



*“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade...”*

*1 Peter 1:3-4*

### **A New Year** (Evelyn Lemly, CEO)

Happy New Year! As 2018 unfolds, I am confident that our Lord has many blessings in store for each of us and for Kairos.

The start of a new year also means new leaders in place throughout the ministry, so please take extra effort in transferring position responsibilities and learning new position duties. We also have people currently in roles that do not realize all of their responsibilities, therefore reviewing job description is a good idea for the first meetings of the year!

In 2018, we will have many #1 Weekends, many new volunteers, and many new starts around the world. We will be using KairosMessenger this year as our database to house the rosters report, and ministry information. Let's make 2018 the best year yet for Kairos, and most importantly let's grow closer to our Lord so that we are obedient to His Word and in our service to Him.

### **Board of Directors Update** (Terry Crockett, Board Chair)

The Board wishes each of you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

How do we respond to the most read Bible verse of John 3:16? *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”* Do we show God and others the same love that He has shown us in this “Good News”? Loving the world means loving everyone with no exceptions, God gave the greatest gift of all time and He is asking us to respond by believing in Him. But giving can be costly, as Jesus has shown us, so do not become too comfortable in giving of your time, talent and resources, because the rewards are great. I encourage you to read John 3:17-21 to help understand, Jesus came for the purpose of saving all people, not condemning them, but God has given us the dignity of choices. Kairos gives us the opportunity to show this Agape love to all, with no exceptions.

Let us not become too comfortable or confident in our daily service to Kairos and DOC policies. The rules and policies are the same for all, whether a veteran or a new volunteer. In the coming New Year, we can help each other to strive for improvement and to achieve excellence.

### **Seeking Candidates for Board of Directors** (Governance Committee of the Kairos Board)

*“...whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31*

Each year 5 Board Member terms expire. The International Council is tasked with electing 4 Board members each year at Annual Conference. After the Board has designated an appointee, the IC is asked to ratify the appointment. Board recruitment should be an ongoing process and is the responsibility of all members of the Kairos community. Although skills and experience are important, the Board, at its recent Fall Retreat, discussed spiritual strength as the most important attribute of a potential board member. More detailed information about the requirements and expectations of board membership is found on the MyKairos.org website under Kairos Downloads, Board Election Information.

To ensure that we have a healthy, diverse, spiritually strong and effective board, all members of the Kairos community are urged to be aware of the ongoing need to recruit and select board members. With more than 30,000 volunteers, spread over the vast geographic area that Kairos serves, the Governance Committee and the Board look to you to submit names, including your own, for vetting and consideration for nomination.

Names for consideration should be submitted to the Governance Committee by January 31, 2018 by emailing the following information to [govcom@mykairos.org](mailto:govcom@mykairos.org)

1. Name of potential candidate with email and phone contact information
2. Skills/experience offered by potential candidate
3. Names of 2 references with email and phone contact information
4. Your name and contact information in case the committee needs to contact you for additional information

A form has been uploaded to [http://mykairos.org/docs/kpmi/Recommendation\\_for\\_Board\\_Membership.docx](http://mykairos.org/docs/kpmi/Recommendation_for_Board_Membership.docx) to make it easy for you to submit candidates. Thanks for your prayerful consideration for potential board candidates.

### **International Council Update** (Tom McCarty, International Council President)

Every January, millions of people begin their year with New Year's resolutions. Losing weight, getting organized, exercising more, eating healthier, and managing finances better are some of the most common resolutions.

But what about making Godly New Year's resolutions? Here's my starter list.

1. Get into God's word, and do it daily. The Psalmist said it best: "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." (KJV) The Bible isn't the only book. It's just the best book!
2. Pray and pray without ceasing. We all know the passage from Philippians 4:15: "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." The pastor of the church in which I grew up used to lead into our prayer time with this "payoff" addition. "For more things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."
3. Forgive...Forgive...Forgive. If Jesus put the word "unlimited" to his answer to Peter's question about forgiveness (that's what seventy times seven means), then can't we try to do the same?

4. Get rid of your evil thoughts, inside and outside. My wife is always after me for using a not quite profane word about someone, but an uncaring one at best (or worst). It's certainly not cursing, but it's an evil thought, no matter whether I express it or keep it in my heart.
5. Listen...Listen...Love...Love. Guess we've heard this one before, haven't we? It applies to life outside Kairos as well as inside Kairos. Two ears, one mouth. Remember that always.

Happy New Year!

### **Men's Ministry Update** (Craig Combs, Men's Ministry Coordinator)

Happy New Year! I like new things, don't you? I am convinced that God likes new things as well...in fact, He has told us that. *"Behold, I am making all things new" (Revelations 21:5)*. He isn't just giving us an upgrade, He is making us new and is making us like Jesus.

I admit I am not very introspective, but I have to do a little of that around January 1<sup>st</sup>, right? I want to be new, all new...I don't want to necessarily remember all the stupid stuff I did last week, or the stuff that upset me yesterday, or my failures from a year ago. I want to be new and not do those things again (although I wonder what other new stupid stuff I will probably do?)

I want to remember that he promises new mercies every morning. *"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."* (Lamentations 3:22-23) In Christ, the steadfast love of God for you (and me) will never cease. Never. His mercies will never come to an end. Never. They will be new every morning, new every year. Happy New Year!

### **Women's Ministry Update** (Gina Brockmeyer, Women's Ministry Coordinator)

#### **2018 – An Opportunity for New Beginnings**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers who gave so much of themselves in 2017 by sharing the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ with our incarcerated brothers and sisters, their families, and those who work with them. We all know that Kairos is a ministry of sacrifice, and each of you and your families sacrificed your time, your talents, and other resources to serve in Kairos. We are truly grateful, and thank God for you every day.

As we begin 2018, I would ask that each of our Advisory Councils and State Chapter committees to consider this quote I recently read, *"No one can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start and make a new ending."* (source unknown)

Let us assess what we accomplished in 2017 – ask yourselves -what did we do well and what do we need to work on in 2018? We can't start over, but we can begin again. Start right where you are. Ask God to guide and direct you as you consider what changes need to be made in how you are conducting your Kairos program(s), how you are recruiting, and how you are handling your finances. Once you determine what needs to be changed or tweaked, start implementing the changes, keeping in mind that change can be good.

How we end next year will be determined by how we start the year. Let us be intentional about keeping Christ at the center of our ministry and all we do, and let us be determined to serve with excellence in 2018.

## **Kairos Torch Update** (Kevin Resnover, Youth Ministry Coordinator)

New Year's Day can be an exciting time for many. It historically is the time that we look at new things or adventures we want to pursue and set targets to meet the goals for that year. It is often the time when a person resolves to change an undesired trait or behavior, to accomplish a personal goal, or otherwise improve their life. Only 8% of people actually keep their New Year's resolutions, according to one commonly cited statistic. There are many reasons people can't stick to their resolutions, from setting too many of them to getting derailed by small failures.

In front of Kairos are several open doors that God has placed before us: **forty (40)** youth facilities that are requesting Kairos Torch. God never opens doors that we can't walk through and He never derails His play by small failures. Would you set aside a few minutes each day to pray for the necessary resources and volunteers to walk in each of these doors in 2018? And if He is calling you to come also to help get them started, we will be listening for your call. Happy New Years!

## **Agape Contacts**

A listing of Agape contacts for upcoming Kairos Weekends is available on the mykairos.org website. This information is compiled from the Weekend information that is posted on the Kairos Kalendar and is available in Excel format so that you can easily download it. In order for this to be effective, please post your Weekends well in advance of their actual dates and ensure your Agape contact and their email address are included in the posting. To access this information, please go to: <http://www.mykairos.org/kalendar.html> and click on "Agape Contacts for Upcoming Weekends."

## **New Documents Available on MyKairos.org**

- Financial Policies and Practices
- FPP Job Descriptions
- Request to Open a Bank Account
- Request for a Cash Advance
- Cash Advance Clearing Worksheet
- Property Loan Agreement
- Chart of Accounts Glossary
- International Council Operating Procedures
- State Chapter Committee Operating Procedures
- State Chapter Committee Chair Orientation Guide
- Advisory Council Operating Procedures
- Board of Directors Election Procedures

## **Kairos Facebook Group**

Many items of interest such as upcoming Weekends, prayer requests, and inspirational stories are shared in our Kairos Facebook group. If you aren't already a member, you can request being added here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/KairosPrisonMinistryInternational>

## Is Your Weekend Listed?

If your upcoming 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 publicize your Weekend. **This is especially important for #1 Weekends.** We create a banner advertisement especially for those #1 Weekends on mykairos.org, and we actively promote #1 Weekends through local media and social media.

## 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)

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](http://www.mykairos.org/news_enevs-sp.html)

*If you want to stop receiving the Kairos E-News, go to the [www.MyKairos.org](http://www.MyKairos.org) Home page and use the on-screen form. You may also subscribe to E-News at the [www.MyKairos.org](http://www.MyKairos.org) Home page, using the on-screen form.*

For more information about Kairos volunteer activities, remember to visit [mykairos.org](http://mykairos.org) and follow us on social media.

