



Kairos E-News #56 – Current News for Kairos Volunteers – April 2016

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:5, 6 NIV

It's springtime—and Kairos Weekend time! (Evelyn Lemly, CEO/Executive Director) – As we focus on final plans for the team, final review of talks, final spiritual formation, and final building unity on the team, may each volunteer be blessed and encouraged. There are thousands of men, women, and youth who are about to have a 4th-day experience, and an encounter with God's love and hope, that could change the rest of their lives. If you've had such an experience, you know exactly its power. If you have not, let me encourage you to do so for yourself through one of the many 4th-day ministries. At least take the time to understand the fundamentals of Kairos as a 4th-day experience. Be encouraged as you serve, know God is in control, and give God your best as you work with excellence.

Register for the 40th Kairos Prison Ministry International Annual

Conference (Ann Kreller, Executive Administrative Assistant) – Join your Kairos brothers and sisters in the celebration of this wonderful achievement! The conference registration form can be found on the mykairos.org website – just use this link to access it:

http://www.mykairos.org/conference_registration.html. The conference will be held in Orlando, FL, July 26-30, 2016.

Board of Directors Update (Vicki Spurgeon, Board Chair) – HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!! Greetings to each of you as we celebrate the risen Christ each day. Your Board of Directors gathered in DeBary, Florida, the week before Easter. We welcomed Kathy Cabraja from Arizona. Kathy was elected by the International Council at the end of February. We had time to get to know one another better, focus our attention on our spiritual health as individuals and a group, and experience daily devotional time together. We also engaged in generative thinking as we discussed matters such as effective meetings; performed fiduciary duties and responsibilities in review and approval of consolidated and office financial records and CEO evaluation; and heard from each of the Program Coordinators and the Controller. It was encouraging and exciting to see and hear what is going on in Kairos across the country! Keep up the great work for the Glory of God with Christ at the center of all we say and do.

International Council Update (John Miller, International Council President) – The International Council representatives' responsibilities and expectations have been covered before. However, since we have 16 new council members, I want to review them again.

The key role of an International Council representative is to assist the State Chapter Committee in making sure the ministry programs are running properly. What are some things

that they can do to accomplish this?

There are topics the International Council representative can address at State Chapter Committee meetings that will help raise awareness of program-related issues. Those topics include Weekend reporting, Advisory Council and State Chapter Committee leadership reporting, and Advisory Council reporting forms (ACRF). For example, we have Advisory Councils that have identified mandatory positions they think do not need to be filled, ones they cannot fill, or have multiple positions being held by one person. The list goes on. Some of the answers are in the word "RECRUIT." Yes, your International Council representative can help guide you in this effort. Additionally, they know many of the "helps" that are available for State Chapter Committees and Advisory Councils.

The International Council representative, through interactions with the International Office staff, the Board of Directors, and representatives from the other states, learns a great deal about what is working well and what isn't. Please take advantage of your International Council representative's "big picture" view of the issues we face. We all want this ministry to be as excellent as we can make it. After all, it was a gift from God.

Men's Ministry Update (Ken Rocks, Men's Ministry Coordinator) – Another valuable tool to bring Christ's love to the Kairos Inside graduates is the 1- or 2-Day Retreat, which is normally scheduled between the semiannual retreats. The manual offers many different possible talks and themes. In addition, an even simpler way to develop a retreat is to take a key passage of Scripture as a starting point.

The primary purpose of the 2-Day Retreat is to give those not yet grouping some experience in the process of becoming vulnerable to others in a small group setting. Also, it encourages the return of those who have drifted away from the Kairos community. The importance of these retreats cannot be overstated.

The retreat starts on Saturday morning and ends Sunday afternoon. A team meeting is scheduled for Friday. The purpose of this meeting is to establish a common vision for the team. This meeting is spiritually based, rather than logistics focused. At this meeting each of the talks is reviewed, and team members volunteer to give a talk that specifically "speaks" to them. The speaker provides a personal testimony about his/her own experiences in the area of the talk. The talks address such subjects as:

- Knowing yourself before setting goals
- Making decisions and choices
- Sacrifices as the result of choices
- Long term and short term goal setting
- Jesus' call to us to make choices

Women's Ministry Update (Gina Brockmeyer, Women's Ministry Coordinator) – Kairos sprang from the Cursillo movement and is supported by volunteers from Cursillo and other movements that consider Cursillo as their roots.

Originally, Kairos came from an early attempt to bring Cursillo into the prison environment, but within the first several Weekends, it became obvious that the Cursillo method did not fully work in prisons.

While Kairos still has its roots deeply ingrained in the Cursillo method, the Kairos method envisioned back in 1948 by Eduardo Bonnín and his friends has very distinct differences, and

we must be careful not to bring 4th-Day traditions that are not part of the Kairos Programs to our Weekends.

Things such as Weekend themes and Weekend Scriptures are not part of a Kairos Inside Weekend, and the Weekend schedule does not allow for music before each and every talk. Kairos Outside Weekends do have a logo and a Scripture verse, but there are no “talk songs.” Music played before or after a talk or meditation is supposed to enhance the talk or meditation. The music must be included in the total time allowed. So, if we are playing songs that last five minutes, we hear five minutes less of the speaker’s personal story. We should not substitute items for Forgiveness Cookies, and we don’t use video series for 2-Day Retreats.

The reason for having a Kairos Program Manual is to protect and maintain those spiritual principles that are vital to bringing the love and forgiveness of Christ to the participants and guests who attend our Weekends. The manual clearly outlines the differences between Kairos Weekends and 4th-Day or “street” weekends.

Weekend Leaders must be careful to remain within the Riverbanks. Remember, just because something has always been done a certain way on past Weekends may not make it right. Be careful not to incorporate 4th-Day traditions that are not part of the Kairos program.

Kairos Torch Update (Kevin Reslover, Youth Ministries Coordinator) —There are three new Kairos Torch start up programs underway in the U.S. Kairos of Arkansas has a signed Memorandum of Understanding with Ouachita River Correctional Unit in Malvern, Arkansas; Kairos of Georgia is presently signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Sumter Youth Development Center in Americas, Georgia; and Kairos of New York is signing a Memorandum with the Youth Shelter Program of Westchester, Inc. in Mount Vernon, New York, this week. All are planning and organizing to begin late this year. Please keep them in your prayers.

Kairos Board Election (Governance Committee of the Board) – Kairos Prison Ministry is governed by a-15-member Board of Directors. The ministry’s International Council is responsible for electing the Board of Directors.

Please review the election information on our website, www.mykairos.org . Under Downloads/Board Election Information, you may view pertinent documents that include

- Overview of Kairos Ministry
- Board Member Qualifications
- Expectations of a Board Member
- Board Member Responsibilities

As you are considering possible candidates or planning to submit your own name, please recognize the priority that all Board members think strategically and focus on fiduciary and generative governance.

We will be accepting names of individuals to be considered for nomination until 4/30/16. The actual election will be held at the Annual Conference in July.

To submit a name, please submit your contact information and the name and contact information of the person to the election committee at nominations@mykairos.org.

As part of the nomination process, you will be contacted by a member of the election committee to discuss information related to the individual you have recommended. If you have any questions, please contact members of the election committee: Jim Miller jfmiller23@att.net and 770-330-3620, or Jim Hankins jimhankins76@gmail.com and 870-245-6561.

Please pray for the nominees and the ministry leadership.

Kairos in the News – Through this E-News feature, you can link to news stories that have posted recently that are about or include mentions of Kairos. Here are the links.

http://www.stwnewspress.com/news/a-second-chance/article_a5b0c51c-f4fa-11e5-b7c2-77acf9e353f0.html

<http://www.lcsun-news.com/story/life/sunlife/2016/03/06/community-spotlight-kairos-prison-ministry/81005626/>

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20150316/AIK0101/150319624>

http://www.herald-dispatch.com/opinion/john-patrick-grace-christ-is-risen-let-us-rejoice/article_86e93e6b-e1a2-5566-b177-59dff063fd78.html

<http://www.capitalgazette.com/neighborhoods/ph-ac-gn-west-county-0131-20150130-story.html>

Is Your Weekend Listed? – If your upcoming spring/summer 2016 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.

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_enevns-sp.html

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