

Kairos E-News #18 - Current News for Kairos Volunteers - 3/1/13

Moving Forward (Evelyn Lemly, Executive Director) - What an exciting time for Kairos Prison Ministry! New members on the International Council and the Board of Directors, new leadership at the home office, new financial systems to streamline and enable consolidation, new ideas, new opportunities and the list goes on and on. At the same time these new aspects join with the history and legacy of the past and the leaders and volunteers of the present to create strength, health, and a fresh outlook. I hear people share that teamwork and trust is growing. I feel the buzz and excitement in the air of the future of Kairos. I admire the commitment of the volunteers and continue to be amazed by the passion each person has to reach the incarcerated and their families. Thank You for your service!

After two months with this wonderful ministry, I too have grown to have a passion for the ministry, the people, and the opportunities. As we move forward, we will strive to stabilize our foundational base while planning for the future. Sometimes as we plan for growth we must Pause, Reassess, and Fix so we can Run in the future. That is exactly where I see us currently at Kairos Prison Ministry – preparing to RUN. Meanwhile, the simple target is to Do More of What We Do – Reaching the incarcerated and their families by sharing the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. God bless you as you serve!

Updates from the 2013 Winter Conference:

Board of Directors - The Board of Directors and officers for 2013 are:

Chairman - **Dr Jim Hankins**
Vice-Chairman for Operations - **Rev Greg Moser**
Vice-Chairman for Planning - **David Garmus**
Treasurer - **Peter Wilson**
Secretary - **Vicki Spurgeon**

Ed Keefer	Joe McNemar	Priscilla Durkin
Sally Boutin	Emma Jones	Jim Miller
Christine Money	David Farmer	Doug Watson
David Ross, Ex-Officio	Evelyn Lemly, Ex-Officio	

International Council - The International Council officers and Committee Chairpersons for 2013 are:

President - **David Ross**
Vice-President - **Lee Turner**
Secretary - **Sukey Di Cesare**

Ministry Coordination Committee - **Joyce Paige**
Kairos Inside Sub-Committee - **Carolyn Jones**
Kairos Outside Sub-Committee - **Julie Cole**
Kairos Torch Sub-Committee - **Fred Yosua**

Program Evaluation Committee - **John Kennell**
Volunteer and Guest Recruitment Council - **Ken Perduyn**
Financial Accountability Council - **Jim Neff**
Domestic and International New Start Committee - **Bill Young**

3 volunteers were elected to balance out the Program representation for Kairos Inside. Those volunteers are:

Terry Crockett from Indiana
Kelvin Thompson from Georgia
Rafael Fransisco from Florida

Update from The Communications Committee (Lee Turner, IC Georgia) - Several things are in the works. The Board of Directors will be considering adopting a universal **Privacy and Terms of Use** policy for ALL of the Kairos websites. We established the State Chairs Forum for them to exchange ideas and grow as a community of leaders. The MyKairos.org website has been updated to reflect the results of elections held during the Winter Conference.

In the Newsroom - The video of the ceremony installing Evelyn Lemly as the KPMI Executive Director is now available in the video section of the Newsroom page on the www.MyKairos.org website.

2012 Excellence Award Winners Announced - 2012 Excellence Awards were presented on February 7, 2013 at the Winter Meeting to the following servants:

Kevin Resovner of Kairos Torch presented to: Beverly Hankins
Jo Chapman of Kairos Outside presented to: Lauren Weibe, Inez Thompson and Connie Prendergast
Bill Rushing of Kairos Inside presented to: Mike Springer, Terry Crockett and Bill Burguieres

The Latest News from Oregon - The State of Oregon has tried for several years to gain access to an Oregon State prison to start The Kairos program. They think they have it arranged and the door has closed numerous times. So they have made a State decision to begin with Kairos Outside so their interested volunteers can get involved in a Kairos ministry. They have gotten a retreat center and have secured a Nov. 8-10 Weekend for KO #1 in their state. Please pray for God to open a door to a prison in Oregon and to bring Guests to this KO #1 Weekend. KPMI welcomes Oregon into the family of Kairos.

Kairos Excellence Initiative (Dan Preston, At-Large) - Let's say you own a business that is either service or manufacturing. How do you consistently know how well you are doing providing your clients with the best product or service?? One way is repeat business, and new customers. But one of the best ways is to constantly evaluate your product or service, searching for places or ways to improve.

That is the purpose of the Kairos Excellence Initiative. To find out what is working well, not so well and not at all well. It is basically a survey conducted after every Kairos Ministry Program weekend to honestly look at our selves and ask "How did we do?" And then pass that information to a designated person or persons within your state for further reporting. These reports then are sent to the Program Evaluation Committee Chair, the chair of the respective subcommittee (KI, KO, or KT), the staff coordinator, your respective State Chair, Advisory Council Chair and who then sends them to the Weekend Leader and Observing Weekend Leader.

What do we do with the data we collect?? Good question and I'm glad you asked. For Kairos inside, we are in the process of moving to an on-line process that automatically produces charts covering the past six weekends. These charts, through color coding show a comparison between the individual AC, the State and the National trends. Once fully implemented, through password protection, every AC Chair will be able to look at their individual weekend information, but only theirs

no other AC's information. By using the charts, an AC Chair and Weekend Leaders may then compare their progress against their state level data and the national trends. The State Chair will be able to look at every weekend report within their state only and compare their state to other states by using the comparison charts. On the national level, we can then see quickly what is working and what is not. We then will be able to make recommendations for changes in the ministry program manuals, the Excellence Initiative, or in training at AKT.

We hope to have this fully implemented in early Spring 2013 for Kairos Inside and follow with Kairos Outside and Torch within a year. Until then, we still need every weekend report in order to improve our presentation of weekends and follow up. It will also give us statistical data that proves that we are doing what we say we are doing.

News from our AKT Trainers (Mary Sogan, AKT Trainer) - Many of our Advanced Kairos Trainer(s) for Kairos Inside met during the 2013 Winter Conference in Orlando Florida. We, who are responsible for training Weekend Leadership, wanted to find a way of communicating information about the Kairos Inside Program to the Ad Council members and, most importantly, you, the volunteers. .

As you know, Kairos is a precious gift from God, which we have each been "chosen" to be used by Him as His hands and feet to take the Good News to the hopeless who are incarcerated and their loved ones. You volunteers are His most valuable asset in doing so. There is always a "Why" for everything we do in the Kairos Inside Program. So, via the E-News, we will each month, let you know "Why we do what we do" before, during and following the Kairos Inside Weekend!

This month we will explain "Why we ask our volunteers to commit to a year of Continuing Ministry following a Kairos Weekend"! First, many of you may not realize that the "Kairos Weekend" is the **doorway to the ministry** for the participant whom God chose to attend. The "Continuing Ministry" (Instructional Reunion, the Weekly Prayer-and-Share, the Monthly Reunion, and the 2-Day Retreat) as a whole is the tool that God uses to continue each Kairos graduate's journey into becoming a productive citizen by encouraging them through the 4Ls (listen, listen, love, love), and the modeling of our commitment to be "Christ" with skin on when we "visit them in prison". Each of these events is part of the Continuing Ministry of which Kairos utilizes. We have reached our goal if they decide to participate in the 3-6 person **Prayer and Share Groups**, following their Weekend, through which they will help establish strong Christian communities in the prison supporting their spiritual formation.

Most of the participants, in Kairos Inside, have lost many, if not all, of the relationships which were important to them. So, the Kairos community becomes a form of a "substitute family", they would otherwise not experience from the outside world. So, when we come month after month bearing the love of Christ each and every time we show up, they begin to believe it when we tell them that "they are not alone, and God loves them.

A Kairos Testimony - (Winston L "Bud" Plymale) - I am a relative new member to Kairos. I am an old member of the Emmaus Community (Roanoke Valley Emmaus #27). I joined the Kairos team for Green Rock Correctional Center and was on Kairos #7 in the Fall of 2012. This was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. It was close to my Walk to Emmaus. We had a very satisfying opportunity to work with the residents of the prison regardless of what the resident had done to bring him to prison and share our God and Jesus Christ with them. The experience was almost overwhelming to see the response of the residents. There is a fair amount of work and preparation to put the Weekend together with the teaming process, but there is so much of a reward being able to come face to face with the residents. The one on one and group meetings gives you a chance to really learn how the resident has to live and that we can give them support and help change their outlook on life. You can

really see God working in everybody's life. I feel like I get as much or more out of the experience during the four days than the residents do. The personal rewards are so rewarding on both sides of the experience that give you the feeling of accomplishment for all. God Bless our Kairos organization and pray that we can continue our work.

May God Bless All

Bud Plymale

Kairos #1 in Wisconsin??? (Al Kolff, IC Wisconsin) - Wisconsin has good news. But, we are requesting prayer. Lots of prayer. We are in the negotiation stages and the Chaplain feels confident about getting this approval, but we may be waiting 2 or 3 weeks before we can proceed with our next steps. We have not yet been approved to visit the prison and begin to make logistical preparations. When we get the institutions approval, we will visit the prison to understand the facility and get acquainted with the Chaplain in person. Then, we will be able actually begin planning a weekend for this Fall. Pray for us!

2013 Summer Conference (Ann Kreller, KPMI Exec Administrative Assistant) - Mark your calendars: Kairos Prison Ministry International 2013 Summer Conference will be held in Norman, Oklahoma, July 30 - August 3, 2013 at the NCED Conference Center and Hotel: <http://cc.nced.com/> . More details will be available on the www.MyKairos.org website in the near future.

Recruiting (David Ross, IC Texas) - Does recruiting seem to be too daunting of a task? Is it too big to tackle? Do you think that you can't possibly make a difference? Well, consider the math. Depending on who you talk to, the Kairos Ministry is made up of some 30,000 volunteers. If one out of twenty of our volunteers were to recruit ONE new person, we would have 1500 new volunteers. If properly dispersed, that would be enough people to staff 20-25 NEW ministries, There would not be a recruiting problem. There would be a parking problem! Let's use a more localized example. Consider a team of 60 total volunteers. If one out of ten folks would bring a friend to Kairos, that team could add two table families, or one table and a less stressed support team. The point is, when it comes to new volunteers, we are SO close to a recruiting bonanza. For Kairos, recruiting starts with **YOU**.

Share the E-News - Not everyone is subscribed to the Kairos E-News. Share this information with your State Chapter Committee, Area Committee, Advisory Council and your community. If you missed a copy of the Kairos E-News and want to get caught up, go to the MyKairos.org website, click on Newsroom, then Kairos E-News. Archived copies are there for you to download and read.

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The IC Communications Improvement Ad-hoc Committee