



## **Kairos E-News #39 - Current News for Kairos Volunteers – December 2014**

**For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
(Isaiah 9:6 NIV)**

### **The Importance of Team Meetings and Training** (Evelyn Lemly, Executive Director) –

Kairos invests a lot of time and funds to train volunteers at all levels. The team meetings to form a team, create unity, review and practice what will happen, prepare for the talks, pray together, and truly form a team spiritually and operationally that is prepared for the Weekend and all the variables are critical to doing the program with excellence. Can you imagine the struggles if we did not meet, or prepare for the known needs of the program and the facility, and walked into the many unplanned diversities of the Weekend? We also invest in training team leaders to create this environment of unity and to lead the entire local body through the preparation of conducting the ministry to the end result of the Weekend. As I talk to Chaplains, Wardens, and DOC leaders across the country, they comment that the training and preparedness of Kairos volunteers is one of the things that stands out to make Kairos unique and excellent in prison ministry. We should emphasize the importance of building our local team, creating spiritual unity, and preparing the entire body to serve with excellence.

**Protection of the Gift** (Evelyn Lemly, Executive Director) – When dealing with finances, there are many details we have to address as a registered nonprofit at the federal, state, and local levels. Details include how funds are received and used, demonstrating use for the purposes of the Kairos exemption. We also have to be able to validate how we track and report donations from all sources, hence the use of KairosDonor. As we receive funds from any source, we have to protect the purpose of the ministry along with the proper use of the gift. In doing so, we honor the laws of the land; but mostly we honor God by doing things properly and being good stewards of His resources. It is all God's, and we are honored to be His stewards.

**2015 Summer Conference** (Ann Kreller, Executive Administrative Assistant) – The 2015 Summer Conference will be held in Fort Worth, TX, July 28 through August 1, 2015 at the American Airlines Training and Conferencing Center. The preliminary agenda and registration form can be found on the [www.mykairos.org](http://www.mykairos.org) website: [http://www.mykairos.org/conference\\_registration.html](http://www.mykairos.org/conference_registration.html)

**Board of Directors Update** (Jim Hankins, Chair) – Our Board attended the Fall Board Retreat in Raleigh, North Carolina. We finished an extended training exercise we began this summer. At the Summer Conference, we had completed a survey that asked us to determine the specific areas

of our Board responsibilities in which we needed improvement. During our retreat, we addressed each one of these with a training session.

This type of evaluation and specific training is a valuable tool as we strive to serve our Lord and His ministry with excellence.

**International Council Update** (Lee Turner, International Council President) – Obedience is doing what must be done, the way it must be done, when it must be done, and doing it that way every time. I am still amazed when I hear stories of disobedient volunteers. Those who for whatever reason stray outside the riverbanks (they think they know better, they haven't read the guidelines, etc). I couldn't help but think about when our church recently built a Habitat for Humanity house. There were standards. They didn't call them standards. They called them plans. They were not negotiable. Those who contributed their labor to that house didn't get to decide how big the house was, how many bedrooms, NOTHING. They were there to be obedient servants, contributing to a ministry that glorified God and resulted in transformed lives. Make a commitment to make a difference in this ministry, not by doing it different from the guidelines, but by growing the ministry within the guidelines.

**Men's Ministry Update** (Ken Rocks, Men's Ministry Coordinator) – As I sit down to write this month's E-news article, thoughts of Thanksgiving and Christmas get-togethers, with bountiful blessings and tables of harvest, come to mind. Webster's Dictionary defines holiday as: 1) a religious festival: holy day; 2) a day of freedom from labor, often set aside by law to celebrate some event. We are so blessed in Kairos by our Lord, individually, and as a ministry. This year marked the most #1 Weekends for Kairos Men's Inside in recent memory. Look what God is doing at Kairos! We are so blessed by our wonderful volunteers who sacrifice much to glorify our God. They spend time away from their families to build the Kingdom here for those affected by incarceration. Every day is a holy day because Christ shines His grace and favor on His ministry without ceasing. With much gratitude, from our Kairos family here in Florida to yours across the world, we wish you the most blessed holiday season.

**Women's Ministry Update** (Gina Brockmeyer, Women's Ministry Coordinator) – Attention all Kairos Outside and Kairos Inside (Women's) Advisory Councils ... Do you have a praise report, or something exciting going on within your community, that you would like to share with the rest of your Kairos brothers and sisters through this E-newsletter?

If so, please let me know. We want to share all the wonderful things God is doing. My e-mail address is [gina@kpmi.org](mailto:gina@kpmi.org).

**Kairos Torch Update** (Kevin Resnover, Youth Ministries Coordinator) – As we move through the holiday seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas, I find that there is so much to be thankful for. Kairos Torch is already working on 10 new programs in the United States, where we will declare the same peace and forgiveness that the angels proclaimed at the birth of Jesus. Along with those new starts, we will be recruiting another 250 Christian Mentors to work with high-risk and hurting youth. I wish all of you a wonderful season of thanksgiving in your public and private lives, and that the peace of God will overtake you.

**New on the Website – E-Mail Tip for Improved Communications** -When you forward an e-mail, remove all of the unimportant stuff (addresses of previous recipients, previous responses, header

information such as date, subject, and previous sender) from the body of the message before you hit send. This does a couple of things. It reduces the number of e-mail addresses that a spammer gets should they come across that particular e-mail, and it lets the reader get directly to the message you intend for them to read without a lot of scrolling. Don't forget to take out the "FW:" in the subject line. Some people automatically discard forwarded messages.

**Is Your Weekend Listed?** – If your upcoming 2015 Weekend is not listed on the Kairos Kalendar, complete the electronic registration on the [www.MyKairos.org](http://www.MyKairos.org) website so we can adequately publicize your weekend. **This is especially important for #1 Weekends.** We create a banner-type advertisement especially for those #1 Weekends.

**Spanish Translation of the E-News** – A Spanish translation of E-News (E-Noticias) is also published monthly. If you would like to view previous issues or subscribe to future E-News in Spanish, please go to: [http://www.mykairos.org/news\\_enevs-sp.html](http://www.mykairos.org/news_enevs-sp.html)

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