'm a mom of two. I live in Independence, Missouri. Um, I used to live in Oklahoma, Edmond congregation. And right now I'm a stay at home mom.

Brittany Mangelson 01:14

Awesome. Thank you. I'm really looking forward to getting to know, uh, you a little bit better and to be able to highlight some of your stories. These interviews where we just get to know, uh, young adults that grew up in Community of Christ are some of my favorite just because your stories are so different and yet there's similarities through all of them. So, I'm (. . .) to dig into yours a little bit more. So, let's get started. Just kind of at the beginning. Did you grow up Community of Christ? If so, did you attend camps? Did, was your family involved? Um, just kind of tell us about your upbringing?

Kinsey Horringtona 01:52

Okay, yeah. The Edmond Congregation I went to. Yeah, we've been in the church for a while, my family has. So, my grandparents went to the same congregation and, like, it's just a big family thing. And, so, yeah, well, I grew up going to reunions, and, (. . .) and that's all been very, very, the camps were especially meaningful to me. I enjoyed having, like, in Edmond we had a small congregation and they really, they really were my church family. So, growing up, it was very small church. And at the time, it was mostly, like, I mostly just remember male sermons. I still feel like women in the priesthood was still new-ish. And, you know, it's just like it kind of, it takes a while for it to grow out. Because at one point, I was going to church with my aunt and uncle as well. But then once it hit Oklahoma, they left the church. And so that was sad. And I missed going to church with my aunt and uncle and my cousins. But, yeah, I, uh, I was sad that they left. We were very tight knit family who would go to CC's with my dad's parents and his brother and my aunt and the cousins. So, they were two boys. And we were two girls.

And we would have, we would have so many debates about roles of women. And I didn't, like, I didn't realize how much I was fighting for women 'cuz we would have fights, like, Oh, girls can't do this. We're like, Yes, they can. Girls can do, you know, just as much as boys can and blah, blah, blah. And I feel like that was, I feel like in some ways it was related to them leaving the church. Like it felt like that kind of went together.

Brittany Mangelson 03:36

Do you mind me asking? Did they leave over women's ordination? Like, was that a (. . .)? (Yes. Yes.) Okay, so your family was conflicted on that reality of Community of Christ. (Um hmm.) In your congregation, how, like, how was that tension? Did you as a little girl growing up, like, did you feel like a second class citizen? Or were you nurtured and mentored by leaders kind of equivalently to the young boys or how, how was that experience?

Kinsey Horinga 04:11

So, I feel like the patriarchy was still very much the head. I was nurtured and loved by the women in the congregation. And by the men. It just felt like the patriarchy still lingered very much. Um, Like my grandma was like the one of the first, uh, women to get ordained in our congregation, um, and encouraged my mom to be orda, like, you know, to, to answer the call 'cause somebody had said she was called and she didn't know how she felt about it. And, so, that's, so, I feel encouraged in that way, you know, um, but it did feel, it was still very conservative. I didn't know, I found I didn't know a lot about the world until college.

Brittany Mangelson 05:01

Fair. And I feel the same way. So, did you, did you like go to camps at all? Or did you ever go to World Conference as a kid? Or were you ever exposed to the larger church as a child?

Kinsey Horinga 05:13

Yeah, um, I actually did Conference Kids 2000, I believe, because I think the thing was vision 2000. That's what I remember. So, I was Conference Kids, uh, with my sister. And then, you know, we went to camps, you know, that were the Oklahoma camps and everything like that. And after high school they had, uh, International IYF in Thailand that I got to go to, and that was amazing. I got to meet different kids from over the United States, which was cool, because I hadn't really done that before. And then people from India and Sri Lanka and it was just cool to actually be in a different country meeting with people that have the same, you know, they're the same Community of Christ as us. And, and yet, they have different cultures and all that kind of stuff. It was very eye opening. It was amazing. It, they actually, it quite changed my life at the time, I was in a really bad relationship. And my friend, Priya, or, well, who, who became my friend, she's from India, and, um, she was to have an arranged marriage soon. And in my brain, you know, like, we learned stuff about other cultures, like, just tidbits and stuff, and you're like, Oh, that's probably back in the day. They probably don't have arranged marriages anymore. And to learn that, that's, that was still happening and, you know, how it worked out. Her aunt was there, and she'd had an arranged marriage and, and her arranged marriage had worked beautifully. You know, it was rough at first, she said, but then it worked out. And it was, it was good. But just to realize the, the privilege that I had to choose, and to say, You know, what, this is a horrible relationship I'm in. I have the power to get out of it. I should. You know, it kind of empowered me to feel

my own power and get out of it. Um, that, that was a pivotal moment for me because I definitely felt stuck in that relationship.

Brittany Mangelson 07:12

Wow. So I've done a fair amount of these, uh, interviews before, and I've never heard a story like that. So, that, like, in a very, very real way, how being confronted with a different culture, made you analyze yourself and the, realize the ability that you were empowered and that that experience empowered you and caused you to act and make a different kind of choice for yourself. That's, that, that's heavy, but like, also incredible.

Kinsey Horinga 07:47

And just the way that they viewed their faith and how, like, strongly and, and how differently, like, we, you know, the different cultures do faith and just, like, hearing some of their convictions when I had questions, and listening, like, Wow, you know, I just, I don't know, there's something very holy about or sacred about seeing their, the way that they, their perspective.

Brittany Mangelson 08:20

Yeah, absolutely. So, you said that this was after you graduated? I'm sorry. I know you said it, but

Kinsey Horinga 08:27

Yes, it was 2009. So, yeah, that was, that's when I graduated high school.

Brittany Mangelson 08:33

So, I guess just keep telling your story then. So, what did you do after coll, or after high school? I don't know if you went to Graceland or if you, just keep sharing your story.

Kinsey Horinga 08:45

Okay. So I did go to Graceland. My sister was there. And I, I wanted to go there. And they had a really, they had a really great education. And that's what I wanted to be. I wanted to be a teacher. And so I went there. And I got to be with my sister for a year. And that was super fun. College was a huge change for my religious perspectives, and my world perspectives as well, like, at the start, because I. I was definitely more of a black and white person at this time. And, you know, you grow up with certain things and your parents are doing their best and wonderfully, and they teach you these things to help you grow and nurture you. My parents are great. I love them. But there's just, like, these things that you get to learn by knowing other people and saying, Oh, like, sometimes, or alcohol is like a big no in our family. And, so, just like meeting people and then realizing that they also drink and that I love them and that they're not, like, these horrible people, you know, so, like, that, but, so, that's where, like, the little worldview comes in, but there was a program called Community of Christ Leadership CCLP program. Yeah. And, so, I was a part of that. And, oh, man, just the classes that we got to take. Tony and Charmaine blew my brains out--in a good way. So, instead of taking the Bible literally, I started to think about the context. And, so, I took, um, all the New Testament with them. I actually sat in on, I think, oh, I think New Te, I think Old Testament is the first semester. Actually didn't take the class until senior year, but in freshman year, I sat in on it. And I basically took the class without any credit. So, that that's how interested and into it I was. And, so, but just opening it up, and to, like, just expanding my horizons

completely and being surrounded by other people who had, like, that's where I met Emily Rose and other people who had a significant amount of influence on my journey, spiritually. Learning about context and, actually learning about other Bible verses in the Bible that they had us get versus, you know, the, the Bible, that is the Community of Christ Bible, uh, The Inspired Version, The Inspired Version versus the NRSV is, I think, which is the Bible, they have us get for class, and, um, just seeing it in a different way. And I really appreciated the after class sessions that they would have every once in a while because I was really struggling, and being able to talk through it with them and feel safe, safe to question because I feel, like, as a kid, I didn't feel like it was safe to question. God was God, God is a man, Jesus, you're a sinner, you need to repent. I feel like I felt like I was inherently bad. And, you know, feeling like I needed to, like punish myself. I don't even know where that came from. But, like, I'm inherently bad, so I need to, I, you know, God really needs to save me or, you know, low, I'm very lowly or something. I don't know. I'm not sure where this thought process came from. But just that maybe I'm not good enough for God. That's, I think that's what, I think that's what it was. I didn't think I was good enough for God, so I was always trying to meet, try and do better and try and I have some, kind of hard to explain a little bit. But hopefully that makes some sense.

Brittany Mangelson 12:42

It does. And I definitely grew up with a similar understanding and construct of God that I was always trying to prove that I was worth it, that I was good enough, that I was worthy, that, you know, there is, uh, uh, this idea, this theological idea in the Book of Mormon particularly that humanity is, like, naturally evil and bad and, like, that's the starting point. And I'm less familiar with how that messaging has seeped into Community of Christ, but in my Mormon upbringing, that definitely was, like, the undercurrent. Right, it was, it was a starting point. And I'm assuming that that has leached into Community of Christ in various places, too, because of other people's, you know, interpretation of the Book of Mormon or how they view it and just, it's just kind of like seeped in our, uh, well, and to be clear, this is also like a Christian understanding as well among other denominations. So, not every Christian and also, like, hashtag not every Mormon, but you know what I mean. Like, yeah, yeah, it's there. It definitely is there. So, yeah, I totally get what you're saying.

Kinsey Horinga 13:51

Yeah, like, we have to make it up to God somehow, that we are inherently evil. And, yeah, we, I, I, I keep going back and forth. I'm sorry, but, like, I grew up doing Bible study, like, it's this thing called BSF, um, and went with my dad and, like, like, Bible study is such a big part of my upbringing. You know, we did the Book of Mormon, uh, and, and, um, in, um, the Community of Christ Book of Mormon, I'm not really sure on the big differences there. But, um, we, you know, that was one of our classes that we had as a kid and, you know, like, studying was very, um, a big part of, studying the Bible was a big deal. Um, and, so, picking apart the Bible with Tony and Charmaine was, that was tough. Um, and then I just, it's all like it's traumatic. It was traumatic. And so there's a part of me that doesn't remember a lot of it, like of the details, the nitty gritty details, I mostly just remember taking a bunch of classes from Tony and Charmaine and Bob Mesle and being mind blown learning about different religions and learning more about ours and, um, and just like different theologians, and just being incredibly educated, and I loved it. I, I would audit a lot of classes. Like, I audited a bunch of Bob's classes. You would think I was a religion major, all of the things I audited. I, I couldn't get enough. And yet it was breaking me apart. Like, I would go to Emily Rose and we'd go to the coffee shop in Lamoni and I

would just cry and cry. And she would let me be like, I don't want to be reincarnated. I don't know what I believe. Like, that's like the one thing. I don't know if I, what if I don't believe Jesus was, like, a, like the Son of God? What if I just believe he was a prophet, like, because I see value in these other teachings, like, they're very similar? All of these different religions have similarities and they have the golden rule. And they have value. And I want to uphold that value. And I appreciate the things that I can learn, um, from these different religions. But then there's this other half of me. So, I feel like I'm a, a person that's cut in two. I have this half of me that believes in a more liberal thing. And then there's this other half of me that can't seem to let go of the old, like, will I go to heaven if I don't (. . .)? What if I believe that Jesus didn't raise again? Like, you know, I am I going to hell? Am I sending my children to hell? Like, you know, there's, there's this fear that is within me, that is a driving force. And then there's this other part of me that says, God is love. God has cast out fear. And yet, there's this part of me, like, it's, it's hard to get rid of. It's hard to say, Okay, I don't have to, because fear God was a big thing growing up to fear God. And it wasn't explained well because I definitely feared, like, scared of God. When I think it was supposed to be in awe of God, you know, being in awe instead of fearing God is going to come down and smite me and be like, Well, I'm going to genocide your people because you just really messed up, you know what I'm saying? So, it's like, sometimes I find myself going, Oh, am I teaching my kids the right thing? Uh, but what is the, what is the right thing? I mean, and sometimes I still struggle with is, am I, like, it feels bad to say it, I feel dirty to say, like, was, you know, did Jesus rise from the dead? I don't know if that matters to me. I don't know if that Jesus died for the cause of love and for pursuing justice. Yes, definitely. I believe in his teachings. Yes. Do I believe that we should look out for other people and grow and stretch ourselves and say, Okay, what does society say is the outcast? And how can I approach them and say, You are not an outcast. You're beautiful who you are. You are loved. You are important. And bring them in with open arms no matter if they're drinking, a sex worker, if they're homeless, if they're, you know, whatever, whatever the diversity is LGBTQ plus, it's just like, any diversity, skin color, and just, I'm supposed to love them even if they believe in having more guns and I don't and that scares the crap out of me. I need to be a loving person and say, I love you for where you're at. I love you. And it's okay that we have differences. And it's okay that we are in two different spaces and almost two different worlds. Because that's what I think Jesus is about. Jesus is about connecting us all even though we are the poor, the rich, and everything in between and saying, You need to love each other. You have commonalities, and you should celebrate each other's differences. That's what Jesus is for me. Whether I do believe he rose from the dead or not, that is my belief of Jesus. That God is love. And so Emily helped me because I even cried to her once about Easter. I was, like, But I love Easter. I love Easter eggs. What if I don't believe this any more? And she's like, What? What do you love about Easter? And I was like, Well, the hope, the hope that it brings that there is hope of something new and maybe forgiveness. I'm not sure if that's the right words, but just, you know, there's hope, there's goodness, there can be new life, that's (. . .), new life. We can try again. We can make things new in different ways. We can become a new creation. That's, that's kind of where, that's where I was going with that. That's, like, one of my big struggles is, like, whether should I say stuff like that out loud?

Brittany Mangelson 20:39

Also relatable. Uh, I don't think, uh, you hit on some really, really important points, um, during that part of your story. And I think that it's, it's so interesting because, you know, in Community of Christ there is not one way to think about things, right? There is not, we have, absolutely, we have core theology, we

have a center identity of who we are and what our message is. But within that, there is room for cultural interpretation of how your congregation, how your ministers, leadership, um, deliver that good news, right? And, so, in an area, um, that might, I don't know, I mean, down south in Alka, in Oklahoma, there's, you know, there is a lot of evangelical influence. And, so, I'm assuming that if you went to, you know, Bible camps and things like that, like, maybe they were pulling curriculum in from other places or maybe you were attending other denominations' Bible camps and stuff. So, if you're getting all of these messages that, you know, kind of seep into you as a young, impressionable kid. And then you go to college and you meet Tony and Charmaine and they're like, Well, let's put all these scriptures in context. And you're, like, (. . .) it's, it is, in a way a faith transition or a crisis of faith, or, you know, some sort of evolution in your personal theology. And, so, I think it's really, really important to, like, not forget that part of your story because it, it has made you who you are. And then I'm assuming, and we can talk about this in a little bit, but has informed your current day discipleship and how you teach your kids, right? Like, I know, for me, I want to start them at a different starting point than I had as a kid. So, it's like, Okay, all that baggage, how much of it can I leave behind and just start at a clean slate from this new starting point with this new understanding of context and justice and what does the message of Jesus actually mean if it's not a resuscitated corpse and I'm not firmly comfortable with that idea. Or if you are, like, what is, what does it mean if, if that's your theology, right? So, um, I think anytime that we change our beliefs, it's really important to give ourselves grace, and then continue to be open minded of really, where God is gonna' continue to lead us. So, thank you for sharing that part of your story. It was absolutely relatable to me, and I know it's gonna' be relatable to a lot of other people.

Kinsey Horinga 23:23

It definitely felt like a death of something. (Yeah.) You know, like, everything had come out from under me, but I also felt that my roots kept me afloat. I felt like whether what my small congregation in Edmond believed or not, I had love there. They loved me. And I had been raised in love. And, so, that's, if I can not know anything else about God, I just know that love is the root. And that's, like, the only thing that I know for, like, know, know, know deep in my roots it's just like, that's what everything taught me even if I don't keep everything that they taught me, you know, because I appreciate them and where they were and where they're at and what they taught me to help me get to that space. And I love them for loving me and holding me up and accepting me, um, into their, into the community, you know. And, so, I think that, (. . .) a kids' song on about it, you know, like, now I can't remember good, but, like, (humming) the wisemen song about build your house upon the rock or whatever, and (Yep.) the rest of my house is falling down, but I am rooted in love and that's all I've got. Like, that's all I know to believe. And, so, but I took comfort in their love for Me. And the love of Christ that they showed me.

Brittany Mangelson 25:01

Yeah, that's a beautiful way to frame that instead of, you know, I know there's a lot of people that reject church or religion or their upbringing or whatever. And they're very resentful about it. And they, you know, it drives wedges between communities, between families, between neighbors, all the things. Um, but it seems like you have a very Graceville response of acknowledging that, that that foundation, although might be theologically a little bit different, you know, from what your beliefs today, but that foundation was love. And it was that love that carried you through. And I'm assuming, and I don't mean to put words in your mouth, but I'm assuming that meant love for you and also, like, your love for God or a higher (Yes.) or a power, right? They're the ones (Um hmm.) that just taught you and introduced

you to the concept of love and spirituality and God. So, (Yeah.) yeah, that was a really beautiful framing. Thank you.

Kinsey Horrynga 26:01

Good. Can I add something? I'm sorry. (No, go for it.) Um, something else. Um, Emily really helped me in my journey, um, (Helped me in mine, too, so.) so, I don't know, maybe she had you read this book, too. But "The Dance of the Dissident Daughter" (Uh, huh, on the bookshelf back there.) Yeah, I think I see the purple backing. Oh, my gosh, from because of becoming, coming from a patriarchal, like, standpoint and thinking God is man only, you know, like, based on "The Dissident Daughter" of Sue Monk Kidd, that changed my life in a whole other way. Because I was trying to be good enough for this male God. But I didn't have to be good enough for this woman God. Um, kind, like, I still kind of hold them in two different, I haven't combined them yet. I'm really trying to combine them. That's something I'm working on is saying, like, But their the same God. Doesn't matter. They don't need to have a gender. But I'm still, I'm still trying to give myself grace and be like, Okay, this is where I'm at. You know, I'm more into the Goddess Mother. Like, when I say personal prayers, I'm like, Goddess Mother, thank you for today. You know, it's more loving creator, or, you know, that's kind of what I bring out for other people. I feel that sometimes my, uh, my Goddess Mother might be too abrasive for them. But, uh, you know, too much different. But, like, literally. Okay, no one else can see this, but behind me is a circle of trees picture. And I shared this book with my mother. And the, there's a circle of trees where she has this moment in the book. And I don't even remember the moment, but I remember the feeling. Like, I can't, I can't tell you what the words were in the book or anything like that. But I just remember this feeling that is with the circle of trees. That is like all encompassing and powerful and beautiful. And feminine somehow. Like, it's been a couple years since I've read the book. And that, I don't know, that just, that started my relationship with (. . .), like, I've always had a relationship with trees. I've always been a little bit of a tree hugger. But I became more rooted in nature, I feel like. And God through nature, through that book, and through acknowledging that the wild and the feminine in me is sacred. Because for some reason, you know, like, everyone's like, Eve is horrible. She's the worst. Like, when you're growing up in a more patriarchal and, uh, conservative area, you just, like, feel like there's something inherently evil about being a woman, or bad. Not necessarily evil, but bad. Like, I am a second rate citizen because I am a woman. And, it's not even something you can technically comprehend until later. You're like, Oh, I believe this because that. You know, and seeing that being female wasn't a bad thing. There's feminine, like, and there's feminalities in God. There's, there's a sacredness to being who I am and trying to accept, uh, like, I felt like I could accept who I was more because I felt like finally God accepted me for being a woman because God could be a woman. And I could, I, it was just a very found moment to realize it was okay to be me, that I did have worth. Like, it just, it felt like a huge moment when that book just was very life changing and then sharing it with my mother was even, it, because I could see the change in her, too, you know. And, so, that was, I don't know, that came to my brain and I just wanted to share that because it's just beautiful. Like, having a period isn't an awful thing to hide and there's like, uh, it talks about your period in the book. And, so, I'm sorry if that makes people squeamish, but there, there's like a shedding and how that there's a shedding of life and, like, it's all a part of nature. And this is the nature that God created. And it just, it, I don't know, it just made me feel like it was okay to be me. It's okay to have a uterus. It is okay to have a uterus. Yeah, I think I just felt like a second rate citizen until then. And then it just was, like, Ah, I do have value. So, I don't know, not that anyone ever said to me, You don't have value. You're a woman.

It's just like this subliminal underlying messages that we get from the world, from everywhere, that are just, like,

Brittany Mangelson 31:09

Yep, absolutely. I know 1,000,000% what you're talking about. And I have very similar experiences with that book as well. Especially, you know, because, again, the default of God traditionally is always male and the narrative around the story of Adam and Eve, like you said, it's that Eve was so bad. And even, you know, if, if it's like, Oh, but she made an impossible choice. And, but, like, there are narratives that try to turn that around that are still umbrellaed under a patriarchal lens. And we don't need more of that. We need to blow through that lens and really reimagine what these texts and just what our concept of God is doing to, like, real people on the ground. Um, you know, real people in the pews, little girls that are getting messages. Um, I absolutely grew up with similar rhetoric about my body and about the shame that I should inherently have because I was a woman. And that impacted so many aspects of my life and, to be frank, still does, um, because like you said, like, that old conditioning still pops up every now and then. And I think all the time, like, Ooh. And now, you know, now I have two girls that are almost 13, two daughters, and I'm having to check myself constantly that I'm not passing down, and I know that I'm not perfect either, so that I'm limiting the damaging rhetoric that I pass down to them, right? Um, and I don't let my insecurities and my religious baggage, you know, be imprinted on them. Like, it's something that I have to actively fight against literally every single day. Um, and it comes up in ways that impact women more than they impact men. Like modesty, or, you know, just sexuality. Like, there's so, I mean I could talk about this all day long. There's so many. And actually (I agree.) I've talked about it on the podcast before. Yeah, it's a lot. It is a lot to deconstruct. And, um, yeah, so I understand completely what you're saying.

Kinsey Horinga 33:20

That's interesting because, like, I'm so scared because I have two boys. And I'm, like, I don't want them to objectify women. I don't want them to do this or that. But what if they like men? That's fine. And then I'm like, (sound). It's like a spiral of feeling out of control, to wanting them to be the best them and to (sound) it's just, it's overwhelming to try and be, like, I want them to understand consent. I didn't even know about consent. Like, no one ever taught us about consent back in the '90's. Like, you know what I mean? It was just like, don't have sex. Have a purity ring. Like, that's where I come from. I had a purity ring. And, you know, and that's where it comes from. And, so, like, I know this is, like, really off topic, but I don't even know how to approach sex. (Yeah.) I don't know, like, my brain just says no sex before marriage. That's the right thing. And then I'm, like, well, but is it? Like, I don't, let's, that's a whole nother topic. I'm sorry.

Brittany Mangelson 34:26

Well, no, and this is, yes, it's absolutely relevant. And, you know, I am glad that you brought up raising little boys, too, because I have a son and it's, it's also something that I have to actively work against, uh, letting that patriarchal religious baggage touch him, right, because I love my family of origin, but it was undeniable that my brothers were more important than the girls and I could list a hundred reasons why that was, right? Or, like, evidences that that was the messaging I got. (Yeah.) So, I'm, like, very, very, very sensitive to it. Whereas, um, you know, my husband is just, like, Why not just treat them all equally. And I'm, like, But I just, ugh, and, like, it's so much harder for me because if I see my

daughters, you know, doing more around the house, like, I just lose it. I'm, like, Grant, you know, like, you've got. Okay, but he's also younger. And, so, yeah, it's totally, completely understandable that all of these messages just get wrapped up in, in the trickiness of raising the next generation. And, I mean, we're doing the best we can. And hopefully we don't mess it up too much. But they'll do better than we did. And the cycle (. . .).

Kinsey Horinga 35:45

Right? Yeah. Like, there's something, like, I really don't like kids hitting. Hitting is, like, I don't know, it's a trigger or something. I don't know. Like, when my kid hits a girl and I, that, like, boom, it's like 10 times, like, the anxiety, the upset, and I'm just like losing my shenanigans. And I'm like, Calm down. (. . .). They're not trying to be, like, meanies, you know, but it's just, like, Oh, no. They hit a girl. Like, (Yeah.) it just, sometimes it feels like the end of the world. And you're just, like, Why, why, why am I here? Because I don't want it to get to where, Oh, I'm better than girls. Like, we went to pre-K this year. And we had some, uh, we had some interesting changes with Quinton. Um, pink is for girls. I said, No, pink is for everyone. You know, because I'm trying to raise my kids to be who they truly are. I don't want ever them to feel ashamed about anything. Whether they are straight, gay, bi, trans, I don't care. I want them to be, feel loved and accepted for their sexuality. If they're asexual. If, if they, you know, all of the things. And, you know, and then the world starts saying, This is for girls, girls are better than boys. Like, it's just, it happens at school and you're just, like, I don't know, how do you stop, you can't stop it. That's the problem. And, so, it just feels out of, you don't, and it feels out of control. And like, I have a bazillion books about strong women. And I try and collect more and more all the time and read it to them. Like, African American strong women and, like, just, she persists and boys that dance and, like, we need more diversity in that area so that they can learn that to love everyone like you are the most privileged. Like, to know that my kid is a white male, possibly (. . .), you know, they have the most privilege of all and how do I help them walk through life with a understanding kind heart for the Lord that is compassionate, and yet can be a good listener and all the stuff that we put on each, like, ourselves and we just have so much anxiety about that. That's, that is my complete anxiety, like, every day. How do I, how do I (They're people.) help them be compassionate children? That is my goal for them? Like, they all, they have beautiful hearts already, but I'm just worried that the world is going to crush it. No, because it kind of crushed me because I've been there done that. I don't know. I'm sorry. You know my therapist.

Brittany Mangelson 38:37

But it's absolutely what these interviews are about. I mean, not therapy, but getting (. . .) to the nitty gritty of how living discipleship and being able to model what does healthy masculinity and healthy femininity and when I say healthy I mean like that it's not a binary and that we can bust through those cultural expectations and that we don't have to, um, carry around the patriarchal structures and baggage and expectations that, you know, our generation was just given, um, as was the generation before that and the generation before that and, uh, you know, how do we be the ones that break those cycles, but break them open into more compassion and more love? Like, I, yeah. These are all the questions that I'm wrestling with as well and I, we just take it one day at a time. (Yep.) Hope we're doing an okay job. But I guess that brings me to some other questions about, you know, your involvement with Community of Christ and how that has impacted, like, parenting or, you know, where you are today as far as, like, skills you have or communication, conflict resolution, that kind of stuff, like, just how, how

has your discipleship in Community of Christ formed you and, obviously, we're moms, so onto your, your family structure?

Kinsey Horinga 40:09

So, right now, I am a part of a congregation that's merging. So, we had this thing called Impact and before COVID, COVID killed us, um, we were doing this really cool thing. Like, I thought it was super cool. Like, different people would be in charge. And they would bring their, their way that spoke to them spiritually. Like, maybe one Sunday it would be a discussion. The next it would be arts and crafts, like, you know, we'd paint. We'd make cookies for the teachers in the, in the community, or, like, exploring different facets of God. And, um, in all the ways that we could explore expressing God, being outside, being inside singing. You know, these are the different things that feed our spirituality, that don't look like a sandwich, don't look like a regular, um, Sunday. You know, um, we were doing this at night at the time and it was, like, 10 times easier because I only had one kid. And, literally, I could just let them walk around and run around. And other people would be like with them, or you know, whatever. Like, I didn't feel stressed out. This, it wasn't a chore to go to Impact. Like, right now, church is kind of a chore, which stinks because what should church look like for my kids? I don't know. I want it to be more like Impact was, but also trying to meet the needs of everyone else as well who still feel that a sermon is the most beautiful thing ever. And I, I love sermons, but I also just wanting like a combination of more, more ways to express spirituality. That's been really moving me lately. I feel like I'm trying to like answer all the questions in my head all at once. I feel like Graceland introduced me to a lot of different people and opened my eyes at that point. So, at that point in my life, I thought I had never met someone who was gay, or whatever, or anything. And I met John. And, you know, being queer was never talked about in my family. There's just like, there's just some things that were never talked about. And, so, meeting someone who's queer and meeting, um, we are, we had international students meeting people who were from Pakistan and were Muslim and learning about all these different religions. I feel like, gave me a more compassionate and understanding heart to where, when it came time for our US conference that we had about the LGBTQ plus community and whether we were, like, I can't remember what it was called. But it was just the US because other countries struggle with this and people are murdered and, not that they don't get murdered here. But, you, do you know what I mean? Do you remember what I'm talking about, the US Conference? Was it just a US Conference?

Brittany Mangelson 43:29

Yeah, National Conference.

Kinsey Horinga 43:31

Thank you. (Yeah.) National Conference. Thank you. I'm sorry. I sometimes I get hung up. I have ADD and so sometimes I just get hung up on stuff and, like, (sound). And, so, at National Conference, I just don't know. Something was stirring within me. And I was able to, because at that point I was on, I was like, it is time. We need to change. We need to move and grow. But I was able to hold space for the people who didn't agree with me. I don't know if it's because people at Graceland, like, held space for me in my, like, I feel like it was modeled for me. People held space for me in my time of great struggle and great confusion and unknowingness. And, so, I feel like through learning from them and holding space for me, I feel like that helped me to learn and grow to hold space for others. And there was this one man who was just really struggling. Um, he just kept going in and out. And he had vocally talked

about how he just didn't understand and he felt like he was being separated from the church and that, like, or there was something he didn't understand and he was verbally against it. And yet very saddened and confused and, and this great compassion came over me and I felt like I needed to tell him, to hug him and tell him that I loved him. And, so, one of the times when he came back, I said, Can I hug you? And we did. And I said, I love you. And, I don't know, that was, like, it was like a learning moment for me, as well as a moment where I felt, like, I felt like God's compassion had given, like, it was definitely Spirit led. It just felt like the utmost compassion I had. My heart was breaking for him, for his struggle. And he needed my love and support, too. That's what it is. So, he needed my love and support where he was at and I still needed to love and support my friends in the queer community. And it felt like it was a learning moment. And that's, that's kind of been the thing that I go back to because these last years with certain people in charge in the United States has been crazy. It's felt like a roller coaster of madness and just so much hate and anger, and it breaks my heart. And it's, I've definitely felt calloused at times where I just, like, there's just parts of me that never want to watch TV ever again, or not just like the news. I never want to turn on the news. And that's horrible because I want to be informed. But I'm not informed because I don't watch the news. And then it just hurts so much to see all of this pain in horrible, horrible way that we, we interact with each other. And it just gets me. And yet, I am also part of the problem because I'm hiding myself in my house. I am hiding away from the problem instead of facing it and saying this hurts. This sucks. How can I help? How can I be a better listener? How can I support you in your need, you know, it's, it feels so overwhelming at times, but I just trying to realize that I need to be there for the person who does not think like me and the person who does think like me and all the people in between. You know, that, I feel like that's where God is leading me right now. And that's, it's just, it's all like built up from where I was and who I am and where I'm going is that holding space for people no matter where they're at and saying, you know, God loves that person. I don't get their ideas. I don't get why they're being so mean and hateful and unkind. And they probably don't see that like you, they don't see it like I see it. But I need to see them and say, You are loved. You are worthy. You are good enough. There is kindness in your heart. Whether I can see it or not, there is a part of them that is doing the best they can with what they have whether, how ill informed it is or not. And trying to hold space. That's, I think that's my calling right now is to hold space, trying to hold space for myself for one thing because self love is not, just not what was taught. It was like self hatred. Hate yourself and God will love you. Um, like, trying to hold space for myself and have self care even is like this huge struggle because you're supposed to do all this work. This is what a mom looks like. A mom takes care of the children. Like, it's so conservative in their, in my head. And it's hard to say, Well, this is a partnership. I don't have to do all this. Like, I'm just trying to redefine what love looks like in our partnership. What does God's love look like in a family where we are changing the roles of woman and man and where, because sometimes I get, I, just like you said, it just pops up and I get stuck there. And I have these expectations for myself. And then I have expectations for other people or other people think I have expectations for me. And, so, trying to hold space for me is, like, this huge, is like my worst problem. But I need to work on that so I can better hold space for others. Like I just never knew I had to do me first and then others because you know, there used to be a thing like Jesus, God, others, you or something like that. And, and, so, that's just so ingrained. And, so, I think that's a part of what keeps me stagnant and not helping others is I have put myself in this box that keeps me where I'm at, keeps me at home. It keeps me from saying, Hey, I can do this. I have the ability. I have the power. I, I should, I could, I would. So, I'm trying to hold space and I have to start with me. I have hold space for myself and realize that God's love is for me. And I, like, just constantly telling myself I'm worthy and, and okay so

that I can see the worst of all persons and hold their worth up. Whether we are in the same circles or not. I hope that answered the question.

Brittany Mangelson 50:31

It did. And I think you just gave all of us therapy 101, right? You know, in, in the grand scheme of things, like your relationship with you, your relationship with yourself is going to impact literally every other relationship that you have. And, um, that includes your relationship with God. And that includes your relationship with your spouse and with your children and with your neighbors and with your friends and with the people in your congregation. And with the people who voted across the aisle from you. And, um, being able to find love and compassion for yourself is the same, the, the love and compassion for others is rooted in that love and compassion for yourself. And when you were taught with subliminal messaging that you're not important, that, you know, God is scary and God is mad at you and all the things that we've talked about, um, it's really hard to dig yourself out of that and say, like, Oh, I can't actually fully love others until I love myself. Like, that is a big, that's, that's a big lesson to learn and one that I think all of us are continually learning. So, thank you. Thank you for sharing that. And so vulnerably and, um, I, again, I just keep saying, like, I totally relate, but I really do. So,

Kinsey Horinga 51:52

Yeah, for sure.

Brittany Mangelson 51:54

Okay, so, so, let's, let's just talk about, like, religion in communities today. Like, so, I mean, you already kind of answered this question, but, like, the frustration and the tension of, like, wanting a community for your kids, um, that keeps them active and involved and engaged. So, I'm, I'm wondering what you see as far as, like, the benefits of organized religion, even if it doesn't look maybe how we would want it to all the time. Um, and then, you know, what keeps you active and involved in Community of Christ particularly? And then how can we just continue that into the future.

Kinsey Horinga 52:38

So, I find, I find value in the community and I want that for my kids. I enjoyed growing up in a community where it was multi-generational and I could go to Wednesday nights and hear peoples' testimonies. And I feel like I learned a lot and I heard more about life. I, I feel, like, Wednesday night was more of a church for me than, like, anything else, you know? And, and, like, I, me and my sister were, like, the only freaking kids there. But it was the relational part, having relations and getting to know the person and seeing how God impacted their life. That, for me, is what I want for my children. And I want them to not, like, I don't want this to be, like, just a young person's church or just an old person's church. Like, I enjoy them intergenerational. I feel like I learn from older people and younger people and kids, like, kids are teaching us all the time, man. And I, I want that diversity for my children and for me. I, I want diversity. The relationships keep me going because there's a lot of times where I'm just, like, I, I don't want to go to church today. I don't. I mean I have to keep my kids quiet. I'm going to have to stress out about whether they're being too loud, can I keep them in one spot. Right now it is more of a chore to go to church. But it is a joy, other than seeing the smiles when older people see my children and, you know, my children interacting with them. And, like, before and after church, it's like I come from before and after. I mean, there's good stuff in the middle, too. And they are trying to do it

different at this new place that we're doing it, like having more discussions. And I feel like we're trying to change in a direction that is more inclusive of more ways that we differently access God because I think it's very, right now it's very sermonal and it's, this is the way that we do it. This is how we get to God through, you know, not sure how to say it properly, but realizing that we all worship and feel God in different ways. Some people go outside and just listen. Some people meditate. Some people read and do study, study scriptures. And there's just so many different facets and pathways to God. Oh, my gosh, Charmaine, love her, and I love Tony, too. Um, but, like, one of the most eye opening things that she ever did for me is, I don't even remember what it was, I don't know if it was a class or just something I went to, but she talked about all the different religions, how they're all pathways to God. And I was, like, that's, like, everything. That's, that's it. Like, we all have different pathways that we get to God. We all have different things that, like, resonate with us differently, like music really gets my heart. And, and conversations like this, like, are spiritually, like, I'm being fed by talking to you. And knowing that you have the same struggles and not feeling alone in this. The relational part for me is what really just, like, charges me up. And, so, wanting to share that and show that we can do that in different ways. I'm just, I'm ready to try new things. And yet keep some of, I'm ready for an intermix of things because there's things that I find very beautiful about the older way to worship. You know, I enjoy hymns. And, you know, I do enjoy the occasional sermon because that is like a, it's like a personal testimony in itself. But it's also, like, it's, it's a combo of things. And, so, it's the relationships that keep me in, in Community of Christ and our belief system and that I can have different beliefs than everybody else in the same, you know, I enjoy the freedom within our community to believe other things than other people and yet, say, I love you. I don't care. We're, it's fine. So, that's definitely what keeps me in Community of Christ is relationships that I have, but I'm ready for us to grow and have new expressions of the church. I know that's like a, a, a wordage that's been put together for a while, but just to explore new place, new ideas, and way, like, what can it look like? Maybe one Sunday, let's, let's go out into the community and, like, do something with them. You know, that's like, that's what Jesus would do, you know, like, go sit with those sinners, like, go out into the community and be, be there, like, outreach. I get pumped about all those different things. And I am, that's what keeps me here is that I see, I see, um, that we can move into different ways of doing it and that we will eventually. I, I just, I see a, a lot of (. . .) and I'm hoping that, you know, we can figure it out because I'd really like something a little different. And I know that having to keep your children quiet at church definitely keeps a lot of young adults away. It's hard work. It's, like, we're, Sit down, be quiet, you know? And it was easier back in the day because, you know, you got to swat and you'd, you'd shut up and sit down. Gentle parenting wasn't a thing. Holding your feelings wasn't a thing. (Oh, I know.) This would work out better. But it's not that I want a parent. So, how do you gentle parent and have your children express their feelings and be who they are and have them be a part of the church. And I want them to know that their value, that even where as five and two, they have worth in the church and that they bring something to the table because they're, like, sometimes I still feel very small. I'm 32 and sometimes I still feel like this little girl off to the side going, Ooo, I don't know if I can share or if I could do this input, because I'm just a little girl, or, you know, I'm just, I'm this young person. So, I don't have much pull or, not pull, but, like, say, like, I don't have much to offer because, you know, the older people are in charge. Sometimes I feel so small. Do I have, you know, you know, to, can I offer this up? Will, they just laugh at me for that, you know? This is a good idea, but maybe it's not the right time. Is it, is it ever the right time? So, just trying to have confidence as well as feeling like I can truly be a part of the community and wanting my kids to feel that way.

Brittany Mangelson 59:03

Well, I think that you also just touched on a lot of things that I've heard a wide variety of millennials talk about this. It's almost like the passing of the baton, right? This idea of, like, Okay, (Um hmm.) we're to raise the next generation of the church and also get, you know, the baton of, like, leadership roles and camp directors and things like that, like, that passed on to us at the same time. And I get that, like, every generation has gone through this. But we are in, uh, an era right now where churches everywhere are shrinking and people are walking away from religion. They, they don't have the same pull, religion doesn't have the same pull as it once did. And, so, on top of all of this, we're trying to figure out why we're sticking with church and why we should convince other people to stick with some church and it's, like, Okay, there's a lot on our plate. There's a lot on our plate. So, yeah, I definitely hear that tension in just about every one of these interviews that I do. Um, so, if you didn't realize already, know that you're not alone in, in this feeling.

Kinsey Horinga 1:00:13

Yeah, in, in some places, like, because before I had kids, there's a church that tried to, like, they were trying to be amazingly awesome and have, like, get the young adults, like, really into it. But it was, like, I felt like they were trying to put me in charge of everything. I was, like, I feel overwhelmed. Like, it's either they're trying to get you to do everything or nothing. There's not a lot of in between. So, Oh, will you be in charge of this? Will you do this? Will you do that? And I'm, I'm seeing a little bit more of the in between. But it just felt overwhelming and I was, like, I just (sound) I closed off and I didn't participate at all because I just, I felt like this overwhelming, like, anticipation of what it could be and what they wanted it to be. And I was, like, I don't know if I can make that happen. I don't know if I can be some miracle worker and get all these young adults to come to church, like, it just felt very overwhelming. And then so it kind of made me back away and be, like, (sound) running away. But I want to be in it. I want to be in it. I want to be a part of it. And I want to, I do want to invite other people back to church, but I want church to look different. So, it's hard to invite them when church doesn't look diff, different yet in the way that we can feel free to be ourselves and yet having a spiritual experience.

Brittany Mangelson 1:01:28

No, I think you're making absolute sense. And honestly, this kind of brings me to, you know, one of my last questions is what is your hope for the future of Community of Christ? So, you know, as, as this denomination figures out who we are going to be into the future and what things are going to look like, uh, what are some of your hopes?

Kinsey Horinga 1:01:46

I'm very hopeful that, in, that, so I've gone to two reunions this year and had two different experiences. And they're both beautiful experiences. But, um, we've really been talking about discernment and spiritual discernment and, um, I feel like we're asking really good questions right now. Um, at least the two reunions, I went to, like, you know, what is leadership look like? What is, what do the next steps of the church look like, and then, and then different lenses and trying to dig deeper into what makes, what makes church church or, or what makes worship worship. And I feel like a lot of us are more in the same place than we think because I know sometimes it's, like, Ah, the old people aren't ready to change. But sometimes there, there's a lot of quote unquote, older people who are ready for change. I

just, I feel like I'm, I'm hopeful for more communication. We have these tools now. COVID gave us a bunch of tools. A lot of crap happened with COVID, but it also gave us a lot of tools that we had to use. And we do have Zoom now. And we can do this. So, why, why not have more communication, more communication between all the pastors in the United States, or in, even in, in different countries, like, eventually, but right, right now, there's a lot of people that feel alone and small and kind of a bit, like, they are doing everything to keep their church alive. And my hope is for more communication because we, we have the network. We have this whole beautiful church through the US to the different countries. We're all in this together. But we find ourselves feeling very isolated. And I'm hopeful for more communication. More, maybe some Zoom meetings with pastors so they don't feel alone. And they can get new ideas from others, like, you know, sharing and creating together in ways that we've never done before. Because we never thought about it because you had to write a, an, you know, an email, or you had to write a, and, like, you know, it's all slower forms of communication. And now we have these faster ways of communicating. And I'm hopeful that we will use those tools to lift each other up and not feel so alone and to bring forth a new way of being through that. And finding community everywhere. And just having, there's just so, there's just so much opportunity waiting to be grabbed. And I'm just, I'm so hopeful that there's more communication and more interconnectedness of the church where we talk to each other, we ask, you know, people from Oregon, or, or Utah or wherever, like, have you, have a sermon in Oklahoma on Zoom or you have some (. . .) do a spiritual practice in Oklahoma on Zoom or something that you're passionate about coming to us at different places and really seeing each other for who we are and saying, I'm going to try something new. I'm going to explore this pathway and really just be present. And I feel like that starts with communicating and being more vulnerable with us taking away the shame that the underlying shame of a lot of things. I feel like there's a lot of shame. And, so, we don't talk, we don't talk about things. When we don't talk about things, we give them power. We give them so much power. And I want us to talk more. I want us to talk about people who've had abortions, people who are gay and queer, people who are alcoholics, and, like, just things that are, like, somewhat taboo in our society, like, (. . .) in Community of Christ, a, a, and just, like, not that, not that any of those things aren't necessarily taboo, but, like, they've been made black and white when there is gray and I want us to be more open and compassionate towards that. And that is my hope, that we will say, instead of going, Oh, she had an abortion, and just going boom, wrong. Not considering where she's come from or what happened to lead to this. There's more, there's always more to the story. There's always a human suffering behind a choice that you think might be wrong, or right, or there's human suffering and human need and want for love. And we need to just be more open and vulnerable so that we don't feel alone because half the problem is we feel alone. Like, I, I didn't know I was queer until like, 20, 30 some. I don't know. It, I, I just, it feels like I just found out and I'm married. And I, it just feels, it feels weird to share that. And a lot of people don't know that about me, that I'm pansexual. And a lot of people don't know what pansexual means. And, so, I'm just, like, Well, it's kind of like bi, but not really. I'm not trying to have a coming out story on here. But I'm just, like, there's these things that we don't talk about. And that are shamed and so we disconnect and I'm ready for more connection. I'm ready for more transparency, for us to talk about losing children, um, like, you know, having miscarriages and there's just so much (Yeah.), there's just so much that we could be doing and talking about in (. . .) making less of a shameful thing if we talked about it and said, Yeah, I did this. I'm not happy about it. Or, I did this and that was the right decision. Or, you know, does that make sense?

Brittany Mangelson 1:07:36

No, it absolutely does. And I think what you're describing is a very authentic community where folks can come together without shame in vulnerability and just be themselves and know that they're loved. And it kind of brings me back to the things that you were talking about at the very beginning of just, like, getting to know a God that accepts you for who you are in, and everything that that means. And if we can get a community to reflect that God, like, that's the goal, right? Like, that's Zion? That's (Yes.), it's, that's like the arrival of, of where we need to be as a, as a human race. And, um, I think that, you know, it can get really overwhelming because there's a lot of indicators that we have a ton of work to do. But the more people start having these conversations and admitting, you know, I also think the Me Too movement and how that got people talking. And we need more movements like that. More conversations that just bring out the humanity in each of us because that's how we're going to connect to each other. And if we can learn how to accept each other in all of our stuff, uh, that's going to reflect in our theology as well. So, yeah, you're saying good stuff, my friend. You are saying good stuff. (Thank you.) And really thank you for this interview. I think it's been so unique. I think that several of the people that we've interviewed for Chai Can't Even just kind of, you know, grew up almost in this post transition church where, you know, maybe their parents were the ones that had to deconstruct a lot of this stuff, or, um, you know, face, what do we do with women in the priesthood and things like that, but I can tell that through, you know, through your story, that those things really impacted you, probably more than some other millennials in the church. So, I just want to thank you for your vulnerability and, uh, for your openness to be able to share your story. I definitely don't want to leave you hanging without making sure that you got everything out. So, usually, I just end these by saying Is there anything else that you, uh, you know, would want to say or any, any final thoughts before we wrap up?

Kinsey Horinga 1:09:54

It's really easy to talk to you. So, I hope you know that. I want you to know that. (Good.) I just want to keep talking to you and talking to you, like,

Brittany Mangelson 1:10:01

And, I mean, we could do that.

Kinsey Horinga 1:10:03

I don't know. There's like things I'm like thinking about, but I'm just like, is it relevant? I don't know. I just, to add on, just, like, and I feel like we need to talk about things like sexual assault and, um, sexual abuse and stuff like to bring it to light because I didn't even, like, to be honest, growing up, like, sexual assault is, the definition for me is rape. That's pretty much it. You know, like, we aren't taught what is sexual assault? It's anything that you didn't give consent to. It's, you know, like, I just found that out. We need to talk about these things in a safe space, in a community where we feel loved and accepted so that we don't hurt the next generation. And not talking about it and not saying, That is an abuse right there. If they say, No, and you, or they give you a look or something, that means, No. What, what is consent? And, like, what does it look like? I just want to be able to talk about that in these communities so that other women and men do not have to feel isolated and alone and ashamed. And (. . .) or, like, it just all kind of ties together. But for me right now, eh, I'm stuck on sexual assault because the more people know, the more they can do. The more we can do as a community to say, Oh, this really is a problem. People don't know it's a problem unless we talk about it and say, Yeah, this happened to me.

They go, Oh, you know, we ju, we don't think problems are happening in our community until someone says, This has happened to me. It's, the problem is out there somewhere. Not in our community. You know, it's, it feels far away, when I want us to realize that it's right there. And that's why I want more openness and communi, like, let's talk about this. Yeah, more transparency and all that because we're suffering in our own congregations and we just don't talk about it. Again, holding space for us, holding space for that congregation, feel that congregation. And we can better go out and help others and be, hold space for them. It just all kind of loops around in my head.

Brittany Mangelson 1:12:14

Yeah, absolutely. And I think that, you know, this goes along with what you were saying before. And if we can show up and tell our stories and be in a loving community that is going to actually not only hear, but validate our stories, um, it, it, and then allow that narrative to transform our community and to say, like, it stops with us and no more and we are going to do things that actually protect the worth of all persons and have that be our new starting point. Um, I think it's so important on a variety of topics. Um, but, yeah, these, these places, like you said, these conversations that we just don't want to talk about. And, um, (Uh huh.) like you said, not talking about it gives it more power. So, to destigmatize, to deshame, and to just be able to show up for one another in actual sacred community, um, I think is always the goal. So, thank you. (Yeah.) Anything else?

Kinsey Horinga 1:13:23

That was it. (. . .) that was on my mind.

Brittany Mangelson 1:13:25

No, I'm really glad, I'm really glad that you shared it. And, yeah, your story has been great. And I really appreciate you sharing it and, uh, you know, how open and authentic and honest you've been. So, thank you so much.

Kinsey Horinga 1:13:40

Thank you so much for asking me and thanks for listening.