



God's Special Time

Winter 2015

News from Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc.

Vol. 41 No. 4

Christmas: A Time to Be Thankful and Humble

"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

With Christmas just around the corner, now may be a good time to take mental stock of all that is really important in our lives. Are we grateful for all of our blessings or have we come to take them for granted? Do we handle ourselves with humility or does our pride get in the way?

In order to be truly thankful and humble, we must resist our natural tendency to exaggerate what we deserve, particularly in the area of material possessions. If we are not truly grateful for the beautiful things God has given us, we are disappointed and become envious when we look at what other people around us have. Likewise, if we do not have our pride in check, we will not feel particularly grateful for our other gifts in life that we often overlook.

The Bible is full of reminders that pride and a lack of appreciation get in the way of our intimacy with God. Psalm 10:4 says, *"In his pride the wicked does not seek Him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God."*

But we can find hope in James 4:10: *"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up."*

Pride, arrogance, greed and selfishness are rampant today. We are all guilty of all of these to some extent, after all, we tell ourselves we're only human and let ourselves feel entitled to these feelings. Our culture and society have conditioned us to look out for ourselves and fight for what we're entitled to. We are the "ME" generation. We not only want more - we expect more and are disappointed when we fall short of our expectations. More emphasis is placed on self-fulfillment than morality and our children are taught that it's more important to feel good about themselves than to do good for others. Clearly, we live in an environment that is not very conducive to humility and gratefulness.

But Paul tells us to *"Give Thanks."* And James tells us, *"His command is to humble yourself."* In fact, throughout the Bible we are encouraged to be thankful and grateful. But do we really practice this throughout the year?

Every day, we have opportunities to humble ourselves which we may overlook. It's a choice we consciously make whenever we feel that we may not be getting our due. If volunteering in community service you are given the job of helping the homeless instead of working with cute, cuddly animals for adoption, you have a choice to make. Will you walk away in disgust because that job is beneath you, or will you gratefully accept the task and complete it without grumbling? Humbling ourselves is as simple as making the decision to suppress our pride.

Giving thanks is a conscious decision we can make on a daily basis - thanking God for the abundant blessings in our life: our home, our job, a warm meal, the love of friends and family and most importantly, our salvation. Take a moment to truly appreciate each of them. Maybe by being sincerely appreciative, we can become humble and in humility, we can learn to be truly thankful.

Let's wrap this up the same way that we began: *"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*

1 Thessalonians 5:18

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Merry Christmas! We are in the holiday season and we have much to be thankful for at Kairos. As Christians, we know the celebration of Christmas is a wonderful time to be thankful for the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As Kairos, we are thankful for the wonderful impact the ministry makes in the lives of those impacted by incarceration and in our lives also.



**Evelyn Lemly, CEO/
Executive Director**

I constantly hear from volunteers of the blessing they feel in serving with Kairos. We know that is because, as we say, 'we have a front row seat to God's miracles.' Thus we see the scripture *'It is more blessed to give than to receive'* (Acts 20:35b) really come to life as volunteers and staff that serve through Kairos.

We are so thankful for the volunteers and all those who support our work in numerous ways every year. It is wonderful to see the thousands of people working together to serve to make a difference in people's lives for Christ. Thank you to each and every volunteer, donor, cook team, cookie baker, prayer warrior, and family member who supports Kairos. We are truly blessed.

In 2015, Kairos surpassed 400 Advisory Councils operating in the U.S., and we continue to grow. In the past 18 months, 55 #1 Kairos Weekends were held

across the world. These first of many Weekends and Continuing Ministry have taken place across 17 states and three countries, and demonstrated wide-scale, positive movement. We also note that two of these #1 Weekends were on death row – one women's facility in TX and one men's facility in IN.

In addition, numerous correctional facilities are asking for Kairos to start operating in their prison.

I feel a sense of urgency to work diligently to open these locations while the door is open to us. Therefore, recruiting to ensure adequate volunteers is extremely important to Kairos. We also must ensure that our volunteers are conducting the programs with excellence, just as the program manuals describe. We constantly remind people to share their story of why they serve and the impacts they see while serving at Kairos. We also remind our volunteers that someone asked them to volunteer - so please ask others.

There continues to be hundreds of opportunities for Kairos Prison Ministry to serve, and more are opening up to us each day. We are thankful for the opportunity and for the responsibility God gives us to share His love and hope with those impacted by incarceration. Praise God for his provisions, leading, and servants. ***"Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."***

Ephesians 5:20b

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to the completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

(Philippians 1:3-6, NIV)

In this season of Christmas, I am reminded of so many blessings. Our partnership in Kairos is one of those great blessings. With so many fall Weekends completed, it is a reminder of how God is using so many servants to reach those seeking, searching and yearning for the freedom found in Christ Jesus. As I looked around the community room during a Kairos Torch Weekend in November, the presence of the Holy Spirit in the room was palpable. Youth were touched by the agape love of those they will never see or meet. They were amazed at the prayers being said for them and all of us as we journeyed together - links on the prayer chain, signed agape letters, and posters representing many of you. How many of us were there? Although there were 36 in the physical sense, there were hundreds, even thousands filling the facility with prayer. I give thanks for each of you.

Recently, our Board of Directors was able to gather in Indianapolis to share in a retreat to discuss and consider many things regarding this Ministry. I give thanks that each Board member brings many spiritual gifts and talents to the Ministry and that they freely give of their time, talent and treasure.

During the retreat, we all had the opportunity to share in spiritual formation and devotional and prayer time daily. We placed our Kairos vision "A community spiritually freed from the effects of imprisonment reaching all impacted by incarceration, through the love, hope and faith found in Jesus Christ" and our mission "...to share the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to impact the hearts and lives of incarcerated men, women and youth, as well as their families, to become loving and productive citizens of their communities" where we could easily see them and be visibly reminded in our discussions and decisions.

We took time, as a Board, to learn more of our fiduciary and strategic responsibilities and to learn from others. We considered our vision priorities as well the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) facing our ministry to try and make the most of what God is entrusting to all of us. We discussed policies, their interpretation and the landscape of Kairos ahead. What is God calling us to, as a ministry? Where are the opportunities to further the mission and vision of Kairos? Where do we go from here? Listen, Listen, Love, Love.

While the path is not always easy we can be assured that as we call upon Christ he is indeed there. We need to listen, listen, love, love Him first and then it makes it so much easier as we journey



**Vicki Spurgeon,
Board Chair**

together with others. As we concluded our time together, we were thankful for our Kairos family in Indiana for their hospitality and the renewal we felt as a group.

I am thankful for the many volunteers that are stepping into roles of leadership in Advisory Councils, State Chapters and on the International Council. Each of them are giving of their time, talents and treasures. Leaders who are rotating off service are called to help make the transitions smooth and to offer assistance and guidance where needed. Be on the watch for upcoming leaders at every level of the ministry and guide them into service opportunities that will prepare them for future leadership.

Indeed, as Kairos continues to grow each year and more #1 Weekends are being held we have so much to be thankful for and to look forward to in 2016.

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ - to the glory and praise of God.
(Philippians 1:9-11, NIV)



Table dynamics, where are you seated for the feast?



By Ken Rocks,
Men's Ministries Coordinator

Have you ever gone to a fancy holiday dinner at a family or friend's home and noticed that everybody was standing around waiting and wondering? You know what I mean, it's time to sit down for the big meal and you are unsure where your host wants you to be seated. Rather than assume where the host might want you to sit, you fidget back and forth until the host makes the uncomfortable moment go away. "Uncle, you sit next to me, and Auntie you sit next to Grandpa. I need to sit near the kitchen to watch what I have on the stove." Of course the head of the table is reserved for the host. When all are seated, the feast begins.

In Christ's time, the table was so low that you had to lie down. Thus you heard the term "recline at table." In those days, there was angst about the seating arrangement just like today.

In Kairos, we definitely can't recline on a prison floor to eat. We also have a seating assignment chart found in Ezra for our Family Tables which make the seating decisions easy and strategic. Our tables are purposely circular in shape for specific reasons. For one, nobody is at the "head" of the table.

Another reason we use a round table is to facilitate conversation and enable the table dynamics of the Weekend to unfold naturally. The Weekend Leader prayerfully considers where to place each member of the Table Family.

The seating plan found in Ezra provides that there are two participants then one team member seated alternately for a total of nine people. That way, a team member is always seated next to a participant. If we group the volunteers together on one side of the table, and the participants on the other side, we aren't facilitating the kind of

table talk that makes Kairos such a success. As the hands and feet of Jesus Christ, we need to put ourselves in position to be available for the important conversational moments that come along during the course of the Kairos Weekend. This is especially true in prison environments that tend to have poor acoustics and sometimes are very loud. By being in close proximity to our participants we can be close enough to help them open up. Who better than our Kairos team members to share what God is doing in their lives?

So, in a nutshell, we want our participant guests attending the Kairos Weekend to be comfortably seated next to a team member who can celebrate the feast at the table of plenty with them. There is enough grace and blessings from Christ to go around for all. We just want to position ourselves to be able to share the Good News of His salvation for all to hear.

Fund Kairos While Doing Your Christmas Shopping

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. When first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are prompted to select a charitable organization from almost one million eligible organizations. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. Please bookmark this link so all your eligible shopping will benefit Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-1970458>. Kairos is already set up for you to select as your charitable organization. Thank you to all of our volunteers and supporters that are already donating to Kairos through AmazonSmile.



Women's Ministry Growth in 2015

By Gina Brockmeyer,
Women's Ministries Coordinator

2015 has been an exciting year for women's ministries, and it is exciting to report all that was accomplished for God's Kingdom by all of the volunteers involved with our women's ministry programs.

We did five #1 Weekends this year inside new women's institutions in the states of Ohio, Georgia, and Tennessee. Arizona and Wisconsin established new Kairos Outside communities. The first death row Weekend at a women's institution was conducted in Texas, and in Indiana we doubled the active Kairos Outside Communities, increasing from three to six. Internationally, we held a #1 Weekend at a women's institution in the Dominican Republic, and we gained another Kairos Outside community in Australia.

These Weekends did not just happen. They came about because countless volunteers dedicated themselves to doing whatever it took to make them happen. Was it easy? Absolutely not. Were there set-backs along the way? You bet there were. But the volunteers kept their "eyes on the prize," and kept working to

accomplish their goal – the opening of a new facility or the start-up of a new Kairos Outside Community.

John Henry Jowett, an English minister said, ***"Ministry that costs nothing accomplishes nothing."*** I am sure our volunteers who were involved in these new starts would agree with him. In fact, I am sure we would all agree with him.

We all recognize, if we have been involved for very long, that Kairos is a ministry that requires great sacrifice. As we prepare for 2016 and begin the process of "setting goals" for what we want our local Kairos communities to accomplish I would like to encourage you to focus on the following:

Pray. Ask God what He desires for you and your community.

Align your will with God's will. The Lord's will must take precedence over your will. We must have an attitude of humility.

There must be forethought and planning. We must do our homework; we must count the costs, consider the "ripple" effects, and check our motivations. We must make sure

that our plans line up with God's word, His character, and His plans.

We must be committed. We must be committed to the task, whatever the task is.

We must be diligent. We must be diligent in our efforts by being realistic and knowing that accomplishing a goal requires hard work.

We must have faith. We serve a big God who always has our best interest at heart, and there is nothing that God cannot do.

We must persevere. We must understand that along the way there may be setbacks, disappointments, and hurdles to overcome.

If we will commit ourselves to the priorities outlined above, consulting the Lord in every aspect of our planning, looking to Him for His guidance with every step we take, I believe that we will not only be amazed at what we accomplish, but the journey will also be filled with blessings.

"Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans." Proverbs 16:3

* *In the Mailbox* *
* *
* *I just served as a Spiritual Advisor for our first Kairos Weekend at the TN. Prison For Women. It was held* *
* *in the Annex (area of very low security). We had 18 participants and at the follow-up two weeks later,* *
* *100% returned for that workshop. When we arrived at 9 that morning they were waiting and began* *
* *greeting us with songs. We are off to a compound changing start in Tennessee at the women's facility.* *
* *Sincerely,* *
* *Rev. Dr. Sandy P. Shawhan* *
* *

From the Participant's Perspective

By Kevin Resnover,
Youth Ministries Coordinator

We often hear from volunteers expressing the immense impact the Kairos Torch program has had in their lives as they train, meet with, and mentor the incarcerated youth they are assigned. Even the administrative staffs of the youth facilities will occasionally write to us to communicate their gratitude for the transformation the Kairos Torch program has helped to facilitate throughout their institutions and within the lives of the more volatile youth that are housed there.



Recently, a deputy warden in Mississippi wrote the following to the director of a youth facility in Louisiana:

“One of our goals as correctional professionals is to provide rehabilitative opportunities for offenders that enable them to successfully re-enter society. Unfortunately, many youthful offenders require much more than provided through academic, vocational, or life skill classes. These offenders tend to require guidance, patience, and care. Kairos Torch has been instrumental in the rehabilitative process for offenders at Walnut Grove Correctional Facility (WGCF) by providing opportunities for mentoring, spiritual growth, and unconditional love. I have had the opportunity to personally witness the difference that Kairos Torch has had with numerous offenders. For example, an offender that completed Torch #9 was constantly involved in disciplinary issues and had problems with anger prior to participating in Torch. During one of his testimonials, he stated that he had never felt loved before participating in Torch. After working with his mentor and being a part of Torch #9, he

gained control of his anger and the disciplinary issues discontinued. His transformation was recognized and commended by administration, security, and program staffs. This is just one of the many examples of the difference that Kairos Torch has made in offenders at WGCF...”

We are always appreciative and encouraged by this type of correspondence from wardens who have opened their facilities to Kairos Torch. It is always reassuring when we hear from those that are charged with the care of these youth and their delight with the outcome of our work (through Christ). Even more inspiring is hearing from the youth themselves as they began the journey of change and transformation into a holistic lifestyle.

In the state of Kansas, the Kairos Torch Advisory Council has been given permission to allow the youth an opportunity to evaluate their Weekend experience. Each participating youth is given nine direct questions to respond to. For the sake of brevity, I will share two of those questions and the answers the youth gave:

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT THE KAIROS TORCH WEEKEND?

The food and learning about God ▪ The opportunity to sit down ▪ Food ▪ The opportunity to sit down and think what I want to do with my life ▪ The singing and speaking up in front of everybody ▪ Participation in the fun activities ▪ People ▪ Mentor ▪ Churches ▪ Wendy's ▪ Singing ▪ Food ▪ Alone time with God ▪ Forgiving the people who hurt us ▪ Crafts ▪ Games ▪ Prizes ▪ Working together ▪ How we built a church ▪ The food and how we made the masks ▪ I liked the way we got to know each other and became a family under Christ ▪ Singing (2 youth) ▪ Meeting

new people ▪ ALL ▪ Getting together and learning about God ▪ Meeting new people ▪ The food and learning about God (3 youths).

WHAT ONE WORD WOULD YOU USE TO DESCRIBE THE WEEKEND?

Life-changing ▪ Outstanding ▪ Challenging ▪ Holy ▪ Inspirational ▪ Exciting ▪ Unique ▪ Great ▪ Amazing (3 youths) ▪ Fun ▪ Exhausting (in a good way) ▪ Fantastic ▪ Amusing ▪ Tremendous ▪ Empowering ▪ Inspiring (2 youths) ▪ Touching ▪ Blessed ▪ Great ▪ Awesomeness.

It is difficult to get today's unchurched youth to participate in spiritual activities for even one hour a week. In Kairos Torch we are seeing some of the most explosive youth take part in this 2½ day Christian retreat and go on to participate in the six month Christian mentoring program followed by a Bible study that continues until they leave the facility.

As stated by the young men after attending the Weekend, it's amazing; it's exciting; it's inspiring and it's LIFE CHANGING!



Planned Giving Through Appreciated Stock

Donating long-term appreciated stock, bonds or mutual funds is one of the most tax-efficient ways to make a lasting gift to the Kairos Foundation.

The Kairos Foundation receives the full market value of the stock, while you make a charitable deduction AND reduce tax on the unrealized capital gains of the donated stock. This can result in more tax savings for you, and a bigger gift for Kairos.

You can donate with full confidence that your gift, in addition to your faithful service, will help support the mission of Kairos Prison Ministry.

Faithful Giving Through Planned Giving

Thankful Christians desire to give back to the Lord for His incredible blessings – most especially the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, and the knowledge that through Him and with Him we will live forever in the glory of Heaven.

As a volunteer you have been beyond generous to Kairos with your time and talents. But have you considered how you may continue to support Kairos through planned gifts?

There are many ways to make planned or estate gifts to the Kairos Prison Ministry Foundation. Many can provide you with income during your lifetime and reduce your taxable income, while at the same time donating substantially to Kairos – now and after your time on Earth is through.

We will introduce many of these options available to you in upcoming newsletters. Please prayerfully consider a planned or estate gift – ensuring that your dedication to helping those impacted by incarceration continues to make dramatic impacts in the future.

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him .” Colossians 3:17

Kairos Outside Train the Trainers



On December 4-6, 2015 the Kairos Outside Advance Kairos trainers gathered at the international office in DeBary, Florida for their annual “train the trainers” meeting. The group spent the weekend reviewing and updating all of the materials used to train our upcoming Kairos Outside Weekend Leaders.

Back row: Emma Jones, Barb Jensen, Teddy Carson, Marilyn Himmelberg, and Gina Brockmeyer.

Middle row: Marilyn Elkins, Pat Rice, and Betty Carter.

Front: Becky McCrary



Finding Myself in Prison

By Lauren Wiebe
Kairos Inside Volunteer

It will have been nine years this coming fall since I first walked inside a prison. At the time, I was excited and expectant. I knew that God was calling me there, so my excitement about the great unknown that lay ahead of me was a positive excitement. I trusted God enough to know that He would never lead me down a wrong path, because He loved me. So while I knew that God never promises us that there won't be any bumps in the road, I knew it was the right road, and that He was walking next to me on it, and I was full of wonder and anticipation about what lay in store for me.

After that first Kairos experience at the Ohio Reformatory for Women (ORW) in the fall of 1995, I thought long and hard about what I had found in that place that God had led me. Beyond the singing, the fellowship, the cookies, what had I found? The answer that I came up with, over and over again, and which is still valid today, nine years later, is this: I found myself.

At the time, I thought I knew what this answer meant. The bottom line was that we were all women: daughters in every case, and perhaps also wives and mothers and sometimes grandmothers. If many other things about our lives were different, we shared a

commonality. At the very core of things, we are all God's children.

Over the past nine years I have become more and more involved in Kairos, and more and more involved in prisons and with those who are incarcerated. Now God has begun to open non-Kairos doors for me. Since last January, I have been teaching Spanish at Marion Correctional Institution as a volunteer. MCI is a men's institution, and it was not as easy to find myself in those who reside there as it was at ORW. And yet the pull is ever stronger, the blessing ever greater. I am connected to those men as well, in a very profound way, but in a way that I would



have had difficulty putting into words until last night.

I am currently reading a book by Lennie Spitale, himself an ex-offender and now ministering in prison, called *Prison Ministry: Understanding Prison Culture Inside and Out*. Mr. Spitale says, "In this land behind the gray cement walls, everyone is reduced to the same playing field. This truth is a greater testimony to the way things really are than the outside world reveals." (p. 147) He then quotes Galatians 3:22, "*But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.*" He goes on to say that if we are believers, we are all ex-convicts.

I was beginning to see more clearly the deep connection I feel with those who are in prison. Mr. Spitale continues, "It's not about our being better or different from those in prison. Sin is the common

denominator. Before Christ came, we were all wearing the same prison clothing, and we were all under the same sentence of death. In the spiritual reality we were all poor; each of us, spiritually bankrupt." (p. 147) He goes on to say that hidden in many comments he has heard from believers is the idea that somehow prisoners are worse people than they are. "They assume that because they themselves are not in prison, or were ever guilty of committing the same sorts of crimes they are somehow above those who had been convicted of crimes. [...] It has become difficult for them to realize that, as far as the sinful nature goes, they are just as naked and poor as the convicted drug dealer on J-tier." (p. 147)

This spoke so clearly to me! The deep connection I feel, the ability to not care about the crime committed, the love for each one that God has put into my heart. We are the same, and I do indeed find myself every

time I go into prison. And after nine years, whether I am part of a Kairos renewal Weekend, teaching Spanish, helping out with Yard Day or on Mom and Kids' Day, or doing an intercessory prayer session with the women at ORW, the message remains the same: God has sent me into this place to tell you that He is real; He loves you more than you can imagine; He forgives you; and your real freedom comes through accepting His Son into your life.

At the end of his chapter, Mr. Spitale reminds us that "our ministry grants us the blessing of recognizing that everyone is wearing prison garb - and that grace knows no bounds." Amen!

Note: This article was originally written by Lauren in 2004. She has been serving on Kairos Teams at ORW since 1995.

Kairos Praise Report



Two #1 Weekends have been reported for the 2016 Spring Season:

- ◆ March 10, 2016, Kairos Men's Inside: Deep Meadow Correctional Center, located in State Farm, VA, with John Petty as the Weekend Leader.
- ◆ April 14, 2006, Kairos Men's Inside: Luther Unit, (Texas State Prison), located in Navasota, TX, with Jay Saenger as the Weekend Leader.





Edwin R. Marsh, Winthrop, NY 73, passed away Wednesday, June 17, 2015, with his family by his side.

Ed was born on December 18, 1941 in the Town of Stockholm, son of the late Morgan and Bertha (Davis) Marsh, Sr. on August 25, 1962, he married Patricia E. Brown. They shared 53 years of a devoted union, with the blessing of a beautiful family.

He has worked many jobs throughout the years: operated a dairy farm and worked other jobs while farming, at ALCOA, carpenter for Fisher Rexford Construction and drove bus for Potsdam Central School. He later was a sub-contractor for Ridge Homes. He then was employed as an operator for the Town of Stockholm Highway Department for 30 years, retiring in 2004. He served as Code Enforcement Officer, Town Councilman and Chairman of the Republican Committee.

He upheld his Christian beliefs as a member of the Buckton United Methodist Church, a member of the Christian Community Men's Club, Emmaus/Closer-Walk Ministry and Kairos Prison Ministry, where he was instrumental in starting Kairos at Gouverneur Correctional Facility. He lived his faith as husband, father and grandfather, and his care in the

wellbeing of others. He took great pride in his children and taught them to put forth their best efforts and look for the best in people. He was sensitive to the needs of others and was a mentor to many.



Barbara Witte Brockschmidt, of Mint Hill, NC, passed away on September 29, 2015, to be with

our Lord. She was born in Arenzville, IL, on December 31, 1931 to the late Henry and Olga Witte. On July 12, 1953 she married Roger Brockschmidt, and they have celebrated 62 wonderful years together.

Barb was a beautiful Christian woman who loved her Lord, family and friends. She was a member of Messiah Lutheran Church for 33 years and was a passionate member of Kairos Prison Ministry since 2002. Please keep her husband Roger in your prayers. In lieu of flowers, please make a memorial contribution in Barbara name to Kairos Prison Ministry, c/o Messiah Lutheran Church, 8300 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28227.



James Henry "Jim" Mills Jr. was born August 13, 1933 in Woodward, OK to Ruby and James Henry Mills, Sr. He married Billie Lowry on July 7, 1956 in

Clovis, NM. He was a US Navy veteran. He was a pipefitter prior to his retirement and was a member of the Local 100 Union Pipefitters. He had been a resident of Garland before moving to Memphis 16 years ago. He was a Boy Scout leader, a member of the Memphis Lions Club, and the Sr. Citizens Association. He was proud to serve in the Kairos Prison Ministries and was an usher and a member of the First United Methodist Church in Memphis. The family request that memorials be sent to the Kairos Prison Ministry.

Charles A. Coleman, Indianapolis, IN went home to be with the Lord on Friday 10/7/15. He was born on May 24, 1952. Many of you witnessed how Charles Love of Jesus shined brightly to all. It was a gift serving with him. Charles served on many of the Pendleton CF Teams.



Dick Adams, of Concord and Warner NH, died Sunday, Nov. 1, 2015. He was 86. Born on May 13, 1929, in

Seoul, Korea, Dick was the son of the Rev. Edward Adams and Susan Comstock Adams. Both were Presbyterian missionaries in Korea, as were his grandparents, aunts, and uncles. Dick served in the Korean War as a member of the U.S. Army from 1951-1954, working with Central

Intelligence in Seoul. He was trained in intelligence in Baltimore, the city in which he met his first wife, Elizabeth "Betty" Ruth Riester. They married in 1952, and enjoyed 54 years together until her death in 2006. Together they had three sons and a daughter.

Dick retired in 1978 and the family settled in Warner. Dick's life of service included great and humble ministry to people in need. He worked with the Christian Children's Fund, was instrumental in establishing Habitat for Humanity in New Hampshire, traveled to southern states to help build homes and repair churches, devoted himself to Kairos Prison Ministry and the Tres Dias program, served on the board of the NH Bible Society, worked with the Youth Development Center in Manchester, and served joyfully on countless church committees. He and Betty opened their home in Warner to battered women and their children; they gave rides to people who could not drive themselves; and were always ready to help someone in need. In 2002 Dick received the Justice and Peace Award from the Warner, Francis Maria Foundation for Justice and Peace. He is the author of two self-published meditations: Talking Back to God and OK God, I'm Listening.

Everyone who knew Dick was blessed by his devotion, kindness, pragmatism, intellect, sense of humor, stories, and

tenderness. A beautiful tenor, he loved to sing and listen to music. He performed with the Robert Shaw Chorale, barbershop quartets, church choirs, and soloed and sang duets. He enjoyed acting and, along with his second wife, Joy Gannet Adams, Dick joined the "Joyful Joeys," a clown ministry in the Concord area. A retired social worker, Joy met Dick in 2006 while living at Havenwood Heritage Heights in Concord. They wed in 2007 and thoroughly enjoyed their time together. A strong team, they were known for their loving generosity, helping everyone who turned to them in need. Dick is survived by his loving wife, Joy and numerous children and their families.

Patrick Colum Curran, of West Chester, passed away suddenly on November 15, 2015. Born in Killybegs, County Donegal, Ireland, October 21, 1938, Patrick is the son of the late Edward and Madge Curran (Gallagher). In 1963 he immigrated to Wayne to join his family and soon met his devoted wife of 47 years, Maryann (nee O'Brien).

Patrick was a long time member of the Exton-Frazer Rotary Club, Kairos Prison Ministry, and SS Philip & James Parish in Exton and was a friend of Bill Wilson for many years. If you knew Pat, you were his friend and he remembered your name. He devoted his life to God, Maryann, his family, and service to others.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in his name may be made to Kairos Prison Ministry of Pennsylvania, P.O. Box 237, Gibsonia, PA 15044.



Bob Wiseman passed away Nov. 16, 2015, in Lawton, OK. He was born May 12, 1942, in Lawton, to Ruby and

Dillard Wiseman. He graduated from Lawton Public School in 1960. He graduated from the Spartan School of Aeronautics in 1962. Bob received a bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma and a master's degree from Central State University. He earned post graduate hours from University of Oklahoma.

Bob married Maurine Novotny on July 23, 1965, He served in the Oklahoma National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserves from 1962 to 1994, attaining the rank of lieutenant colonel. He also received the Army Commendation Medal with a second oak leaf cluster. Bob was the Boy's Club Director in 1964 in Lawton. He worked as a teacher in the Mid-Del School System from 1968 to 1975, where he taught elementary education and coached.

He also served as a chairman on the Mid-Del Political Action Committee. Bob then went on to work for the U.S. Army Recruiting Command as a Civilian Education Coordinator from 1975 to 1980. He was then

assigned to the Field Artillery School on Fort Sill from 1980 to 1984, serving in the Training Management Division.

Bob also was the co-owner of the Moto Photo in Lawton from 1984 to 1997 with his wife. He was a member of the United Methodist Church in Lawton for over 35 years and while he was a member he helped establish the prison ministry called the Redemption Church which was held at Wesley UMC beginning in 2000.

He and his wife also started a ministry for youth men at the group home in Lawton with Bible studies every Wednesday afternoon, and Bob and Maurine were instrumental in starting the Torch Prison Ministry in Manitou. Bob also served at other prisons assisting in Kairos Ministries, and was one of the founders in the Great Plains Walk to Emmaus program for Southwest Oklahoma. He is survived by his wife, of the home and two sons. Please keep them in your prayers.

Susan Kay Stokes passed away peacefully November 24, 2016 after a courageous battle with small cell carcinoma. She was born in Council Bluffs, IA, on August 1, 1951. Before her graduation from Buena Vista University in Storm Lake Iowa, she was a programmer analyst in Omaha, NE. She moved to Arizona in 1994, eventually

making Flagstaff her home. Her career as a financial analyst led her to work at North Arizona University and retire from Coconino Community College.

Susan allowed herself to be led on a life journey; she was a seeker of Christ. Along her way, she collected an amazing and diverse community of Christian friends. She credited her Emmaus Walk, conversion to the Catholic faith, San Francisco de Asis Women's Club and Cursillo for bringing her to the Benedictine Oblates; and finally, a complete surrender to the ministry of loving. Susan's passion was bringing Christ to women impacted by incarceration

through Kairos Outside of Northern Arizona.

In the weeks previous to her death, remission allowed her to travel with her parish community on a Pilgrimage to Spain. The pilgrimage was a natural part of her life's desire for a closer relationship with her Jesus. Susan's beautiful smile, humor and quiet model well be missed by many, most especially her dear friend Ken Van Doorne.

In lieu of flowers, Susan requested that donations be made to Kairos Outside of Northern Arizona, PO Box 3151, Flagstaff, AZ 86003.



Kairos Prison Ministry International

In Loving Memory

Often, people who have lost a loved one ask that a tribute gift be made to their favorite charity in lieu of flowers.

A memorial contribution to Kairos Prison Ministry pays thoughtful tribute to the memory of your loved one. Donations will support sharing Christ's love with the incarcerated.

A memorial letter will be sent to the family of the bereaved, along with the name(s) of the donors. The amount of the gift will not be disclosed.

Donors will receive a letter from Kairos Prison Ministry for their tax-exempt contribution.



Advanced Kairos Training is for Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside, and Kairos Torch volunteers who are in or will be in a Weekend leadership role, including Advisory Council or State Chapter positions, anywhere within the Kairos program. Advanced Kairos Training gives the what, who and why of the Kairos ministry. **Kairos policy requires that all Weekend leaders must have completed the entire training course 12 to 24 months prior to leading a Weekend.**

PRINCIPLE STATEMENTS CONCERNING ADVANCED KAIROS TRAINING EXPENSES

1. All Advanced Kairos Trainings are essentially free to any and all attendees. However, paying the expenses of an attendee for training is borne by the state sending its volunteers to a training in or out of its local state. This means that all Advisory Councils or State Chapter Committees should be budgeting for any training expenses deemed necessary for their future Weekend Leaders or other attendees that the Advisory Council or State Chapter Committee wants to attend.
2. Advisory Councils or State Chapter Committees should encourage its volunteers (who may have been used to paying out of their own pocket previously to a Host State) to make their donations to their local Advisory Council instead to help build the budget to allow for more volunteers to attend trainings.

BE SURE TO BRING YOUR PROGRAM MANUAL WITH YOU TO THE TRAINING.

You must complete the entire Advanced Kairos Training in order to receive your certificate and become a Weekend Leader.

2016 Advanced Kairos Training Schedule

January 8, 2016	COLUMBUS, OH	Kairos Inside
January 29, 2016	AMARILLO, TX	Kairos Inside
February 5, 2016	ORLANDO, FL	Kairos Inside and Outside
February 5, 2016	RICHMOND, VA	Kairos Inside
February 19, 2016	FORSYTH, GA	Kairos Inside, Outside and Torch
February 26, 2016	POMONA, CA	Kairos Inside and Outside
March 4, 2016	INDIANAPOLIS, IN	Kairos Inside, Outside and Torch
April 22, 2016	KANSAS CITY, MO	Kairos Inside
May 13, 2016	DENVER, CO	Kairos Inside
June 3, 2016	HUNTSVILLE, TX	Kairos Inside and Outside
June 17, 2016	JACKSONVILLE, FL	Kairos Inside, Outside and Torch
July 15, 2016	RALEIGH, NC	Kairos Inside
July 22, 2016	BUFFALO, NY	Kairos Inside and Outside
September 9, 2016	CANTON, MS	Kairos Inside, Outside and Torch
October 7, 2016	PHOENIX, AZ	Kairos Inside
October 21, 2016	FORSYTH, GA	Kairos Inside
October 21, 2016	GREENVILLE, SC	Kairos Inside and Outside
November 11, 2016	WAXACHACHIE, TX	Kairos Inside, Outside and Torch

Detailed information for each training, including costs, facility and registration can be found on the on the Kairos Kalendar at www.mykairos.org.

Kairos Weekends through June 2016

1/13/16	FL	Jefferson CI	20	Jack Utermohle	Men's Inside
1/14/16	NM	Lea County CF	24	Royce Pearson	Men's Inside
1/21/16	FL	Wakulla CI	28	Foyt Ralston	Men's Inside
1/28/16	OH	Ross CI	32	Clay Bennington	Men's Inside
1/28/16	TX	Wallace Prison	34	Clayton Jungan	Men's Inside
2/11/16	AK	Willdwood CC	10	Dennis Murray	Men's Inside
2/12/16	AL	Talladega FCI	17	Jeffrey Alford	Men's Inside
2/12/16	PA	Allenwood FCI	6	Abe Stroup	Men's Inside
2/18/16	NC	Alexander CI	22	Michael Furr	Men's Inside
2/25/16	AL	Aliceville FCI	5	Ann NeSmith	Women's Inside
2/25/16	AL	Decatur Work Release Center	1	Mark Troyanek	Men's Inside
2/25/16	AL	Elmore CF	13	Forrest Plummer	Men's Inside
2/28/16	TX	Hutchins State Jail	21	James Toupal	Men's Inside
3/3/16	FL	Hernando CI	38	Mary Ann Ensor	Women's Inside
3/3/16	FL	Moore Haven CI	36	Oscar Rodas	Men's Inside
3/3/16	IN	New Castle CF	13	Jerry Watson	Men's Inside
3/3/16	NC	Foothills CI	12	Jerry Statham	Men's Inside
3/3/16	OK	Lawton CF	2	Mayo Elliott	Men's Inside
3/3/16	TX	Hughes Prison	38	Steve Gardner	Men's Inside
3/4/16	CT	Manson Youth Institution	9	Malaura Pannoni	Kairos Torch
3/4/16	So Afr	East Rand	10	Sharon Adams	Kairos Outside
3/9/16	SC	Camille Griffin Graham CI	54	Janie Uzzell	Women's Inside
3/10/16	NC	North Carolina CI for Women	40	Lisa Wells	Women's Inside
3/10/16	TX	Jordan Prison	39	Terry Millikan	Men's Inside
3/10/16	TX	Jordan Unit	39	Terry Millikan	Men's Inside
3/10/16	VA	Deep Meadows	1	John Petty	Men's Inside
3/11/16	TX	Vance Prison	58	Jim Pro	Men's Inside
3/17/16	NC	Pender CI	30	J. Steven Griles	Men's Inside
3/17/16	OH	Trumbull CC	29	Mike Pierce	Men's Inside
3/17/16	TX	Huntsville/Walls Unit	25	Brandon Amador	Men's Inside
3/17/16	TX	Rudd Prison	18	Jackie Burris	Men's Inside
3/17/16	TX	Segovia PreRelease	10	Dale Whitzel	Men's Inside
3/17/16	VA	Augusta CC	35	Frank Johnson	Men's Inside
3/18/16	MS	Mississippi	23	Sabrina Fields	Kairos Outside
3/18/16	TX	Amarillo	28	Tabitha Perry	Kairos Outside
3/24/16	WA	Clallam Bay CC	21	Al Ogilvy	Men's Inside
3/31/16	IN	Wabash Valley CF	15	Mark Taylor	Men's Inside
3/31/16	So Aft	Johannesburg Women's CS	20	Hazel Caithness	Women's Inside
3/31/16	TX	Clements #44	44	David McKenzie	Men's Inside
3/31/16	TX	Clements Prison	44	David McKenzie	Men's Inside
4/1/16	AZ	Phoenix	20	Tina Moore	Kairos Outside
4/1/16	LA	East Louisiana	15	Jan McCannon	Kairos Outside
4/1/16	TX	Houston	33	Renee McGah	Kairos Outside

KAIROS KALENDAR

4/4/16	TN	Mark H Luttrell CC	31	Marianne Wilson	Women's Inside
4/5/16	MS	Central Mississippi CF	36	Dianna Boring	Women's Inside
4/6/16	SC	Kershaw CC	33	Bob Hunter	Men's Inside
4/6/16	TN	Northeast CC	31	Michael Lambert	Men's Inside
4/7/16	GA	Whitworth Detention Center	3	Elaine Harbin	Women's Inside
4/7/16	MO	Potosi CC	12	Jon Shepherd	Men's Inside
4/7/16	NM	NM Womens CF	29	Debra Campa	Women's Inside
4/7/16	SC	Evans CI	45	Chris Kent	Men's Inside
4/7/16	TX	Allred Prison	30	Ssteve Rohling	Men's Inside
4/7/16	TX	Boyd Prison	27	P.J. Karch	Men's Inside
4/7/16	TX	Daniel Prison	25	Michael Block	Men's Inside
4/7/16	TX	Polunsky Prison	36	Steve Tefteller	Men's Inside
4/7/16	TX	Roach Prison	33	Chris Sanders	Men's Inside
4/7/16	TX	Stiles Prison	34	Bryron Arnold	Men's Inside
4/8/16	TX	Lubbock	11	Sarah Baston	Kairos Outside
4/9/16	TX	Clemens Prison	17	Mark Rouse	Men's Inside
4/12/16	VA	Green Rock CC	14	Haywood Belvin	Men's Inside
4/14/16	FL	Avon Park CI	45	Peter Simon	Men's Inside
4/14/16	GA	Lee Arrendale SP	20	Lynda Stragel	Women's Inside
4/14/16	IN	Plainfield CF	18	Kurt Rent	Men's Inside
4/14/16	OH	Ohio Reformatory for Women	44	Mary Farmwald	Women's Inside
4/14/16	OK	Mabel Bassett CC	42	Cynthia Bowling	Women's Inside
4/14/16	SC	Lieber CI	55	Joe Friend	Men's Inside
4/14/16	TX	Briscoe Prison	16	Rick Stewart	Men's Inside
4/14/16	TX	Lockhart CC	18	Kelly Luedeke	Women's Inside
4/14/16	TX	Luther Unit	1	Jay Saenger	Men's Inside
4/14/16	TX	Michael Prison	48	Joe Tew	Men's Inside
4/14/16	TX	Neal Prison	35	Andy Cortez	Men's Inside
4/14/16	TX	Smith Prison	38	Dick Brown	Men's Inside
4/14/16	VA	Greensville CC	62	Steve Kinner	Men's Inside
4/14/16	WA	Washington State Reformatory	58	Dan Ikehara	Men's Inside
4/15/16	CA	Pomona	60	Maria Martinez	Kairos Outside
4/15/16	IN	Northern Indiana	20	Julie Chandler	Kairos Outside
4/18/16	AUS	Arthur Gorrie CC	11	Michael Frawley	Men's Inside
4/21/16	CA	Valley State Prison	4	Bob Young	Men's Inside
4/21/16	IL	Menard CC	11	Jim Dolan	Men's Inside
4/21/16	IN	Miami CF	17	Keith Hiatt	Men's Inside
4/21/16	MD	Western CI	8	Ron Sterling	Men's Inside
4/21/16	OH	Marion CI	39	Phio Ranck	Men's Inside
4/21/16	TX	Coffield Prison	41	Tag Gallaher	Men's Inside
4/21/16	TX	Hightower Prison	16	Tenel Tayar	Men's Inside
4/21/16	TX	McConnell Prison	41	Tucker Rackley	Men's Inside
4/21/16	VA	Sussex II SP	11	David Kenneally	Men's Inside
4/22/16	KS	Kansas Juvenile CC	25	Larry Ure	Kairos Torch
4/22/16	NC	Western	14	Renee Gray	Kairos Outside
4/22/16	TX	North Texas	38	Jana Smith	Kairos Outside
4/22/16	TX	Wichita Falls	18	Tara Fleming	Kairos Outside

KAIROS KALENDAR

4/27/16	MS	Mississippi SP Unit 29	36	Errol Castens	Men's Inside
4/27/16	TX	Connally Prison	27	Charles Greminger	Men's Inside
4/27/16	TX	Eastham Prison	31	Jimmy Pryor	Men's Inside
4/27/16	TX	Murray Prison	20	Myra Sutherland	Women's Inside
4/27/16	TX	Torres Prison	34	Jack Erb	Men's Inside
4/28/16	AL	Staton CF	33	Jamie Damato	Men's Inside
4/28/16	AZ	LaPalma CC	5	Sheldon Cieslak	Men's Inside
4/28/16	GA	Valdosta SP	32	Hansell Watt	Men's Inside
4/28/16	IL	Western CC	8	Christopher Kerr	Men's Inside
4/28/16	IN	Putnamville CF	12	Tom Hosty	Men's Inside
4/28/16	LA	Louisiana CI for Women	42	Mary Fontenot	Women's Inside
4/28/16	MD	Maryland CI	16	Angela Burrin	Women's Inside
4/28/16	MD	Maryland CI Jessup	7	Raymond Garza	Men's Inside
4/28/16	MS	Central Mississippi CF	33	Mike Byers	Men's Inside
4/28/16	OK	Dick Conner CC	23	Bob Decker	Men's Inside
4/28/16	TX	Bartlett State Jail	24	Weber Schulz	Men's Inside
4/28/16	TX	Dalhart Prison	33	Bert Brady	Men's Inside
4/28/16	TX	Darrington Prison	57	Stuart Verdon	Men's Inside
4/28/16	TX	Eastham Prison	31	Jimmy Pryor	Men's Inside
4/28/16	VA	Virginia CC for Women	41	Darlene Smith	Women's Inside
4/29/16	AL	Alabama	37	Kim Caddell	Kairos Outside
4/29/16	CA	Victor Valley	12	Nancy Bathurst	Kairos Outside
4/29/16	MD	Maryland	20	Katie Cameron	Kairos Outside
4/29/16	TX	Central Texas	6	Harriet Young	Kairos Outside
4/29/16	TX	Midland	31	Johnie Rollwitz	Kairos Outside
5/5/16	IN	Edinburgh CF	2	Kenny Browning	Men's Inside
5/5/16	TX	Lynaugh Prison	35	Nash Dowdle	Men's Inside
5/5/16	TX	Terrell Unit	2	Chris Schaeper	Men's Inside
5/12/16	IN	Indiana Women's Prison	17	Connie Kilpsch	Women's Inside
5/12/16	IN	Westville CF	24	Virgil Noble	Men's Inside
5/12/16	MO	Chillicothe CC	8	Carol Constant	Women's Inside
5/12/16	TX	Beto Prison	54	John Arakelian	Men's Inside
5/12/16	TX	Wynne Unit	4	John Vancamp	Men's Inside
5/13/16	OH	Marion CI	19	Susan Hurst	Kairos Outside/Inside
5/13/16	TX	East TX	7	Shauntel Pittman	Kairos Outside
5/13/16	TX	San Antonio	31	Dolores Amador	Kairos Outside
5/19/16	IN	Rockville CF	24	Carla Mathies	Women's Inside
5/19/16	NM	Guadalupe County CF	19	Nelson Hoffman	Men's Inside
5/20/16	IL	St. Charles Youth Center	6	Ray Termini & Susan Morrison	Kairos Torch
5/20/16	NY	New York City	13	Franisca Traverso	Kairos Outside
5/27/16	CA	California Medical Facility	46	Brian Matlock	Men's Inside
5/27/16	PA	Eastern Pennsylvania	4	Barbara Schieck	Kairos Outside
6/9/16	OH	Franklin Med. Cen. for Women	2	Deborah Welch	Women's Inside
6/10/16	TX	Vance Prison	59	Joe LaMonte	Men's Inside
6/24/16	NH	State Prison for Women	4	Sandra Hauser	Women's Inside

Dear God

I write you this short letter to tell you some stuff. Important stuff. Stuff that must be said by me to you.

I will start by thanking you for loving me, for making tears run down my face, for answering all of the questions that troubled my soul, for giving me hope, for showing me my life isn't over - but starting anew.

After 22 long years locked up, it is true - I was scared of the world. I no longer fear it. I was alone with nowhere to go. Now I got brothers and sisters and a Church waiting for me to go in it. I trust in you like I never done so before. My Kairos walk was the one thing I needed to take away my blindness.

I thank you for the ice cream and cake. But it was the letters that I thank you the most for. I needed them, deep down. I so needed them. I thank you for using all the Kairos volunteers to reach me. It is through them that I felt your love.

Kairos Graduate

Vance Unit, Richmond TX

Reminder: July 26—30, 2016

Please be sure to mark your calendars for the 2016 Kairos Prison Ministry International Annual Conference celebrating 40 years of effective prison ministry. You can register now by going to the [mykairos.org](http://www.mykairos.org/conference_registration.html) website. Just use this link: http://www.mykairos.org/conference_registration.html

Correction:

There was an error in the 2015 Fall Newsletter describing the Thursday evening memorial service at the Annual Conference in Fort Worth TX. The session was led by Rev. David Mosser, the Sr. Pastor of FUMC Arlington, not Chaplain Donald Lacy.

The staff of Kairos Prison Ministry International would like to thank all of the great Kairos volunteers throughout the world for your dedication and perseverance in carrying out Matthew 25:36 *...I was in prison and you visited me.*"

Back row: Kevin Resnover, Ken Rocks, Ann Kreller, Teri Wheeler and Evelyn Lemly.

Front Row: Phaedra Tillman, Deborah Goodwin, Julie Collins, Janet Santiago, Cathy Flinchman and Gina Brockmeyer.

Christmas Greetings and New Year's Blessings



"For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6