



Kairos E-News #42 - Current News for Kairos Volunteers – March 2015

***Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.
Colossians 4:2 NIV***

Let's be Prayer Warriors for Kairos (Evelyn Lemly, Executive Director) – As we start the major spring Weekend cycle, let's keep each Weekend, leader, team, and the body serving as Kairos in our prayers daily. We are blessed to have volunteers across the country and world who serve with a heart and passion for this ministry and for the incarcerated. We know this ministry is about sharing the hope, love, and truth of Jesus Christ, and we know the power of prayer. Join us daily as we praise God for His provisions and guidance for Kairos Prison Ministry in every country and state we serve, for each Advisory Council, for every Weekend team, for the continuing ministry in each community, for every volunteer in every role of service and support, for trainers, for the staff, for the Board, for the correctional facilities and the staff there, and for those who will be participants in the Kairos programs. God is at work!

Kairos Stewardship—a Core Value (Evelyn Lemly, Executive Director) – For the first time ever, Kairos has budgets for every state and has a consolidated budget nationally. Thanks to the states for working to put together your piece. I have already heard stories of how the states are using the budgets to better manage the ministry locally; to assess costs and discuss cost savings; to use available funds to enable recruiting or promoting the ministry locally; to help other Kairos communities—start-ups, those in other countries, even the KPMI office; and on and on. A budget can help us better plan and utilize our resources to be great stewards of the funds we are blessed to receive from wonderful donors. Another step forward for the ministry!

Register for the Annual Conference (Ann Kreller, Executive Administrative Assistant) – Please remember to register for the 2015 Annual Conference. It 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 website: http://www.mykairos.org/conference_registration.html

Board of Directors Update (Jim Hankins, Chair) – As Chair of the Board, I am responsible for the Christian spiritual context of our meetings and retreats. Spirituality is taken seriously in this ministry, as witnessed by the content in the manuals concerning team meetings. Just so you know, the Board builds into each agenda a time for prayer and a devotional. The entire first evening of our retreats is devoted to a time of spiritual reflection and thought presented by an outside guest, clergy, or layperson. We have been truly blessed by these experiences. We cannot lead this ministry without God's hand on us.

I would like to remind you that each leadership position in our ministry has the same responsibility. Each Team Leader, Advisory Council Chair, Area Chair, State Chapter Committee Chair, the International Council President, and the Board of Directors Chair is responsible for the Christian spiritual training and growth of our respective charges.

God always honors our faithfulness as we strive to be more like Christ. Please join me as we lead, not just in adhering to programs and policy, but also in spiritual growth. *You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.* (1 Peter 2:5)

International Council Update (Lee Turner, International Council President) – Last month you saw quite a bit of information concerning reporting Weekends. Recently, February 23rd to be exact, we conducted an inventory of reported Weekends for the Spring 2015 season. What we found was that only 61 percent of the active Advisory Councils had reported their Weekend.

This information is used in many different areas of the ministry, including agape, prayer vigils, statistical information, Excellence Initiative—the list is extensive. The International Council and the State Chapter Committee Chairs have been provided a list of those Advisory Councils that haven't reported a Weekend yet. Not every Advisory Council may be having a Spring 2015 Weekend, but if you are, we would appreciate knowing about it. You can use the electronic form at <http://www.mykairos.org/register.html> to report your Kairos Weekend. Check the Kairos Kalendar first, as someone may have previously registered your Weekend.

Men's Ministry Update (Ken Rocks, Men's Ministry Coordinator) – Team Formation meetings have started for many of you, and they will be opportunities to renew old friendships. For some, they will be a chance to reacquaint yourself with the Program Manual. Maybe you have misplaced it since the last Weekend you worked, maybe the dog ate it, or maybe you gave it away to a Kairos volunteer who didn't have one. I am in the Program Manual every day for one reason or another, and I am constantly being reminded of some worthwhile gem found tucked away. Almost 40 years of a program produces those kinds of gems. So, as Team Formation begins, please bring your Program Manual to the meetings. If you don't have one at the moment, ask for one. There should be a case of them at every Team meeting for distribution. So, as you reconnect with your fellow Kairos volunteers, reacquaint yourself with the Program Manual. It's great to get back with old friends, and to meet new ones.

Women's Ministry Update (Gina Brockmeyer, Women's Ministry Coordinator) – 2015 is going to be a busy year for Women's Ministries. We have three #1 Weekends scheduled for Kairos Inside—two in Tennessee and one in Georgia, and we have two #1 Kairos Outside Weekends scheduled—one in Arizona and one in Wisconsin. In addition to the #1 Weekends, we are also going to be conducting the first women's death row Weekend in Texas. Please pray for the #1 Weekends, and for this very special Weekend in Texas.

In addition to praying for the above Weekends, I would also like to encourage all my Advisory Councils, both Kairos Outside and Kairos Inside, to include prayer in your council meetings and in all team-formation meetings. Let every aspect of our ministry be centered on Christ. As 1 Chronicles 16:11 says, *Look to the Lord and His Strength; Seek His face always!*

Women's Ministry Shout-outs

A big Kairos shout-out to the “Apple Dumpling Gang” of St. Jacob’s Lutheran Church in North Canton, Ohio. Each fall they make apple dumplings and give the proceeds to charitable organizations. This year the Apple Dumpling Gang donated \$1,000.00 to Kairos.

Don’t forget—if you have something you think the Kairos Community needs to know, e-mail it to gina@kpmi.org so I can include in our Kairos Shout-outs!

Kairos Torch Update (Kevin Resnover, Youth Ministries Coordinator) – Reunions are an integral part of the continuing ministry of Kairos Torch. Studies show that incarcerated youth suffer from feelings of rejection and abandonment. While the Weekend program and the weekly (or bi-weekly) mentoring address abandonment from a cognitive position, the monthly reunions speak directly to the hearts of the youth. The Kairos Torch Reunion allows the youth more interaction with the volunteers outside of the highly structured family tables on the Weekend and the one-to-one weekly mentoring sessions. Just as we learn more about our family members at family reunions, the Kairos Torch participant and volunteer build even stronger relationship in this less-structured and fun-filled atmosphere. Research in youth development points to the necessity of youth being able to connect with mentors (adults) in a reunion setting from time to time in order to develop into holistic adults. Let’s not leave reunions to just a few people on the team ... the youth want to reconnect with you!

Kairos Board Election – Kairos Prison Ministry International will be electing four Board members in July at the Annual Conference. The Governance Committee would ask you to continue to prayerfully consider candidates for ministry leadership in the upcoming election. We are aware that while there may appear to be ample time to accomplish this task, this is God’s work and should be done with fervor and thoughtfulness as with any other activity that has eternal ramifications.

Please have the candidate review the information on the www.mykairos.org Downloads page under Board Election Information. You will find a pertinent document that contains these three items:

1. Overview of Kairos Ministry
2. Board Member Qualifications
3. Core Expectations of a Board Member

If you or someone you know would like to be considered as a member of the Board of Directors, please send the candidate’s name and contact information (name, address, e-mail, phone number) to nominations@mykairos.org.

Names must be received no later than May 9th. The Board Governance Committee will go through a vetting process and then be in contact with all nominees as to status. A packet of materials will be sent to all qualified candidates later in May.

If you have any questions, please contact Greg Moser (Gmoser@nccumc.org or 919-922-3801).

New on the Website – An updated version of the Ministry Materials Order Form has been posted on the mykairos.org website. Here is the link:
http://www.mykairos.org/docs/kpmi/supply_order_form.pdf

Is Your Weekend Listed? – If your upcoming Spring 2015 Weekend is not listed on the Kairos Kalendar, complete the electronic registration on the 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.

Reporting Weekends – Please focus on reporting the upcoming Weekends on MyKairos.org under “Register Weekend Info” on the left-side menu. The ministry covers the Weekends in prayer, the team receives Agape from communities, and the ministry knows of the Weekends for reporting. This is an area where we need to take a step forward in better communication and sharing of 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

La traducción al español de E-News (E-Noticias) se publica mensualmente. Si quiere ver las E-Noticias anteriores o suscribirse para recibir ejemplares futuros, vaya a http://www.mykairos.org/news_enevs-sp.html

If you want to stop receiving the Kairos E-News, go to the www.MyKairos.org Home page and use the on-screen form.