God's Special Time

Spring 2009 **News from Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc.** Vol. 35 No.2

Kairos Remembers John Caldwell

Our ministry has lost one of our Founding Fathers, John Caldwell, affectionately known by his Kairos brothers and sisters as one of the '*Nine Old Men*'. He passed away January 18th, due to heart failure. He was 85 years old.

John was born in Winter Haven, FL on September 24, 1923. He spent his youth and school years there before enlisting in the Army in 1943. After 3 years in military service, he enrolled in the University of the South in Sewanee, TN, and graduated in 1949. He married his wife Helena (Boellaard) in 1950.

He served on the Kairos board from its beginning until he became its Executive Director in 1985. He was a long-time, active parishioner of Church of the Good Shepherd Episcopal in Lake Wales and he served 5 years on the diocesan Cursillo Commission. He received an Honorary Doctorate of Theology from the University of the South's School of Theology for his many years of service to the church and his involvement in prison ministry. At the time of his death, John was working on his final book on the history of the Kairos Prison Ministry.

John enjoyed a career in the Arts and Entertainment industry. He was the Chairman of the Department of Theater Arts at both the University of Louisville and the University of South Florida. He was the Co-Producer at the Barter Theater in Abingdon, Virginia. He served as the Executive Producer of the Manitoba Theatre Centre and a Broadway producer. John was also a gifted playwright and author. He was editor of newspapers in Lake Wales, Haines City and Osceola County in Florida.

A close Kairos friend of John's, Wally Scott, had the following comments: "What a special man John was. He transformed my life! The first words out of his mouth when I met him after making a talk at a Renaissance Weekend on January 2, 1987, were 'God wants you in prison.' Then on March 21, 1987, with a Kairos team, he led me into Union Correctional Institution in Raiford, FL where he introduced me to Jesus Christ. What a blessing and what a remarkable man. He has been in my prayers with thanks for the past 22 years and will continue to be in them for as many additional years as I am granted."

Pictured above are John Thompson, standing, and John Caldwell in 2006. John Caldwell was writing his book on the history of Kairos.

How blessed is he who considers the helpless; The LORD will deliver him in a day of trouble. Psalm 41

God's Special Time

Vol. 35. No. 2

God's Special Time is published four times a year by Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc.

The Mission of Kairos is to bring Christ's love and forgiveness to all incarcerated individuals, their families and those who work with them and to assist in the transition of becoming a productive citizen.

John A. Thompson, Jr.
Executive Director
Brett Beemer
Chief Financial Officer
Paul McGlone
Director of Development and Marketing
Bill Rushing
Men's Ministry Coordinator
Jo Chapman
Women's Ministry Coordinator
Kevin Resnover
Youth Ministry Coordinator
Judy Bartlett
Office Manager
Ann Kreller
Executive Administrative Asst.
Brenda Campbell
Volunteer Support Coordinator
Janet Santiago
Administrative Assistant
Erica Warren
Torch Intern

Steve Gabriel
Board President

Lauren Wiebe	**Bill Young**
Vice President	Vice President
Chuck Pollak	**George Brown**
Secretary	Treasurer

To submit stories and photos or to contact Kairos leadership and staff, write to:
Kairos Prison Ministry International Inc.
6903 University Boulevard
Winter Park, FL 32792
407-629-4948
Fax: 407-629-2668
E-mail: ann@kpmi.org
www.kairosprisonministry.org

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's difficult to believe we are into March. The Lenten season is upon us as we turn our attention to celebrating Easter.

John A. Thompson, Jr.

For many of us, Lent is a time of reflection, appreciation and perhaps personal sacrifice. It is fitting we re-consider Christ's sacrifice for all mankind as we contemplate the reality of His death and resurrection. Can we ever really understand how the God who created the universe would love us so much?

In these difficult days it is easy for all of us to wonder why there is so much suffering in our society and the world. The movie, *Slumdog Millionaire,* reminds us of how fortunate it is just to be Americans and yet for those who are suffering financially or emotionally there is little consolation.

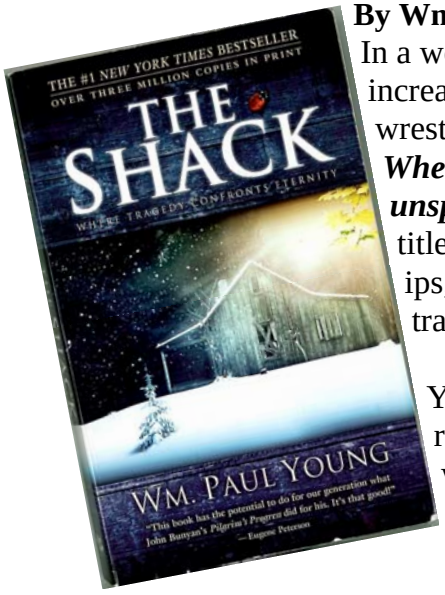
In the March 2009 issue of *Christianity Today,* theologian, Kathryn Greene-McCreight, shares her own struggle with depression and bipolar disorder. She says, "Christ's suffering gathers up our tears and calms our sorrows and points us toward His resurrection … (where) all creation will be redeemed from pain and woe." Ms. Greene-McCreight says, … "this understanding of Christian hope gives her comfort and encouragement, even if no relief from symptoms."

May Christ continue to bless our efforts.

In Christ,
john

One To Read……

The Shack



By Wm. Paul Young

In a world where religion seems to grow increasingly irrelevant, "The Shack" wrestles with the timeless question*:* ***Where is God in a world so filled with unspeakable pain?*** The answers the title character, Mackenzie Allen Phillips, gets will astound you and perhaps transform you as much as it did him.

You'll want everyone you know to read this book! If you read one work of fiction this year, let this be it.

What You Can Do To Help Sustain Kairos Financially

At our annual Winter Conference here in Orlando recently the Kairos Prison Ministry International Board had several excellent meetings. It was great to meet and visit with volunteers from throughout the United States. Kairos volunteers were also present from South Africa and Canada.

Paul McGlone

Last year alone, over 25,000 incarcerated men, women and youth and their loved ones outside of prison participated in the Kairos experience. The Kairos motto of Listen, Listen, Love, Love and our introduction to the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ was present in 401 prisons and Kairos Outside programs.

Last year was a very difficult time for many individuals and businesses financially. This led to a challenging year-end for many churches and other organizations that rely on charitable donations. In our ministry the decrease in year-end giving resulted in a $100,000 shortfall.

These challenges are expected but can be overcome – because we are all aware of the wonderful outcome of our ministry. Our volunteers have seen how bright the eyes of a new Kairos member become when he/she realize and experience the true forgiveness and love of Jesus Christ.

We would like to thank you for your thoughtful support of our ministry.

Our small staff of 10, who oversee the administration, programs and finances of the ministry, together with more than 30,000 volunteers, not only maintains existing programs but also responds to requests to grow the ministry. **"The Master has entrusted us with this gift, the Kairos ministry, to bring His Grace to those affected by incarceration……*and we are being called to do all we can to multiply that gift."***

Please continue to keep Kairos prison Ministry in your prayers.

The two ways that we can all help our ministry to sustain the existing programs and to grow are:

* Please keep your eyes open for a new volunteer - take the opportunity talk to a friend or neighbor about the miracles of Kairos

* If you know of volunteers capable of making a gift to Kairos Prison Ministry International (he or she may be a few seats over from you at church), please give them my cell number (407.538.5770) and I would be happy to speak to them, send information and possibly visit them.

God Bless,

Paul

IRA Rollover

Last year President Bush signed H.R. 1424 which includes a two-year extension of the IRA Rollover provision. The provision was made retroactive to Jan. 1, 2008, and applies to gifts made from that date through Dec. 31, 2009. The provision exempts from taxable income any funds transferred ("rolled over") from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to a charitable organization.

The following limitations apply:

1. The donor must be age 70 1/2 or older.
2. The cap on annual IRA rollovers is $100,000.

The contribution must be a direct gift to a charity (no planned gifts).

Since retirement assets like IRAs are the most highly taxed portion of one's estate--up to 70 percent--you may find it advantageous to move these assets out of your estate now; but please consult with your financial advisors before doing so. This new legislation provides an ideal alternative for IRA funds that are not currently needed, that will be taxed either now or later, and could be used for good charitable purposes today, such as helping to spread the gospel through Kairos Prison Ministry.

Continued on page 19

WELCOME TO BILL'S BARN

By Bill Rushing

Hello to all of you out there in Kairosland. The winter has been pretty tough on some folks this year, so it's time to pull a chair, grab a cup of coffee and sit a spell.

This time I'd like to visit about a small situation covering the type of resident-inmate that Kairos would like to attend a Weekend. Feel free to share this with your chaplain in case you're having a little problem getting the kind of participant that the Kairos Method calls for. I found this little ditty while I was going through some of the old history shelves here at the office. It's called the Kairos Penetration Plan.

A Guide for Choosing Inmates to Attend Kairos Weekends

The Kairos Prison Ministry has two key goals that are important to the ministry and to the prison administration and security. First, the ministry seeks to change the hearts of inmates so that they become productive participants in a positive community while in prison and good citizens when they leave prison. Second, the ministry seeks to have a positive impact on the violence level in the prison. The achievement of both of these goals is enhanced when the inmates chosen to attend the Kairos program are leaders in the prison.

The Kairos Penetration Plan, although fairly straight forward and simple in design, has several components:

1. It is the desire of the ministry that the major decision concerning the inmates that are invited to attend a Kairos Weekend rests with the head chaplain as he/she is the spiritual leader of the institution.

2. Kairos supports the chaplain in seeking the assistance of the security personnel and/or the prison administration to identify potential inmates to invite as long as they (security and administration) are kept anonymous to the inmate population as to their input. This could place unnecessary strains and obligations between inmates and the prison officials. If a chaplain is concerned about potential strains on his/her relationship with inmates (this is rare), then the actual invitations could be handled through the Kairos Advisory Council Liaison official with anonymous aid from the Chaplain's office, along with security and administrative input. Please note that former Kairos graduates can also be a source for identifying and inviting other inmates to attend.

3. The inmates targeted for attendance should be those individuals who are the leaders within the general population, both positive and negative with emphasis on the negative. This includes men and women who may not have thought about their spiritual life or are followers of non-standard faiths like Satanic worship, Wicca, etc. While we believe strongly in our Christian faith and present a Christian-focused program, it has never been the intention of Kairos to proselytize followers from other faiths; nor is it our intention to pressure or manipulate inmates in anyway. The proper delivery of all Kairos programs respects inmates, guests and their families and allows them to decide for themselves what, if any, spiritual path they wish to pursue. It is our experience based on many years of observation that when we follow the Kairos Program manual(s), inmate leaders who attend the Kairos Program positively impact the

environment of the institution. It has been documented by several prisons that after only 2-3 years of a Kairos presence in an institution, the violence level among the inmates and also between inmates and security personnel drops dramatically. As part of the documentation, it is also known that when a higher percentage of negative leaders attend a Kairos Weekend, an even more dramatic environmental change occurs.

Target Participants

The target attendees should be inmate leaders in the general population – both positive and negative (with emphasis on negative leaders). The impact of Kairos on leaders has proven to have a significant impact on the level of violence within the institution within 2-3 years of targeting inmate leaders for attending Kairos.

4. It also should be pointed out that on *rare* occasions in a high security prison, there can exist a group of men or women who are already part of the chaplain's program, and *may* have some influence with the general population because of their example of Christian conduct. Therefore, as part of the Kairos Penetration Plan, there should be some allowance for these individuals to experience a Kairos Weekend, but based on a limited number (see item #6). However, their attendance should never be a "reward" for faithful attendance or service to the chaplaincy program. Because the major component of the Kairos Ministry is to establish and form small 4-6 member prayer-and-share accountability groups of the Kairos graduates, any inmate who is already active in the chaplain's program *and/or* already a member of an accountability group should not attend a Kairos Weekend as that would prevent another inmate who is not actively practicing their faith, or currently grouping, from attending.

5. The inmates that are invited to attend a Kairos Weekend should be, *if possible*, racially diverse. Regardless of the racial percentage in the institution, the Chaplain should, to the best of his/her ability, try to obtain a 1/3 ratio among whites, blacks, and Hispanics or other ethnic groupings. The chaplain's effort to comply with this is because Table Family membership is limited to 6 inmates per table, beginning with the following parameters: two blacks, two whites, two Hispanics. If there are other ethnic groups in attendance, then appropriate adjustments should obviously be made by the Kairos Weekend Leader. Again, *if possible*, no two inmates of the same ethnicity should be seated next to each other. This also will be determined by the Kairos Weekend Leader.

6. The invited inmates that are not Christian should be, *if possible*, theologically diverse with the following parameters: no more than one Muslim per table, one Wiccan per table, one atheist per table, etc. Experience has shown us that when two or more inmates of the same non-Christian faith background are seated at the same table, they potentially can become disruptive, destructive, and manipulative of the overall Kairos Program, simply because there is strength in numbers. Also note that invited inmates who are members of the Chaplaincy program are limited to no more than one per table.

7. According to the size of the prison facility where the Weekend is conducted, chaplains should invite inmates in multiples of 6… (18, 24, 30, 36…) along with an alternate list of at least 10 that is also racially balanced. However, only the original group should show up on Thursday night at the appointed time for the introduction to the Kairos program and the team members. Any of the invited that do not show up should be immediately replaced by the racially-appropriate *(if possible)* alternate. Alternates are not invited to attend Thursday night activities unless they become a replacement. Alternates can replace non-attendees up until the first talk on Friday morning. Alternates not chosen should be placed on a list of first consideration for the next Kairos Weekend.

Let me know what you think of this, and how you might use it to improve God's gift to us. Until the next time, I'll keep the stove hot and the coffee warm.

The Porch

Like most nonprofit organizations, Kairos Outside struggles constantly to raise the funds that will enable us to carry on the ministry we are called to. We often feel that fundraising is separate and apart from serving the women whose lives are impacted by incarceration. Last year, North Carolina's KAIROS OUTSIDE advisory council took 'a road less traveled' and tried a different type of fundraising. This is our story.

At a KAIROS OUTSIDE Advisory Council meeting last summer, one of our members who is active in Habitat for Humanity shared that his neighbor, a successful businessman who partners with his wife to write and produce plays, had done a performance to benefit Habitat. Our discussion revealed that this couple is committed to ministry through drama and we decided to approach them with a request that they partner with KAIROS OUTSIDE for a fundraiser. They were receptive to the idea and after much prayer and discussion, agreed to test uncharted territory with Kairos Outside (a prison ministry with a great mission, but certainly no household name like Habitat).

We needed a location, publicity, sponsors, advertising, tickets, ticket sellers, promotion . . . aaaahhhh . . . what are we doing?! Well, fast forward beyond the panic and pains of organization and event planning.

On Nov. 14-15, 2008 the Missions Committee of a downtown Raleigh church sponsored an inspirational comedy stage play called ***The Porch***. In this play, a character named Uncle Pete views the world from the perspective of his front porch. It's a changing, challenging world. He sees the comings and goings of the people who grew up in his neighborhood and the choices they make. Some choices lead to success; others cause heartbreak. Still others lead to estrangement, and then finally, to reconciliation.

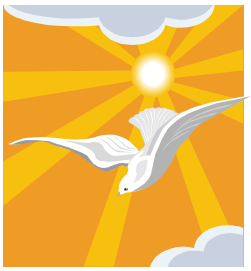
Through it all, ***The Porch*** makes you laugh and stirs your soul. This play deals with real life issues that confront our world and leaves the audience with a message ringing in their ears and tugging at their hearts long after the curtain goes down.
There were two performances of ***The Porch*** and a total of 350 people attended. Most were unfamiliar with Kairos, so we were able to capture new volunteers and requests for information about all three parts of KPMI's mission during intermissions. This outreach and publicity was just as important as the money raised. After expenses, we raised nearly $2,000 in profit, which is a big help toward meeting the budget of our next KAIROS OUTSIDE Weekend.

I would be less than honest if I said this was an easy way to raise money for Kairos. But taking into account the gains we realized in mission and ministry to our community, the hours of hard work and effort by many volunteers were worth it. I, for one, hope we can do it again (after some sleep that is).

Linda Davis,
Fundraising Coordinator
Kairos Outside, North Carolina

Kairos Honduras Weekend #3

Come Holy Spirit



December 11-14, 2008

The Director of the PNFAS women's Prison always puts our Weekends to the test. She is skeptical of how we are winning lives over for Jesus Christ by Listening and Loving.

The women's prison is 85% lesbian and the churches, including ourselves, are having a hard time overcoming this. This was brought up to our team of volunteers who were preparing for Kairos Honduras Weekend #3. They came up with the title Come Holy Spirit. They sang Ven Espiritu Ven. (Come, Holy Spirit, Come) together in there commitment service and sang it throughout the Weekend in knowing that it is only by the power of the Holy Spirit that can change the women and their lives.

This team of 19 women was put to the test. One team member, who went in for the first time was tested by an invite who shared that she killed her nephew because he was going to rape her daughter and she further explained that she wasn't in prison for this murder but for something much worse. She impacted our volunteer deeply.

Many others faced different issues brought up during the Weekend. One woman said she tried to commit suicide three times just in the last few weeks and something keeps saving her life.

At the closing ceremony, we heard testimonies of healing, direction, change and most importantly, how they want to reconcile with their neighbors in prison and out. The women invites came to know Jesus' love and forgiveness by the example that the volunteers displayed with them.

The Holy Spirit did manifest itself during the weekend and VICTORY was proclaimed with this weekend in the name of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your prayers and support so these weekends can continue to serve the women in PNFAS and the teams as well.

Kairos Honduras Women's Inside Team #3

Torch Mentor and Site of the Quarter Awards

By Erica Warren

It is our desire to recognize the outstanding services of the Kairos Torch mentors by honoring them for their dedication and efforts. We would like to give volunteers the opportunity to nominate a mentor for "Torch Mentor of the Quarter" as well as a Torch site for "Torch Site of the Quarter".

If you are interested in nominating a volunteer or Torch site for this award, please submit an essay (between 100 to 500 words) about why you feel they should be nominated. The winning essay(s) will be published in the following newsletter along with the announcement of the honoree(s) for that quarter.

Each honoree will also become a member of the Torch Hall of Fame. Beginning January 2010, in honor of National Mentoring Month, Torch will honor a "Torch Mentor of the Year" as well as "Torch Site of the Year".

Please include your contact information so that we are able to respond to you in the event your essay is selected.

Please send your essay to

Erica Warren at:
erica@kpmi.org
or by mail to:
6903 University Boulevard,
Winter Park, FL 32792.

We know that we can never repay our volunteers for their passionate service, but it is our mission to show our gratitude for their work.

THANK YOU!!

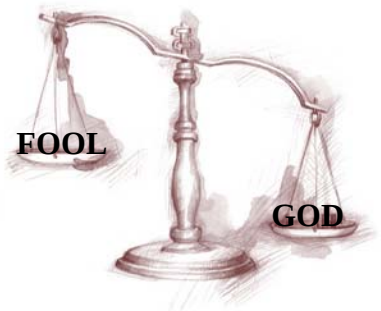
Florida Court Sets Atheist Holy Day

In Florida, an atheist created a case against the upcoming Easter & Passover holy days. He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination case against Christians, Jews and observances of their holy days. The argument was it was unfair that atheists had no such recognized day.

The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the passionate presentation by the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring, "Case dismissed."

The lawyer immediately stood, objecting to the ruling saying, "Your Honor, how can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and others. The Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah. Yet my client and all other atheists have no such holidays."

The judge leaned forward in his chair saying, "But you do, counsel, your client is woefully ignorant."



The lawyer said, "Your Honor, we are unaware of any special observance or holiday for atheists."

The judge said, "The calendar says April 1st is 'April Fools' Day.' Psalm 14:1 states 'The fool says in his heart, there is no God.' Thus, it is the opinion of this court, that if your client says there is no God, then he is a fool. Therefore, April 1st is his day. Court is adjourned."

This article was submitted by Beth Bellner, Kairos Florida Area IV Chairperson.

Kairos-Peru Has It's First Weekend

We celebrate the joining of Kairos – Peru to the international family of Kairos.

What a marvelous experience it was for all to be present in the first weekend held in the E. P. Lima men's prison on December 9-12, 2008. The Weekend actually started on Tuesday and ended on Friday, but it still was the Kairos weekend and adjusted to operate within the available hours of 9 am to 5 pm each day.

E. P. Lima is a correctional institution in the center of Lima housing some 1100 first-offense prisoners. The Weekend was held within the youth offender section using a common purpose room at the end of the third floor residence hall. We were separated from the general population by a blanket which the team hung across the entrance to the room. And with the additional use of the room as a prison chapel, we were blessed with a permanent huge framed picture of Jesus on the wall behind the speaker's podium.

Our prayer chapel was down the long residence hall in a small storage room where we were able to fit in three chairs, a small table and a couple of candles. Each trip to the chapel along with each meal delivery allowed us to share Christ's love not just with the participants but with many from the prison population on that floor.

All of the event participants were young men ages 18 to 30 and with the team size available for the first event, we had five table families. They were a joyous group, ready to share in conversations and song. Unique to what is seen elsewhere, these young guys across the entire set of table families were able to draw magnificent posters in about five minutes. They did this from the very beginning and presentation after presentation with wonderful depictions of ideas and the use of colors. By the last day, the room was full of magnificent color as the posters were collaged together.

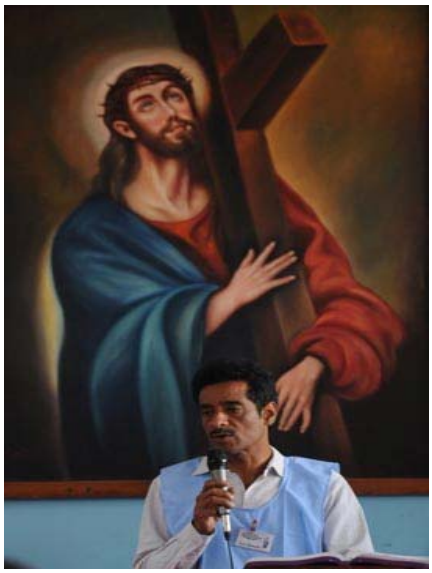
Artwork in progress at the Peru #1 Weekend.

The #1 Weekend was blessed with prayer and agape from all over our international community with posters and hour by hour prayer support. Thanks go out to all that helped.

The team residence was in a rented home located in northeast Lima with enough space for team sleeping and activities and an inside - outside kitchen cooking combination that worked well. We followed the Peruvian tradition of bread, butter and jam breakfasts and a single preparation of a daily meal that was served twice in the prison – simple but wonderfully tasty.

And there was wonderful spirit in the daily rides between the house and the prison of the entire team in a vehicle called a "combi". The trips were full of joyous conversations and song among us all.

Of truly special note was the closing. It was held in the large open patio on the main floor of the youth section of the prison where we held the Kairos event. Although we had prison dignitaries and some other guests, the main part of the audience were other prisoners from this compound. They were the ones who listened to and celebrated the testimonies of the table families and individual participant reports. I am sure that there was reticence for sharing on the part of some but there was general openness among the graduates in sharing the spiritual depth and love that they had witnessed during the four days. And a very, very talented Christian band group in Lima had been invited to share their music and singing to kick off and end the closing. The whole compound was filled with marvelous Christian music. As a kind of a fourth day talk, a guest of this band of Puerto Rican descent spoke to the audience and graduates about his gang and drug life in the streets of New York City, his imprisonment and call to



Kairos - Peru board president and Weekend Leader Juán Camacho

Christ in the Sing Sing prison in upstate New York and his work today to bring prisoners to Christ. The impact was powerful, both to the Kairos graduates and to the prisoners in the audience. We all were wonderfully blessed. It is truly a small world.

We had talented and experienced Kairos folks helping out the new team and its leadership: Saúl Guzmán and William Villalobos from our Kairos community in Costa Rica, Hal Yeager from Alabama Kairos and the ClearBranch UMC in Birmingham, and Roger Hughs with the Kairos community in Tallahassee, Florida.

Kairos – Peru is off to a good start. We are blessed by the addition of this new community.

Wayne Park, Kairos Liaison for Latin America

Holeman Death Row

By Steven Kurtz

I want to tell you about the weekend I spent on death row at Holman prison through the Kairos ministry, but find it difficult to know where to begin.

If I tell you about the nuts and bolts of the talks and lessons on God's love and forgiveness and on Christian behavior and disciplines, if I mention the songs we sang, the food we shared together, the lively conversations at the tables - you would certainly think I was nowhere near a prison environment, and yet, I was.

If I started with my feelings about being in that place, the physical facts of Holman prison and of a tiny death row cell, the colors of the walls and bars, the heaviness and drabness of everything, you might conclude that everyone there must be severely depressed, but most are not.

Yes, I learned some of their stories – and those I am not at liberty to share. I guess I can tell you about some things that surprised me, and let you draw your own conclusions.

I was surprised to learn how long a person can spend on death row. We had a man at our table who had been there for 29 years. Some have been there much longer. Some are now so old that they are infirm – completely.

They need people to care for them just like nursing home patients – help with eating, bathing (although there are no baths – just open showers at the end of the hall with no curtains). Who does this for them? The state does not try to run a nursing home with trained professionals.

The answer is that other death row prisoners are the ones who nurse the elderly. Who would do such a thing for people who are not family, and without being paid? Prisoners who have gone through the Kairos Weekend, who have come to know God's love in their hearts, who understand that Jesus is able to transform them.

When we speak of love, the question that lurks in the background is: “but this is death row; is love possible here?” The answer can be witnessed in action, not in sentimentality; in the soapy towel and warm water of a sponge bath given by a person who is dying by a person sentenced to death.

Steven Kurtz ministers at the First Presbyterian Church Gulf Shores, Al. This was the second Kairos Weekend he has served.

The Life of Reilly

By Rick Reilly/ ESPN The Magazine

They played the oddest game in high school football history last month down in Grapevine, Texas . It was Grapevine Faith School vs. Gainsville State School and everything about it was upside down. For instance, when Gainesville *State* came out to take the field, the Faith fans made a 40-yard spirit line for them to run through.

Did you hear that? The other team's fans? They even made a banner for players to crash through at the end. It said, "Go Tornadoes!" Which is also weird, because Gainsville Faith is the Lions.

It was like rivers running uphill and cats petting dogs. More than 200 Faith fans sat on the Gainesville *State* side and kept cheering the Gainesville players on—by name. "I never in my life thought I'd hear people cheering for us *to hit their kids!*," recalls Gainesville 's QB and middle linebacker, Isaiah. "I wouldn't expect another parent to tell somebody to hit their kids. But they wanted us to!"

And even though Faith walloped them 33-14, the Gainesville State kids were so happy that after the game they gave head coach Mark Williams a sideline squirt-bottle shower like he'd just won state. Gotta be the first Gatorade bath in history for an 0-9 coach.

But then you saw the 12 uniformed officers escorting the 14 Gainesville players off the field and two and two started to make four. They lined the players up in groups of five—handcuffs ready in their back pockets—and marched them to the team bus. That's because Gainesville State is a maximum-security correctional facility 75 miles north of Dallas . Every game it plays is on the road.

This all started when Faith's head coach, Kris Hogan, wanted to do something kind for the Gainesville State team. Faith had never played Gainesville , but he already knew the score. After all, Faith was 7-2 going into the game, Gainesville 0-8 with 2 TDs all year.

Faith has 70 kids, 11 coaches, the latest equipment and involved parents. Gainesville State has a lot of kids with convictions for drugs, assault and robbery—many of whose families had disowned them—wearing seven-year-old shoulder pads and battered ancient helmets.

So Hogan had this idea. What if half of our fans—for one night only—cheered for the other team? He sent out an email asking the Faithful to do just that. "Here's the message I want you to send:" Hogan wrote. "*You are just as valuable as any other person on planet Earth."*

Some people were naturally confused. One Faith player walked into Hogan's office and asked, "Coach, why are we doing this?" And Hogan said, "Imagine if **you** didn't have a home life. Imagine if everybody had pretty much given up on you. Now imagine what it would mean for hundreds of people to suddenly believe in **you**."

Next thing you know, the Gainesville Tornadoes were turning around on their bench to see something they never had before. Hundreds of fans backing THEM. And actual cheerleaders!

"I thought maybe they were confused," said Alex, a Gainesville lineman (only first names are released by the prison). "They started yelling 'DEE-fense!' when their team had the ball. I said, 'What? Why they cheerin' for us?'"

It was a strange experience for boys who most people cross the street to avoid. "We can tell people are a little afraid of us when we come to the games," says Gerald, a lineman who will wind up doing more than three years. "You can see it in their eyes. They're lookin' at us like we're criminals. But these people, they were yellin' for us! By our names!"

Maybe it figures that Gainesville State played better than it had all season, scoring the game's last two touchdowns. Of course, this might be because Coach Hogan put his third-string nose guard at safety and his third-string cornerback at defensive end. Still.

After the game, both teams gathered in the middle of the

(Continued on page 14)

field to pray and that's when Isaiah surprised everybody by asking to lead the prayer.

"We had no idea what the kid was going to say," remembers Coach Hogan. But Isaiah said this: "Lord, I don't know how this happened, so I don't know how to say thank You, but I never would've known there was so many people in the world that cared about us." And it was a good thing everybody's heads were bowed because they might've seen Hogan wiping away tears.

For the first time as the Tornadoes walked back to their bus under guard, they each were handed a bag for the ride home—a burger, some fries, a soda, some candy, a Bible and an encouraging letter from a Gainsville Faith player.

The Gainesville coach saw Coach Hogan, grabbed him hard by the shoulders and said, "You'll never know what your people did for these kids tonight. You'll never, ever know."

And as the bus pulled away, all the Gainesville players crammed to one side and pressed their hands to the window, staring at these people they'd never met before, just watching their waves and smiles while they disappeared into the night.

Anyway, with the economy six feet under, it's nice to know that one of the best presents you can give is still absolutely free.

Hope.

Parkards

Personalized and Realistic kards
for the Real issues in life!

www.parkards.com

Personalized Greeting Cards for Inmates!

Let them know we still care and will always be here!

All cards are personalized with sender and recipient's names and other special info printed right inside the poem.

Over 10% of all card sales are donated to Kairos Prison Ministries.

PARKards is known for the meaningful poetry inside, discussing the REAL issues and REAL feelings of inmates, their families and friends.

FREE Shipping, Mailed within 24 hours, options to include your photo, include monetary gift and it is shipped directly to them!

When you buy a PARKard, you change a life!

B.A.S.E. CAMP · Feed the Children · Devereux Florida · MS National Multiple Sclerosis Society · Ronald McDonald House Charities

These Women Understand Why We Support Kairos

Team members add their names to the prayer scroll for MCI #1 in Maryland.

From Guest to Team Member

I was a guest at Kairos Outside of North Carolina #7. My son, Richard, was serving time in a federal prison and became involved with Kairos. He called one night to tell me that he had signed me up for a KAIROS OUTSIDE Weekend. My response was lukewarm while thinking, "Yeah, sure," and "Geez, what is he getting me into?" I tried to find a reason not to make the six hour drive to Topsail Beach but every reason was taken care of along the way. The only reason, or so I thought at the time, that I went was to be supportive of Richard and something positive that he was involved in. I could never have imagined the impact of that weekend.

My journey to Kairos Outside started on a Saturday night in March. I received a phone call from my son, telling me that he had gotten in trouble and was facing prison time. Nothing in my life had ever prepared me for that phone call. Other than traffic tickets, Richard had never gotten into any serious trouble. The shock sent me into an emotional tornado that was unlike anything I had ever experienced.

I was a mess. My emotions ran from the guilt of wondering what I had done wrong to being beyond angry at Richard for the choices he had made. I could not understand what made Richard do something so incredibly stupid. Didn't he stop to think about anyone else besides himself? Did he not understand that his choices and decisions affect so many others? And on top of everything, there was a baby coming into the middle of this mess. And now I was supposed to spend a weekend with complete strangers and talk about it?

I arrived at Topsail Beach and checked in. This normally talkative, social butterfly, who rarely meets a stranger, was so uncomfortable!! I did not want to be there. I did not want to talk to anyone. I just wanted this over with. And when the group started singing about good ole' butterbeans, I really wanted to run! What in the world?!?! Was this a cult or something?

I was forced out of my comfort zone so many times that weekend. And I ate more in three days than I normally do in three weeks. I wanted to talk at the closing ceremony but public speaking has been a huge fear for me. I finally stood up and told the group that Kairos Outside is not a sorority I would have ever imagined being part of but I thank God that my son's choices led me there.

I think the situation hit me hardest one day as I was driving to a friend's house. On the side of the interstate were groups of men picking up trash. On the back of their jumpsuits was the word--*prisoner*. In the past I was not very tolerant of "those" people but as I passed that group of men, it hit me, "Oh my gosh! My son is one of them!" I also realized that "those" people had mothers just like me. It took a while for me to stop crying as I drove on.

Through my KAIROS OUTSIDE Weekend, I was able to fully understand that I was not alone. I was not the only mother in the world that this had happened to. The unconditional love and acceptance was unlike anything I had ever experienced. As I drove home that Sunday and reflected on the Weekend, I decided I wanted to be involved with KAIROS OUTSIDE as a team member. If I could help just one mother understand that she is not alone everything would be worthwhile.

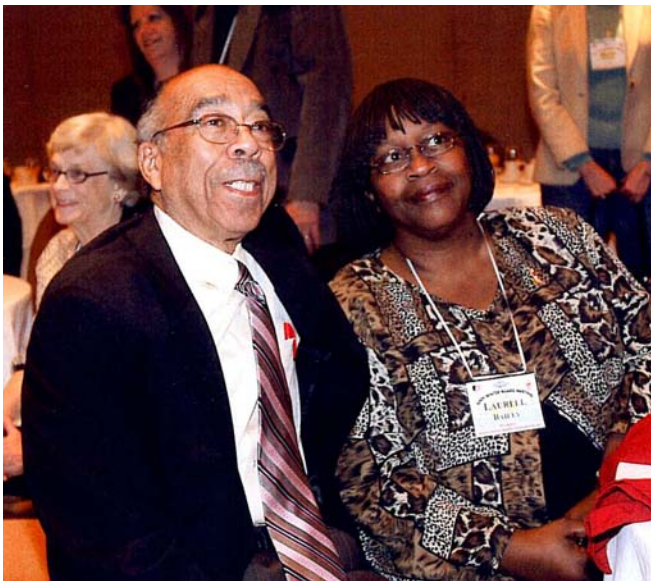
I was a table server for KAIROS OUTSIDE #10 and it was the best job in the world! At the first team meeting I was talking to one of my team mates and telling my story of trying to find a way out of my Weekend as a guest. She laughed and then quickly explained that she was not laughing at me. She said, "When God has plans for us, he has plans and there's nothing we can do to stop them." Jan, thank you so much for that reminder!

I also gave one of the talks at KAIROS OUTSIDE #10 and as

continued on page 22

The Way Forward……

Steve Gabriel, Kairos Board President, follows up his opening statements with an overview of "The Way Forward" at the Winter Board Meeting.

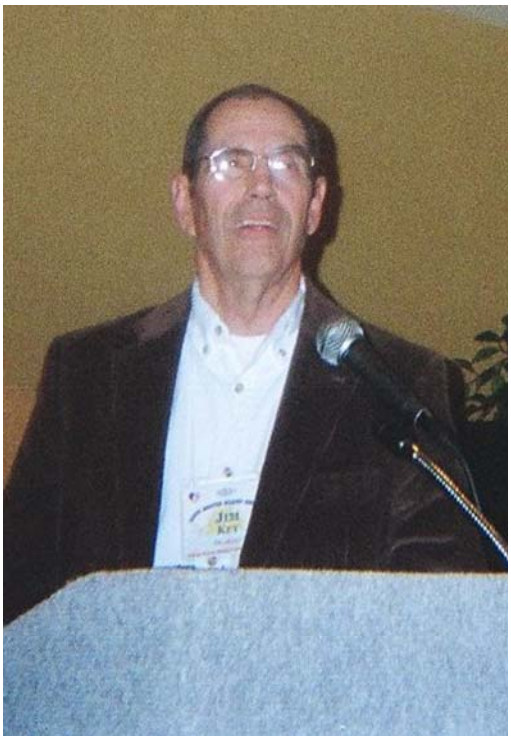


The entire Kairos family was honored to have Clarence Hodges, one of Kairos Founding Fathers (Nine Old Men) present at the Thursday evening reception and the Friday evening banquet.

Clarence is pictured above with Laurell Bailey, Florida KO Committee Chair and State Agape Coordinator.

Below Clarence and Kairos volunteer, Jim Campbell visit with each other. Jim is also a former Kairos Staff volunteer at the Orlando International Office.

Kairos volunteers break for lunch during Friday's Committee Meetings.



(Left) Jim Key, Oklahoma volunteer, was the keynote speaker at the Saturday evening banquet. His talk on communication, from personal experiences, was very well received.

**Always the crowd pleasers……
Bob Neill and the Boys from Mississippi provided fantastic music and entertainment throughout the entire weekend.**

Jan and Wayne Lovercheck, Pennsylvania volunteers, seated with Kairos staff, are absorbed in Jim Keys' presentation.

Board members (above and below) listen intently to the report on the progress of the Top 10 Board Priorities.

Men's Inside Weekends

Date	Loc.	Institution	W/E #	Leader
3/19/09	FL	New River CI	9	Michael McCarthy
3/19/09	GA	Scott SP	8	Tom Adkisson
3/19/09	LA	Wade	27	A. Jerome Wilson
3/19/09	OH	North Central CI	2	Dan Mazik
3/19/09	PA	Lake Erie CI	16	Jim Pfeifle
3/19/09	SC	McCormick CI	31	Tracy Barnes
3/19/09	TN	Morgan County	14	Bill Mongeau
3/19/09	TX	Bartlett State Jail	10	Bill Miller
3/19/09	TX	Eastham	17	Michael McGuinness
3/19/09	TX	Rudd	4	Travis Bennett
3/19/09	TX	Segovia Unit	4	Ralph (Buddy) Moglia
3/19/09	TX	Stiles	24	Scott Miller
3/19/09	TX	Torres	21	Al Talamantez
3/25/09	TX	Daniel	11	David Miller
3/25/09	**VA**	**Greenville I**	**1**	**Bob Creekmore**
3/26/09	AL	Elmore CF	5	Charles Belitz
3/26/09	AL	St. Clair CF	49	Ron Burson
3/26/09	CA	RJ Donovan Yd 1	77	Dick Middlestead
3/26/09	CA	RJ Donovan Yd 3	78	Jim Bechtold
3/26/09	FL	DCI	43	Alberto Menacho
3/26/09	FL	Polk CI	28	Christopher Desrochers
3/26/09	GA	Rogers SP	20	Fred Daniel
3/26/09	IN	Wabash Valley	2	Keith Findley
3/26/09	MD	MCIH	10	David Meadows
3/26/09	NC	Pender CI	17	John Lowe
3/26/09	NY	Fishkill	19	Mike Helm
3/26/09	OH	SOCF	8	Dave Wilkoski
3/26/09	TX	Boyd	13	Steve Smith
3/26/09	TX	Clements	31	Scott Stark
3/26/09	TX	Hightower	2	Douglas B. Chapman
3/26/09	WA	CBCC	7	Douglas Spanjer
3/27/09	CA	Centinela	5	Jerry Emery
3/27/09	CA	CSP Sacramento	5	Tim Palacio
4/2/09	AZ	ASPC Lewis	5	Bill Pate
4/2/09	FL	Hardee Main Unit		Fred Cutting
4/2/09	GA	Central SP	2	Robert Washington
4/2/09	GA	Valdosta SP	18	Roger Quick
4/2/09	GA	Wilcox SP	20	David Mann
4/2/09	So Afr	Baviaanspoort	2	Jan Fourie
4/2/09	SoAfr	Groenpunt	8	Willie Kock
4/2/09	SoAfr	Krugersdorp	20	Lionel Stanford
4/2/09	So Afr	Modderbee	18	Dean Whittington
4/2/09	So Afr	PMB	6	Mervin Smart
4/2/09	TX	Briscoe	4	Ross Hoover
4/3/09	AL	Holman Death Row	12	Bill Sybert
4/16/09	AL	Staton CC	26	Bryan Law
4/16/09	CO	Delta CC	35	Glen Kimbrough
4/16/09	CO	Limon	9	Jay Sims
4/16/09	CO	Territorial	47	Mike Zwissler
4/16/09	GA	Autry State Prison	20	Curt Scott
4/16/09	NC	Eastern CI	5	Robert Kirby
4/16/09	NM	Lea County CF	14	Terry Seal
4/16/09	SC	Broad River		Alan Ulmer
4/16/09	TX	Coffield	27	Robert Dillard
4/16/09	TX	Darrington	43	David Noethlich
4/16/09	TX	Hughes	24	Jimmy Carson
4/16/09	TX	Neal	22	Scott Reid
4/16/09	TX	Roach	19	Jason Musick
4/16/09	TX	Smith	24	Jackie Warren
4/16/09	WA	WSR - Monroe	45	Chris Rypkema
4/21/09	AUS	Fulham CC	10	Ivan Minness
4/21/09	VA	Green Rock	2	Carl Wright
4/23/09	CA	Ironwood SP	20	Lane Cox
4/23/09	FL	Charlotte CI	30	Walt Williams
4/23/09	**FL**	**Marion Main Unit**	**1**	**David Werner**
4/23/09	FL	Okeechobee Spanish	39	
4/23/09	FL	Sumter Correctional	11	Bob Edmunds
4/23/09	FL	Union CI	66	John Bryant
4/23/09	FL	Zephyrhills CI	56	Locke Besse
4/23/09	GA	Calhoun SP	11	Bill Wilson
4/23/09	GA	Lee SP	31	Samuel Lee
4/23/09	IL	Stateville CC	7	Mike Crane
4/23/09	KS	Hutchinson CF	15	Robert Sheetz
4/23/09	LA	Winn CI	30	Mike Riddle
4/23/09	MS	MSP Unit 32	4	Danny Mullins
4/23/09	NC	Foothills CI	3	Tom Sehorn
4/23/09	PA	Chester SCI	9	John Vencius
4/23/09	SC	Kershaw		John Henderson
4/23/09	So Afr	Rustenburg	4	TBA
4/23/09	TN	Morgan County CC	14	Bill Mongeau
4/23/09	TN	Northeast CX	18	Elton O'Hara
4/23/09	TX	Clemens	8	Philip Salminen
4/23/09	TX	Connally Unit	13	Dale Vickers
4/23/09	TX	Lockhart	9	
4/23/09	TX	Michael	34	Jim Clark
4/23/09	TX	Polunsky	22	David Andrus
4/23/09	TX	Robertson	28	Mike Carter
4/23/09	VA	Buckingham CC	33	Carlos Munoz
4/23/09	VA	Greenville II	17	Jeff Carty
4/30/09	AR	Pine Bluff Diagnostic		
4/30/09	CA	Victorville FCI 1	15	Pat Hernandez
4/30/09	CA	Terminal Island	34	David Engels
4/30/09	CO	Sterling South	12	Greg Oliver
4/30/09	GA	Washington SP	3	Bob Losser
4/30/09	IN	Branchville	6	Tim Grunow
4/30/09	IN	Plainfield CF	4	Craig Combs
4/30/09	KS	El Dorado CF	8	O. Blackmon

KAIROS KALENDAR

Date	Loc.	Institution	W/E #	Leader
4/30/09	ME	Maine SP	20	George Doyon
4/30/09	MO	Crossroads CC	5	Lanny Wake
4/30/09	NC	Pasquotank CI	19	Michael Harvey
4/30/09	NH	Concord	45	Jeremiah Landry
4/30/09	OH	Marion CI	25	Bruce Cameron
4/30/09	OH	Toledo C	12	Jim Jackson
4/30/09	SC	Lee CI	28	Ron Flowers
4/30/09	SC	Tyger River		Richard Pappy
4/30/09	TX	Allred	16	Larry Mills
4/30/08	TX	Dalhart	20	Ralph Bamba
4/30/09	TX	McConnell	27	Tom Mooney
4/31/09	FL	Tomoka	64	Henry Arnold
5/7/09	AL	WE Donaldson	49	Mike Harris
5/7/09	AR	Tucker Unit	26	Richard Robertson
5/7/09	AZ	RR CCA	6	
5/7/09	FL	Putnam CI	16	Rich Hoshour
5/7/09	PA	SCI - Greene	7	Jay Newport
5/7/09	SC	Allendale	6	Andrew Harrison
5/7/09	So Afr	Klerksdorp	4	Raymond Graham
5/8/09	CO	Rifle	8	
5/8/09	CO	Sterling East	6	Paul Benevides
5/14/09	CA	Cal Inst. for Men	3	Jeff Webster
5/14/09	FL	Glades CI	47	Jim Howell
5/14/09	GA	Hancock SP	32	Perkins Williams
5/14/09	IN	Westville CF	10	Bob Demeter
5/14/09	NC	Marion CI	2	Emil Lipeak
5/14/09	NM	Guadalupe CCF	12	Tom Ransburg
5/14/09	NY	Clinton Corr.	10	Robert Grist
5/14/09	PA	SCI Albion	29	Mark Williams
5/14/09	TX	Beto	40	Bob Jenkins
5/14/09	VA	Nottoway	24	Dave Forrest
5/20/09	UK	Maghaberry	6	Jim Hamilton
5/21/09	FL	De Soto CI	52	Roger Kruger
5/21/09	So Afr	Polsmoor	13	James Irlam
5/21/09	VA	Greenville III	18	Todd Hastings
5/22/09	CA	CMF-Vacaville	33	Charles Estes
5/27/09	MS	SMCI	7	Glenn Wood
5/28/09	MS	CMCF	20	Syllvester Mims
5/28/09	MS	MSP Unit 29	25	Ben Boren
5/28/09	So Afr	Drakenstein	13	Gavin Cooper
6/4/09	FL	Baker	19	Bill Dunford
6/11/09	AL	Limestone CF	49	Randy Sandlin
6/11/09	FL	Okeechobee	40	
6/11/09	GA	Men's SP	6	Matt Pippin
6/12/09	NY	Wende Corr.	44	Ralph Steszewski
6/18/09	FL	South Bay CF	19	
6/23/09	Peru	E.P. Lima	3	
7/6/09	NIC	La Modelo	4	Esdras Salazar
8/6/09	CO	Rifle	9	Ace Chapman
8/27/09	MS	MSP Unit 29	26	Bill Delk
8/27/09	So Afr	ODI	9	Jannie Molaudzi
9/7/09	So Afr	PMB	7	Rob Folker
9/8/09	VA	Keen Mountain	16	Tom Sheets
9/10/09	FL	Lake CI	54	Wendell Koontz
9/10/09	FL	Martin CI	31	Lincoln White
9/10/09	GA	Valdosta Annex	11	David Hendley
9/10/09	So Afr	Baviaanspoort	3	Victor Jimenes
9/17/09	CA	Cal Institute Men	4	Craig Owings
9/17/09	OH	North Central CI	3	Bob Beightler
9/23/09	Co Rica	San Sebastian	7	
9/24/09	NY	Gouverneur Corr.	2	Jason Martin
9/24/09	OH	SOCF	9	John Smith

Women's Inside Weekends

Date	Loc.	Institution	W/E #	Leader
3/19/09	AL	Tutwiler Prison	48	Minnie Murrell
3/19/09	OH	Franklin PreRel	8	Dawn Gallen
3/19/09	WA	WCCW (Purdy)	38	Lori Stewart
4/2/09	VA	Central VA CU	24	Suzanne Schmidt
4/6/09	Co Rica	Buen Pastor	4	
4/8/09	MS	Central MS CF	24	Anita Johnson
4/16/09	CO	Canon Women's	49	Katherine Igyarto
4/16/09	OK	Mabel Bassett CC	28	Yvonne Smith
4/16/09	VA	Fluvanna	18	Hanna Provost
4/23/09	NY	Beacon CF	25	Kate Lamour
4/23/09	SC	Leath CI	14	Beth VanOrsdale
4/23/09	LA	LCIW	28	Carol Spisak
4/23/09	TX	Lockhart	9	Lois Lister
4/29/09	TX	Murray Unit	8	Angela Johnson
4/30/09	MD	MCIW	2	Clara Bennett
4/30/09	KS	Topeka CF	6	Kay Neises
4/31/09	VA	Virginia CC	27	Kathy Callahan
5/14/09	FL	Hillsborough CI	9	Christine Schlerf
5/14/09	IN	Rockville CF	10	JoEllen Rowe
5/14/09	NY	Albion Corr.		
5/21/09	So Afr	Pretoria	5	Vianda Smit
5/28/09	CA	Valley State	8	Grace Reynolds
5/28/09	FL	Broward CI	77	Nancy Styles
6/4/09	CO	Denver Women's	11	Ruthmary Lyons
6/18/09	IN	Indiana Women's	10	Beverly Gault
7/2/09	TX	Hobby	26	Doris Pietzsch
9/4/09	CA	Central Cal	3	Judy Taylor
9/17/09	AL	Tutwiler Prison	49	Karey Holcomb
9/17/09	OH	Franklin PreRel	9	Nancy Ryan
9/24/09	NY	Beacon CF	26	Peggy Brunetti

Kairos Outside Weekends

Date	Loc.	Institution	W/E #	Leader
3/20/09	AZ	Tucson	22	Robin Timm-Smith
3/20/09	CA	North	46	Robin LaFreniere
3/20/09	FL	NE Florida	9	Molly Howze
3/20/09	IL	Illinois	13	Kapucine Cheeks
3/27/09	AZ	Phoenix	6	Pam Eastlund
3/27/09	CA	Desert	15	Joyce Cox
3/27/09	CA	San Diego	24	Anita Raygoza
3/27/09	KS	Out/In-Ellsworth	4	Barb Woodruff
3/27/09	SC	South Carolina	5	Melissa Walser
4/17/09	CT	Connecticut	4	Alberta White
4/17/09	CA	South (Spanish)	43	Maria Torres
4/17/09	GA	North Georgia	23	Mary Turner
4/17/09	MO	Eastern Missouri	15	Gladys Meyer
4/17/09	NY	Mid-Hudson	21	Magda Gonzalez
4/17/09	VA	Central Virginia	23	Jackie Delk
4/17/09	So Afr	Krugersdorp	13	Charmaine Mohale
4/17/09	TX	Midland	19	Gloria Cork
4/17/09	VA	Cen VA Burkeville	23	Jackie Delk
4/24/09	FL	KaCentral Florida	31	Andra Swan
4/24/09	NM	New Mexico	19	Helen Gonzales
5/1/09	AL	Alabama	23	Charlene Stone
5/1/09	CA	South Cal	44	Nancy Barnett
5/1/09	CO	Colorado	2	Mary Sogan
5/1/09	FL	SW FL Ft Meyers	3	Joann Cicone
5/1/09	GA	South Georgia	6	Sarah Godwin
5/1/09	LA	East Louisiana	3	Shirrelle Jefferson
5/1/09	NC	North Carolina	11	Cheryl Richard
5/1/09	OK	Eastern OK Tulsa	7	Roberta Russell
5/1/09	TN	West Tennessee	7	Vicki Kinder
5/15/09	FL	Tallahassee	7	Mary Browning
5/15/09	IN	Northern Indiana	6	Betsy Kastak
5/15/09	ME	Maine	5	Lynne Goodwin
5/15/09	NH	New Hampshire	23	Cecilia Camari
5/15/09	NY	KairoElmira, NY	14	Val DeLeo
5/15/09	OH	(Inside @ Marion)	12	Carolyn O'Donnell
5/15/09	TN	East Tennessee	13	Lisa Barnes
5/15/09	TX	Wichita Falls, TX	6	Seu Ellen Williams
5/15/09	VA	SW Virginia	6	Carmen Lynch
5/29/09	CA	Victor Valley	3	Lori McCarver
5/29/09	MS	Mississippi	9	G. Walker-Sawyer
5/29/09	OK	Western Oklahoma	19	Theresa Owens
5/29/09	**TN**	**Northeast TN**	**1**	**Carolyn Bradley**
6/5/09	So Afr	Klerksdorp	5	Karin Kade
7/4/09	**So Afr**	**Malmesbury**	**1**	**Elsie Sinequin**
7/24/09	**NY**	**New York City**	**1**	**Coralie Joseph**
7/24/09	TX	Amarillo	18	Kelly Tims
7/31/09	CA	North (Spanish)	47	Raquel Merlos
8/7/09	OH	Ohio Community	8	Bonnie Hambor
8/14/09	IL	Illinois	14	Marilyn Gauwitz
9/11/09	NC	Western NC	1	Carol Liptak
9/18/09	**IN**	**Southern Indiana**	**1**	**Ladonna Dartt**
9/18/09	TX	Houston	22	Debbie Mikel
9/25/09	CA	North California	48	Rose Todd
9/25/09	KS	Wheat State Comm	5	Teresa Scoles
9/25/09	MD	Maryland	7	Donna Parr
9/25/09	NY	Mid-Hudson	22	Brenda Robinson
9/25/09	SC	South Carolina	6	Melveta Bode

Torch Weekends

Date	Loc.	Institution	W/E #	Leader
3/27/09	ME	Long Creek Boys	4	Wilbur Carroll
3/27/09	OK	Central OKJCBoys	9	Tom Koszoru
4/10/09	AR	AR Juv Assess Boys	13	Jimmy Dean
4/17/09	FL	Brevard CI	13	Jim & Abbey Druck
4/2/09	CA	SWOJC	15	Dwayne Jennings Laura Gauthier
5/1/09	CA	C A Dillion (Boys)	2	Larry and Sandy Wasserman
5/22/09	So Afr	Drakenstein	11	Andre Adams
6/12/09	**IN**	**IN JC (Girls)**	**1**	**Cindy Giuliani**
8/28/09	OK	Central OKJC Boys	10	Kelly Norris

Spread the Word

I am a volunteer at Warren C I in Lebanon, OH, and was recently doing a temp job at Cincinnati State Technical College in the bookstore. I noticed a lot of books for sign language classes, and found that the school has several courses, including one for those signing in a church setting. I spoke with the head of the department and offered to share the DVD of our Silent Choir at Marion C I in Ohio. A week after I got a copy to her, I learned that they plan to show it to all the sign language classes. The staff had all watched the video (more than once) with tears in several eyes. But then they became curious about this "Kairos" thing, and visited our web page and watched the "My Kairos" video as well. Who knows what may come of this? I also shared a copy of "Both Sides of the Wall" with our priest, who teaches a couple classes in a local university. He showed it to both classes, and said the students were fascinated.

The moral of the story is - never pass up an opportunity to spread the word! Then watch what the Lord does.

Terry Morgan, Warren C I, Lebanon, OH

Please Keep In Your Prayers

Please remember Arlene and Thornton Crouch in your prayers as they mourn the passing of Martha H. Campbell, Arlene's daughter and Thornton's stepdaughter of 34 years. Martha died at her residence in Dillion, SC, February 7, 2009. Thornton has been a long-time Kairos volunteer and is still very active in the ministry, as well as serving on the Kairos Board of Directors.

Our dear friend Gerri Quintana went home to be with Jesus around 8:00 PM on December 16, 2008. Gerri, her husband and other family members were on the very first Weekend at Colorado Women's Correctional Facility in 1982. She served in leadership in many capacities, including serving on the State Board, Advisory Council at CWCF, and for many years, was the Security Coordinator at that facility. Gerri was a loving friend who personified the Love of Christ to us, and all she encountered.

James "Rick" Bunch, 62, of Meridianville, AL passed away Monday, February 23. A native of Martin, Tenn., he lived in Lansing, Mich., until 1998. He worked for Graybar in Huntsville, had a big heart and blessed all with his generous spirit. His passion was Kairos Prison Ministry. Please keep his wife, Sue, his children and his grandchildren in your prayers.

George Duvall, III left his earthly life to be with his Maker on February 19th. Please remember his wife (Mary) Rita, daughter Suzanne, son Gregory and their families in your prayers. He was an avid Kairos volunteer in the Miami, FL area and actively involved in the Catholic Cursillo Movement for many years. George will be greatly missed by all of his family, friends and the Kairos volunteers he served with. Throughout his entire life, he served our Lord by touching so many lives along the way.

Lew Hagerman went to be with the Lord on Thursday, March 12. His family will miss him, but are happy to know that he is now rejoicing instead of suffering. Lew was very active in Kairos, serving in Florida Area 10 for many years. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Note of Gratitude

We would like to let all of our Kairos brothers and sisters know that we have been very deeply touched by your acts of kindness and encouragement during our loss. All of your phone calls, cards and prayers have consoled us and we are so appreciative to know that you have kept us in your daily thoughts.

May God bless you all.

Thornton and Arlene Crouch

IRA….continued from page 3

The following are examples of people who could potentially benefit from this legislation:

*An individual looking for a simple and easy way to make a donation, especially at the end of the year.

*An individual who takes the standard deduction on their federal income tax return.

*An individual who is a Social Security recipient.

*An individual considering a major gift, but waiting for a favorable opportunity to do so.

*A generous individual who wants to give beyond the 50 percent adjusted gross income limitation.

Consult your tax advisor before making such a decision; each individual's situation is unique. Also, check with your advisor regarding possible state tax implications.

By rolling over or donating IRA funds to a ministry, the holder can bypass the taxes, and know that their good stewardship is helping to change lives now and for eternity. The process is as simple as making a routine stock gift donation. You just instruct your IRA administrator to make a distribution to the charity (or charities) of your choice.

2009 AKT

March 27-29, 2009
DENVER, CO
KI only
Location: American Motel and Conference Center Denver, Co. Check in and Supper is Friday night at 5:00PM with check out on Sunday the 29th at 1:00PM.
Costs: $130 for commuters; this covers all training materials, Friday night supper, 3 meals Saturday, and Sunday breakfast. For travelers $200 for double occupancy, or $255 for single, this covers all training materials, Friday night supper, 3 meals Saturday, and Sunday breakfast. Please bring your Blue Kairos Manuals with you.
Contact: Randy Borden via e-mail at rjborden@comcast.net or by phone at 303-469-7540.

March 27-29, 2009
MONROE, CT
KI, KO and Torch
Location: Nazareth Spiritual Life Center, 1482 Monroe Turnpike, Monroe, CT
Cost: $165 - includes single room, Friday night snack, Saturday and Sunday morning full breakfasts and lunch on Saturday. Please make checks payable to Kairos of Connecticut.
Contact: Peter Brown at pbrown654@sbcglobal.net or 203-650-1404.

April 3-5, 2009
WAVERLY, GA
KI only
Location: Honeycreek Episcopal Conference Center, 299 Georgia Episcopal Conference Center Rd., Waverly GA (40 miles north of Jacksonville).
Cost: $200 for double, $240 for single, $125 for commuters. Includes 2 nights lodging, (except commuters) 6 meals and training materials. Please make check payable to: Kairos of Georgia.
Contact: Jan Thrower, plainjan@yahoo.com, 352-473-7896 for additional information including an application and mailing address.
Notes: Participants need to bring personal items only, no linens.

May 29-30,2009
NASHVILLE, TN
KI, KO and KT
Location: Camp Hillmont at White Bluff, Tenn., east Nashville on I-40 at exit 182. Contact person is Gene Coe: 901-754-5476 or genecoe@fastnetnow.com. Trainings start at 7 pm Friday and will end approx. noon on Sunday. Snacks will be provided on Friday night, with 3 meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. No lunch provided on Sunday.
Cost: Early registration fee is $165 with a May 17 deadline. Please add $25 for late registration.
Notes: All attendees need to bring all bed linens, a pillow, toiletries, towels, and the appropriate Program Manual. Feel free to bring musical instruments and songbooks.

May 1-3, 2009
COLUMBUS, OH
KO and Torch
Location: St. Therese Retreat Ctr.
Cost: $170 for non commuters and $120 for commuters. This includes room (2 nights), meals, snacks, and training materials.
Contact: Judy Gibeaut, judygibeaut@aol.comof 614-457-6297 for more information
Non commuters would fly into Columbus.

June 5-7, 2009
JACKSONVILLE, FL
KI only
Location: Marywood Retreat Center, 1714-15 State Road 13, Jacksonville, FL (on the beautiful St. John's River)
Cost: $205 for double, $255 for single, $135 for commuter. Please make checks payable to Kairos of Florida. Fee includes 2 nights lodging, 5 meals and training material.
Contact: Jan Thrower plainjan@yahoo.com or 352-473-7896 for additional information including mailing address and application.
Note: Participants need to bring personal items.

June 19-009
CHARLESTON, WV
KI only
Location: St. Marks UMC; 900 Washington Street Charleston WV Click this link for location and map. Just ten minutes from Yeager airport.
Cost: $80; includes all training materials and light snacks Friday evening, continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday morning, plus lunch and dinner Saturday. Make checks payable to **Kairos of West Virginia**.
Contact: Chris Dalyai at cdalyai@suddenlink.net or call 304-562-7560. For application and additional information click this link **www.kairoswv.org**
Notes: Registration at St. Mark's UMC June 19 at 6:30 PM.

July 10-12, 2009
RALEIGH, NC
KI, KO and Torch
Location: Peace College – 15 East Peace Street, Raleigh, NC 27604
Cost: $160 per person – double occupancy; $190 per person – single occupancy ; $90 per person – commuters. Includes lodging for 2 nights (linens included), 4 meals – Saturday Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner and Sunday Breakfast (NO Friday night meal). All training supplies provided. Make Checks payable to: Kairos of NC

Contact: Ted Cashion – TedCashion@nc.rr.com – 919 859 1709 or Bob Clinkscales – clinkscales@inteliport.com – 252 426 7720
Note: Attendees need to bring personal items.

July 31-Aug 2, 2009
BRADENTON, FL
KI only
Location: Dayspring Episcopal Retreat Center in Bradenton, FL.
Cost: Room rates are as follows: Private room $375; Semi-private room $275; Youth Cabin $185; Dorm Room $170; Commuter $60
Contact: Chuck Bradley, hcikairos@tampabay.rr.com or (727) 214-7087 for application and additional information.
Notes: Persons staying in youth cabins or dorms must bring their own bed linens and pillow cases as well as personal items.

August 21-23, 2009
WEWOKA, OK
KI only
Location: St. Crispins Conference Center, 36302 State Highway 9, Wewoka, OK 74484; Manager: Hollie Massay, 405-382-1619. Nearest airports are Tulsa and Oklahoma City. Transportation to conference center can be provided, if requested when making reservations. Carrier, arrival and departure times requered. **WARNING: Mapquest gives incorrect directions. Conference Center is east of Seminole on Highway 9. Entrance is on the south side about half-way between Highway 99 and 56.)**
Cost: Double Occupancy $210; Single Occupancy $250; Commuter $110. Includes the following meals: 6 p.m. Supper, Friday and Saturday; 8 a.m. Breakfast, Saturday and Sunday; Noon Lunch, Saturday and Sunday. Make checks payable to Kairos of Oklahoma.
Contact: Patsy Law, 405-290-8099 or treasurer@kairosoklahoma.org
Notes: Reservation Deadline August 9, 2009. Only 35 training slots are available.

August 28-30, 09
NORTH TEXAS (DALLAS)
KO only
Location: Lake Sharon Retreat Center
Cost: $150 Please use this link: KO Registration Form to register and Training Receipt for your receipt.
Contact: Debra Wilmont, jedewilmont@yahoo.com (214)454-9162 or (972)698-9877. Mailing address: Kairos Outside of North Texas, PO Box 836126, Richardson, TX 75083-6126.

September 11-13, 2009
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
KI and KO
Location: St. Anne's CASA, 1330 14th Avenue, San Francisco, CA
Cost: $135.00 per person, make checks payable to **GOLDEN STATE KAIROS.**
Notes: Training will begin on Friday, September 11 at 5:00 PM. Dinner will be served that evening. Training will end by noon on Sunday, September 13, with breakfast being the last meal served. To be certified as completing the training, you must be present for the entire time. Accommodations at St. Anne's are double occupancy rooms with community bathrooms. Beds with mattresses are provided. Bring your own bedding (sleeping bag & pillow) toiletries and towel. If you are traveling by air, make your reservations for San Francisco International Airport. If you are coming in by air, and would like to arrange to have a sleeping bag lent to you at CASA, please notify Nancy Marzillo at 650-994-8798 or marzi2@earthlink.net

September 18-20, 2009
BUCKEYSTOWN, MD
(Combined **KI and KO** - training will run concurrently so you may only attend AKT Inside **OR** AKT Outside).
Location: Bishop Claggett Center, 3035 Buckeystown Pike, Adamstown, MD 21710. For directions please go to: www.bishopclaggett.org/,
Cost: $225 per person which includes two nights lodging (including lenins), five meals (Friday supper through Sunday breakfast), training materials and instructors. Commuter price is $175 per person.
Contact: David Graves; davidgraves@verizon.net or 240-601-0218
Notes: Dorm style housing with 3-5 per room but segregated by gender. The facility is **NOT** handicap accessible and it is **NOT** air-conditioned For those flying in, pickup from BWI airport if you arrive before 4:30 pm. Supper will be served at 6:15 pm on Friday. The registration form can be found at: www.kairosprisonministry.org/templates/System/details.asp Please make check payable to: Kairos of Maryland and mail it and the registration form to: Maryland Kairos, PO Box 401, Burtonsville, MD 20866.
Additional late fee of $25 if you register after August 1, 2009.

September 18–20, 2009
HUNTSVILLE, TX
KI only
Location: Criminal Justice Center of Sam Houston State University. Housing in Hotel operated by Sam Houston State University,

Huntsville, TX
Cost: $205.00 for single (limited number available). $185.00 for double (each). $125.00 for commuters. Fee includes two nights lodging, all training materials and the following meals: Friday evening, Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner and Sunday breakfast.
Contact: Mike Stumbaugh, e-mail – mstumbaugh@sbcglobal.net; home - 817-860-3500; or cell - 817-247-5403 for application and additional information. Make checks payable to KPMI – Texas.
Note: Attendees need to bring personal items only.

October 2-4, 2009
PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL
KI only
Housing: Marriott Hotel 4000 RCA Blvd. PB Gardens 33410
Training: St. Marks Church 3395 Burns Rd. PB Gardens
Cost: $204 per person for double; $315 for single occupancy; $95 for commuters. Fee includes 5 meals and 2 nights lodging. No lodging for commuters.
Contact: Jan Thrower at 352-473-7896 or plainjan@yahoo.com for additional information including application form and mailing address. Make checks payable to Kairos of Florida.
Notes: Applicants need to bring only personal items-no linens.

December 4-6,2009
GRANBURY, TX
KI only
Location: Camp Crucis, 2875 Camp Crucis Ct., Granbury, TX 76048. Arrive by 6:00pm and start at 7:00 pm.
Cost: $185.00 per person. Commuter $125.00. Price includes all training materials, 2 nights lodging (Friday and Saturday), Sandwiches Friday, 3 meals Saturday and breakfast Sunday.
Contact: Mike Stumbaugh: mstumbaugh@sbcglobal.net, 817-860-3500 (home); 817-247-5403 (cell) for application and additional information.
Notes: Attendees need to bring only personal items.

In Loving Memory

Kairos Prison
Ministry International

Often, people who have lost a loved one ask that a tribute gift be made to their favorite charity in lieu of flowers. A memorial contribution to Kairos Prison Ministry pays thoughtful tribute to the memory of your loved one. Donations will support sharing Christ's love with the incarcerated.

A memorial Letter will be sent to the family of the bereaved, together with the name or names of the donors. The amount of the gift will not be disclosed. People making a donation will receive a letter from Kairos Prison for their t ax-exempt contribution.

From Guest to Team Member
Continued from page 13

I looked out at our guests, I noticed one mother in particular. She had tears running down her face and she *knew* that I understood. That moment made everything worthwhile. I have always known that God has plans for us. There are times that I am guilty of losing sight of that. But in that moment, looking at that guest, I was so thankful and felt so blessed by God's plans for me no matter what they are.

Being on the team was such a different experience than being a guest. As a guest, I was so apprehensive about the Weekend that I really never relaxed and let the entire experience in to my heart. As a team member, the experience penetrated every little piece of my heart. I underestimated once again the impact that a Kairos Outside Weekend would have on my life.

Kairos Outside has become very special to me. It still amazes me to be able to look at a traumatic time in my life and see what a wonderful organization and friends were brought to me as a result. I am very excited about being on the team again for KAIROS OUTSIDE #11. If I can help just one woman understand that she is not alone, everything will be worthwhile.

Susanne, KO #10 N. Carolina

2009 International Summer Conference
July 28 ~ August 2, 2009
Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada

**** Submit form no later than July 7, 2009 to guarantee on-site lodging.***

Please LEGIBLY PRINT Information below:

Last Name	First Name	Name Tag	Sex	Email Address
			M F	
			M F	

Street Address	City	ST	ZIP	Cell Phone*

Select Option	Conference Registration Options	Option Cost U.S. Currency	Total Cost
	#1Board Meeting and Conference Package – Arrive Tuesday for 5 nights, 6 days. Includes conference fees and materials, lodging for 5 nights and 6 days (Arrive July 28 and depart August 2). Meals include Tuesday dinner through Sunday breakfast. (Banquet included). Select this option if you are arriving on Tuesday.	**$500 / $980** Single / Married Couple	
	#2 Conference Only Package – Arrive Thursday for 3 nights and 4 days. Includes conference fees and materials, lodging for 3 nights and 4 days (Arrive July 30 and depart August 2). Meals include Thursday lunch through Sunday breakfast (Banquet included). Select this option if you are arriving on Thursday.	**$350 / $680** Single / Married Couple	
	4 Day Commuter Package –Includes conference fees and materials, no lodging. Meals for 4 days (July 29 through August 1). Meals include Wednesday breakfast through Saturday Banquet.	**$235**	
	3 Day Commuter Package –Includes conference fees and materials, no lodging. Meals for 3 days (July 30 through August 1). Meals include Thursday breakfast through Saturday Banquet.	**$200**	
	2 Day Board Meeting Commuter Package – 2 days: Wednesday and Thursday. Includes conference fees and materials, no lodging. Meals for 2 days (July 29 and 30), Wednesday breakfast through Thursday dinner.	**$120**	
	2 Day Conference Commuter Package – 2 days: Friday and Saturday. Includes conference fees and materials, no lodging, Meals for 2 days (July 31 and August 1) Meals: Friday breakfast through Saturday Banquet.	**$130**	
	Saturday Banquet only – Saturday evening dinner and festivities	**$35**	
	Airport Transportation: (PER PERSON) Round-trip pick-up and drop-off at the Buffalo Airport ONLY**	**$35**	
	Late Fee ~ *Will be charged for registrations received after July 7, 2009*	**$25**	
	***NOTE:** **Lodging is limited and will be based on date of registration**	**Enter TOTAL COST of options selected**	

****Tours will be offered at a reasonable cost. You may register for them at the time you check-in to the Conference ****

Roommate Request for Adjoining Room	All Rooms Are SINGLE ROOMS (2 single rooms with connecting bathroom.) This also applies to married couples – you will have 2 separate rooms but share a connecting bathroom.	Requested Roommate for Adjoining Room:

Transportation and Arrival - Departure Information

☐ I will be arriving in a private vehicle. *(Please plan to arrive before 8 P.M.)*

I will be arriving at: ☐ Buffalo International Airport Transportation is available to and from the Buffalo Airport ONLY
International Flight Transportation will be handled separately.

Name of Carrier	Flight #	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Departure Date & Time

Payment Information

Check / Money Order Enclosed
Please make check payable to
Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc.
and mail with this form to:
6903 University Boulevard
Winter Park, Florida 32792
or fax to: (407) 629-2668
Phone Calls: (407) 629-4948

Please Bill my Credit Card:

☐ *MasterCard* ☐ *VISA* ☐ *Discover* ☐ *American Express*

Full Name on Credit Card	Credit Card Number	Exp. Date
Authorized Signature:		

***Please provide CELL PHONE NUMBERS above for transportation needs and schedule changes.**
****Transportation Contacts: U.S.A: James O'Brien: 716-523-9718 and Owen Mangan: 716-652-7065**
Canada: Doug Waller: 905-334-5161

Twenty Successful Years at Beto State Prison 1989-2009 ~ Part I

By B.J. Rone

Over the past twenty years 2 Kairos Weekends have been conducted each year at the Beto Prison Unit located six miles south of the small East Texas town of Tennessee Colony, Texas. Beto is a maximum security men's prison co-located on 20,518 acres with four other Texas prison units and is one of the 116 Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) units in operation today holding a total offender population of 153,000 offenders. During 39 Beto Kairos Weekends, 1,680 offenders (offenders, inmates, brothers-in-white or residents) have been on Beto Kairos Weekends. Kairos Weekends at Beto are held in May and November of each year. The offender capacity of the Beto Unit is 3,150 offenders plus 321 trustees for a total of 3,471 men.

The purpose of this article is to provide a look back at the early Beto Kairos years and to celebrate the twenty years of Kairos ministry at work in this one Texas prison unit. The May 14-17, 2009 Beto Kairos Weekend will be Beto #40. Several of the team members from the very first Kairos teams are still active Kairos volunteers in north Texas TDCJ units, and comments from some of these volunteers are included in this article. Beto team photos in 8 x 10 inch size have been archived over the years for all past Beto teams and participating residents. Display cases will be installed soon in the Beto Chaplains' office area that will display all of these photos. Chaplain Charles Kiser has said the following about the historical Beto Kairos photo display cases:

"*The cases will show visibly the history of Kairos at Beto, both in inmate participation and the volunteers. The chaplaincy department will also have a visible history and can serve as a springboard for talking about the effect of the Kairos program at Beto.*" Chaplain Charles Kiser

From 1991—2001, Ike Griffin was the Executive Director of Kairos International and he had served on the first teams at Beto from 1988 to 1991. He had the following to say about the start of Kairos in north Texas and Kairos #1 at Beto:

"Kairos had begun in Texas at the Ferguson Unit four years earlier and was such a success that after a couple of years TDCJ decided to allow Kairos to expand. TDCJ's Chief of Chaplaincy, Emmett Solomon, required all his new chaplains to work on a Kairos Weekend in preparation for their new duties within the system, so several prisons were requesting Kairos. Texas Kairos decided to limit expansion to one new unit per year and their second prison was Darrington. Next was Beto 1, where Chaplain Albert Holmes was on duty. He embraced the theory to recruit the inmate leaders from the institution. Because of that, Chaplain Holmes did not allow his clerk, or anyone active in Chaplaincy activities to attend the first several Kairos Weekends.

Beto #1 was attended by 42 men who wondered what in the world would happen to them. They had accepted the invitation because Chaplain Holmes told them that this was a leadership training program and someone in the institution had identified them as influential. Besides, they were promised that the food would be good. They were not there to improve themselves, but to guard their leadership position. What happened to them, and to the men on that team, is history. Lives were forever changed, and Kairos has flourished throughout the state. Beto set the standard. I still correspond with at least one man who attended the first Beto Kairos. He remains a successful free man, just as we expect all Kairos graduates to be". Ike Griffin

One of the Chaplains at Beto was Chaplain Larry Gardner. At that time Beto had four chaplains but that number was cut to one in a state-wide budget squeeze. Today Beto has two full time chaplains for its nearly 3,500 residents.

"As a chaplain, I sat in a lot of services but I will never forget the impact of my first Kairos as an observer. I got a chance to see men be real men by sharing their tears, honest confessions and their recognition of their need for others. As a clergy member, the results were just as astonishing. The Weekends are still amazing to me but even more so is the eternal impact Kairos has on these men's lives. I have said and still say Kairos is the most effective ministry I've experienced as a chaplain or as a volunteer." Chaplain Larry Gardner

One of the very first Beto Kairos team volunteers was Steve Ochs. He has served on numerous Beto teams and still serves on teams today. When asked to talk about the early days of Kairos at Beto and to contrast those days with the current Beto Kairos he continues to serve, he had the following to say:

"*On Kairos #1 at Beto, the unit was dark, not just the atmosphere, even the walls and bars. Everything was gray, kind of a dark gray, dingy looking. The walls and bars have been painted three times and are now a bright blue. We brought the love of God to a dark place and people changed, and then they changed the place. The chaplain had a difficult time finding 42 residents for Kairos #1. There were very few residents that wanted to spend time with a bunch of 'preachers and do-gooders' who would be here today and gone tomorrow. Those that did come came because they had heard that we would feed them 'free-world food'. I recall that Thursday afternoon when we were all lining up to meet each other for the first time, a fight broke out among the 42 guys waiting in the hallway. Four of them were returned to their cells and the chaplain was panicking because*

now he had to find four more guys and wasn't sure where he would find them. It took him about an hour, but he did.

Today the chaplain gets 300 to 400 applications for an upcoming Kairos Weekend. Some still come for the food, but most want the spiritual food. I would estimate that at least 40 of the 42 guys on each Weekend now want the change in life and attitude that others have experienced. From the teams of the early Weekends at Beto, we were able to find enough volunteers to start Kairos at two neighboring men's prisons – the Michael Unit and the Coffield Unit. Many of the women from those support teams were instrumental in starting the Kairos ministry at a north Texas women's unit.

The Beto Chapel has changed dramatically. When we were setting up for #1, the carpet and the padded chairs were new. The walls were gray and foreboding. We were given very explicit instructions not to have liquids or food spilled on the carpet. So we had to buy a lot more of the blue tarps and put them down on the floor in the dining area and make sure that coffee and snacks were not taken out of that area. Some of the chairs are starting to look ratty – but the walls are beautiful now. A number of resident artists have done wonders with the gray walls by painting vivid scenes from the Bible on most of the Chapel walls.

Music is much different now. For maybe the first 10 to 15 Weekends, we used acoustic guitars. Slowly the residents got involved and now the music is primarily done by the residents in what we call the "Beto Band". A team member is always involved and makes sure the band follows the outlined program but the band and the music are much more dramatic now. I believe that the strong resident music participation helps to make a Weekend more of a program 'of the residents' as well as for the residents.

I don't recall the color of the first Kairos Manual in 1989, but it was thin and was a great guideline for what we were doing. I don't recall how many Kairos Manuals we have gone through either – but it must be at least five. Each one of the manuals improved on something and was a definite step up. Talk outlines have improved to the point where writing a talk is now much easier. The Holy Spirit was with us at the beginning and has stayed with us through all the changes. I thank God for that."
Steve Ochs, volunteer

The senior chaplain today at the Beto Unit is Chaplain Charles Kiser. There were a few years where Chaplain Kiser was the only chaplain at Beto. Kairos owes a lot to Chaplain Kiser who has always been a believer in and a strong advocate of the Kairos ministry program. I have worked with Chaplain Kiser for the full 14 years he has been at Beto and I could not ask for a kinder Christian individual to work with and for. In November of 2008 Kairos Beto #39 was cancelled due to a statewide lockdown of all TDCJ units. It was Chaplain Kiser and Warden Chuck Biscoe who supported rescheduling #39 so that the Kairos Weekend could be saved. Chaplain Kiser's support of the Kairos ministry is obvious in his recent comments:

"A couple of things have always impressed me about Kairos: the strong desire to stay within TDCJ policy; this makes everything go so much smoother and the unity and flexibility among the members, especially on the 3 ½ -day Weekends. On occasion, changes have had to be made at the last minute, but the volunteers' spirit remains good despite the inconvenience. This says that these folks are thinking beyond themselves--humility. From among the Kairos volunteers several men have gone the "extra mile" in becoming Certified Volunteer Chaplain's Assistants (CVCA). This was especially helpful when I was solo for the 4+ years at Beto! I could not have survived without them. They have also gone on to teach several classes, among them Alpha, Purpose Driven Life, Anger Management, Voyager, and one has become the coordinator for the Faith-based Wing at Beto. Kairos volunteers have donated several items to the Chaplaincy including computers (and their maintenance and repair), books and material for our Chapel library, track lighting for Chapel paintings and a copier. The spirit of willingness in these endeavors is very obvious and is known and appreciated by the unit staff." Chaplain Charles Kiser

Part II of the *20 Successful Years at Beto* will appear in the Summer issue of God's Special Time

Pictured above: Kairos Team Beto #39

WHY SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF KAIROS?

BY JO CHAPMAN, WOMEN'S COORDINATOR

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL, INC. ministers to Incarcerated Men, Women, Youth and Women in the community impacted by their incarceration.

FACTS:

- 95% OF ALL INCARCERATED MEN, WOMEN AND YOUTH ARE ULTIMATELY RELEASED. MOST MOVE BACK INTO THE COMMUNITY.
- THEIR SUCCESS IS GREATLY MULTIPLIED WHEN:
  - THEY HAVE A RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE WHILE INCARCERATED.
  - THEY HAVE FAMILY SUPPORT WHILE INCARCERATED AND UPON RELEASE. THE FAMILY IS THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE UPON RELEASE FROM PRISON.
  - THEY FIND A MEANINGFUL JOB.
- KAIROS MINISTERS TO 20,000 INCARCERATED MEN, WOMEN, YOUTH AND WOMEN IN THE COMMUNITY IMPACTED BY THEIR INCARCERATION.
- IF EX-OFFENDERS DO NOT GO BACK TO PRISON WE ARE ALL SAFER, WE SAVE AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF MONEY AND THE COMMUNITY IS HEALTHIER! RECENT STUDIES INDICATE THAT KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY REDUCES THE RECIDIVISM (RETURN TO PRISON RATE) BY A HIGH NUMBER . THIS SAVES THE TAXPAYERS MILLIONS OF DOLLARS EVERY YEAR. TALK ABOUT A TAX STIMULUS!!!!!! THIS IS GOD'S WORK.
- KAIROS FOSTERS CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN ADULT MALE AND FEMALE PRISONS; THE KAIROS TORCH MENTORING MINISTRY HELPS THE YOUTHFUL OFFENDER END THEIR CRIMINAL CYCLE; KAIROS OUTSIDE SUPPORTS WOMEN WHO ARE INFLUENTIAL IN THE LIVES OF INCARCERTED MEN, WOMEN AND YOUTH.

Christ challenges us:

"I was in prison and you visited me" Matthew 25

WHAT ARE YOU WILLING TO DO IN THE MINISTRY OF KAIROS?

PLEASE GIVE THIS TO A FRIEND, CHURCH MEMBER OR FAMILY MEMBER