God's Special Time

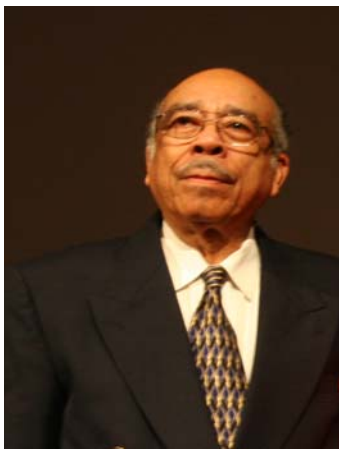
Winter 2014 **News from Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc.** Vol. 40 No. 4

Kairos Remembers Clarence Hodges

Clarence Hodges, one of the 'Nine Founders' of Kairos, passed on to eternal life on October 26, 2014.

Clarence was very involved with Kairos beginning with the ministry's infancy, the #1 official Kairos Weekend that was held at the U.S. Federal Correctional Institution in Miami, FL, November 1, 1979. He continued as a Team member and also helped to establish Kairos in several other areas, particularly in Florida.

The 'Nine Old Men' (founders) worked tirelessly over long weekends and late nights to get the ministry up and going and moving in the right direction. After much struggle with the language and the specifics of the program, they created the Kairos Program Manual, which is still followed today. They were all very adamant about the structure of the follow up of each of the Weekends with Prayer and Share and Reunions. This vision of continuing ministry is what really sets Kairos apart from other prison ministries and the they knew they were really on the right track in shaping Kairos.



Clarence answered the Lord's call for service to his fellow brothers and sisters. This humble and dedicated 'service' may be the most significant and memorable quality that he will be remembered by.

Cleve Bell, the only remaining member of the original 'Nine Old Men' commented, "Waldorf Emerson once said a friend is someone that you can undress in front of. Clarence was such a person for me and many others. I will miss you my friend."

So many Kairos volunteers over the years have sought council and direction, personal as well as spiritual, from Clarence. He always took the time to visit and pray with his fellow Kairos volunteers as well as many others in his area community. Clarence was approachable and fostered sincere dialogue to encourage the ministry, as a whole, to continue moving forward in a positive, Christian direction.

Above: Clarence Hodges visits with Kairos Executive Director, Evelyn Lemly, following the banquet at the 2013 Winter Meetings.

Right: Clarence is pictured with Kairos Founder, Tom Johnson and his wife, La Vern, at the 2006 Summer Conference in New Mexico.

God's Special Time
published quarterly for Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc.

The Mission of Kairos Prison Ministry is to share the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to impact the hearts and lives of incarcerated men, women and youth, as well as their families, to become loving and productive citizens of their communities.

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Kairos Core Documents

Are we unified as one Kairos Prison Ministry?

Recently, Cleve Bell, one of the nine founders of Kairos, was in the International office. I asked Cleve 'why did Kairos start?' He replied, 'To share the love of Jesus Christ in the prisons'. Now 38 years later, Kairos is still focused on doing just that!

Evelyn Lemly
Executive Director

As we continued to discuss the early days of Kairos and some of the core principles our founders defined as they wrote the very first manual, it occurred to me that our core today is also based on the origins. These include things such as our common ground approach for Christians of many denominations gathering for the same purpose - to the 4th day Weekend approach - to the reaching incarcerated people to share the love of Christ.

Our core documents that tie us to the original purpose and in unity across the world are our Vision, Mission, Core Values, and Statement of Faith. The Vision, Mission, Core Values, and Statement of Faith are the foundational pillars of Kairos. These guiding principles share why we serve and the future (vision), what we do (mission), and how we do it (core values). As a Christian ministry, the Statement of Faith is the common ground of our faith. Together these create our direction for today and the future and unify each part of the ministry to the core principles.

As the Kairos board and leadership are making decisions and formulating direction for the future, these are the documents that govern the decisions. For example: if we are asked if an atheist can be a volunteer, the core values and statement of faith can quickly lead us to the right answer. Or if we are asked to present our Kairos Inside program to persons not impacted by incarceration, the mission is clear on who we serve.

Our Vison, Mission, Core Values, and Statement of Faith documents are adopted by the Board of Directors and each officer must be in agreement with them to serve. These are used with the staff as all employees must agree, sign and abide by them. The State Chapter Committee officers sign a covenant agreement each year that includes these statements. And every local community and volunteer should be following these foundational documents as they serve in Kairos Prison Ministry International.

Have you read and understood Kairos foundational documents?

Continued on following page

A Message From the Board Chair

'Tis the Season. We all know what this means to us. We all have our own way of celebrating Thanksgiving and our own way of observing Christmas. We also know that, for those impacted by incarceration, it means separation from family and loved ones. This should never be the season for loneliness. God has provided us a flock to care for and this time of year we need to gather the flock and provide fellowship and comfort to those who feel isolated and alone.

We should double our efforts to attend the Prayer and Share gatherings as well as Reunion events. Attendance at these times become even more meaningful to those we are called to serve. I am always blessed by the men at the unit I serve when, during the celebration of Thanksgiving, they can find so much for which to be thankful. Visiting with those we minister to has become a part of the holiday traditions for many of our volunteers. It's just like going over the river and through the dale to grandmother's house.

Jim Hankins, Board Chairman

We should also be mindful to visit with each other. Service to our Lord is not always easy and we need to continue to support each other at this time of year. Fellowship with other Kairos volunteers is important for us during this over commercialized season. It helps to keep each other focused on the reason for the mission we have been given. Even an email sent in love can lift our spirits and keep our vision alive. I will add that during the Christmas season our communication should be genuine pronouncements of encouragement, statements of affirmation, and words of Love. Reach out to those on your Advisory Councils and State Chapter Committees with emails of appreciation for the additional work for which they volunteer in their service with Kairos. Send a note of good cheer to team members as well as committee members you work with. I can't make it through the holidays without sharing the excitement and warm feelings I am experiencing with my fellow Board Members.

So, let's keep in mind that our Vision is One Community. This season of love is for family, and those we continue to reassure with God's love. May the Lord we all serve bless us during this season and may our lives be a blessing to others.

Executive Director, *continued*

Do you understand these and the importance of using these as we make decisions about our future direction? Please take some time to review the Vision, Mission, Core Values, and Statement of Faith. Print them out and keep them handy as you serve and interact. These documents will go a long way in the unity of Kairos Prison Ministry. Let's continue to serve God with excellence, find our unity as a body serving our Lord, and find ways to share the love of Jesus Christ with those impacted by incarceration.

Kairos Celebrations

Recently, we celebrated a milestone in **California** with R.J. Donavan holding Weekend #100 and #101 in two yards. After 25 years of service, we can only imagine the lives our Lord has impacted in this facility through the efforts of hundreds of Kairos volunteers through the impactful Kairos Inside program.

A few weeks ago, **Colorado** leaders across the state gathered to celebrate and renew in the impact of Kairos. The opportunity to grow into most, if not all, of the state facilities was shared by the Department of Corrections leaders. A new energy and spirit of excitement was felt by the end of the day as the group shared about recruitment, how to tell the story to churches, and targeted getting more volunteers so they could reach more men and women in the prisons.

New Advisory Council Training Rollout

By Ken Rocks
On behalf of Kairos Inside, Outside and Torch.

Kairos Prison Ministry has been been blessed by God in so many ways. We believe that the strength of our ministry lies directly in the effectiveness of our Advisory Councils. The day to day management of the local programs is key to the success of any of our 3 programs, whether they be Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside, or Kairos Torch. Advisory Council volunteers bring so much enthusiasm to the Ministry. Sometimes, however, they don't always know the proper way an Advisory Council should function.

On Nov. 14-17, Kairos held its first Advisory Council Training "Train the Trainers" at Camp Camby in Indianapolis. Those in attendance came away with a renewed sense of purpose for their new roles in Kairos. As Patty Fiske of Maryland said, "I am so excited to help Kairos communities on their road to excellence." The feeling was shared by all.

We will have 27 trainers nationwide available to come to your Advisory Council. The four hour training will focus on the responsibilities and roles of how an Advisory Council works. Program specifics won't be dealt with during the training. If you would like to have the training for your Advisory Council, ask your State Chapter Committee to contact the International Office in Florida to assign a trainer, based on availability. The State will be responsible for lodging, transportation, food, and materials costs for the trainer.

The focus of the training will be the Advisory Council Operating Procedures (ACOP). In there you will find the nuts and bolts of what a functioning Advisory Council looks like. It can be found at mykairos.org by typing in the opening page search window "Advisory Council Operating Procedures."

The road to Ministry Excellence recently went through Camp Camby Indiana and now it leads to your local Advisory Council. Be sure to follow it, and you will find your local Kairos program in tip top shape going forward. When an Advisory Council Trainer comes to your town, be sure to offer a prayer of thanks for their efforts. They are truly special people of God.

Meet your new Advisory Council Trainers:
Front row: Marilyn Biggers, Marilyn Elkins, Deb Timmons, Pat Fiske, Carol Spisak, Mike Noffzinger, Charlie Walls, Dick Spining, Ed Houston, Susan Dyer, Beth Maycomber, Cindy-Lou Hamer, Jo Ellen Rowe and Gina Brockmeyer, Women's Inside Coordinator.
Back Row: Kevin Resnover, Youth Ministries Coordinator, Ken Rocks, Men's Inside Coordinator, Paul Jensen, Chris Young, Dennis Grose, Jackie Cuneo, Jim Templeton, Larry Elder, Jim Corwin and David Ross.
Not pictured: Pearline Moore, Dan Preston, Forrest Gilmore, Corbin Bushong, Chuck Costollo and Bonnie Hambor.

Welcome to Kairos

By Gina Brockmeyer,
Women's Ministries Coordinator

It has been two months since I joined the staff at the international office of Kairos Prison Ministry International and "Welcome to Kairos" has been ringing in my ears since the day I started working in DeBary.

"Welcome to Kairos" has become the statement that follows those moments when I learn something new about this ministry and its operation, and the words resonate in my mind or come forth from my lips many times a day.

I had been a Kairos volunteer for over eight years, not a long time compared to many, but long enough in my mind that I thought I knew the inner workings of this ministry. I thought that I understood what the international office of Kairos did, but I was wrong. For years, I will admit, that I was guilty of feeling that the International office existed to "police" the actions of the state chapter committees, local advisory councils, and volunteers, and I can tell you that I have said in the past "What do they really do for all the affiliation fees we pay them?" But, in the last two months since joining the staff, I have seen what they do, and I have been really surprised by all that goes on in the office on a daily basis.

I can't begin to tell you all the things that the nine people who work at Kairos Prison Ministry International office do in a day, there simply is not enough space in this newsletter. But, I can tell you this, they are busy doing everything from answering telephone calls from our many volunteers who need to order supplies, have questions or need clarification on their program, Ezra, and other issues.

The staff answers over 300 emails a day on subjects that are too numerous to mention, they try to keep track of all the Weekends being held throughout the world, they mediate when volunteers have disputes, encourage upcoming leaders who are overwhelmed with all the tasks they face, write policy, program, training and various promotional materials, help with "new starts", and serve as trainers and advising leaders on initial Weekends.

The office is also responsible for planning the annual conference, ensuring that the ministry maintains its non-profit status and stays in compliance with the regulations of the International Revenue Service, promote the ministry, assist with recruitment, update both the mykairos.org and the kairosprisonministry.org websites, and write grants.

They pray each Tuesday for the upcoming Weekends, specifically mentioning them by location, institution name, Weekend number and leader.

They also review Weekend leader reports and the excellence initiative reports to gain statistics and that is just what they did last week….

I also want to tell all our volunteers that I have truly learned that the International office staff works hard, the work week often extends beyond 40 hours, and the staff has a desire is to serve God and this ministry with excellence.

Finally, I have learned that above all else the staff of Kairos Prison Ministry International exists to empower volunteers with the tools they need to minister, and to accomplish:

The mission of Kairos Prison Ministry is to share the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to impact the hearts and lives of incarcerated men, women and youth, as well as their families, to become loving and productive citizens of their communities.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding"
Proverbs 3:5

THE FINISH LINE IS JUST A NEW STARTING POINT

"..and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our *faith…"*

Hebrews 12:1-2

By Kevin Resnover
Youth Ministries Coordinator

As we swiftly move towards the completion of 2014 there are many accomplishments to celebrate and be thankful for. Just to name a few; Kairos Torch has recruited and efficiently trained over 250 new mentors to work with high risk youth housed in state juvenile correctional facilities. We've organized and led five first Kairos Torch Weekends in the states of California, Florida, Indiana, and Louisiana. Hundreds of Mentor's Reports come into the International Office each month representing the 1,600 new youth we reach each year, and we continue to establish ourselves as an evidence based behavior modification program throughout the country.

Superintendent Erin Brock of the N.A. Chaderjian Youth Correctional Facility had this to say in the **Inside CDCR News** about the first Kairos Torch program in California:

Torch Retreat ignites rehabilitation at N. A. Chaderjian Youth Correctional Facility

Posted on Thursday, November 13, 2014

By Joe Orlando, CDCR Public Information Officer

N.A. Chaderjian Youth Correctional Facility (NACYCF) recently played host to the Kairos Torch Retreat. Kairos Torch is part of Kairos Prison Ministry International, which is active in 11 adult institutions and five programs for family members in California as well as over 300 institutions in 38 states in the U.S. and nine foreign countries.

The youth were carefully selected for the Oct. 18-19 weekend program by NACYCF staff based on their willingness to be open to new experiences and receive life changing knowledge from mentors and also to continue to work on their rehabilitation, according to officials. "The youth were very excited to participate, and had no idea what to expect," said NACYCF Superintendent Erin Brock. The youth were told if they attended the Kairos Torch Retreat, they would participate in activities and have the chance to get to know a mentor who could potentially change their lives over the next several months.

"The 19 youth attending and completing the retreat Weekend shared they learned a lot about themselves and how there are people out there in the community who truly care about them and want to see them succeed, and continue to rehabilitate," Superintendent Brock said. She said the young offenders were expressing themselves freely, showing new confidence and interacting in situations with mentors and other youth in ways to help them when they are released. "The positive messages received and shared displayed how important the community organizations getting involved with our youth helps them develop their character," said Superintendent Brock. Mentors and NACYCF staff report the youth are lining up to participate in future retreats.

As shown in the article from California, Kairos Torch is impacting high risk youth in powerful and positive ways. Before I close I thought I would share another article from the other side of the country to show that the impact is not just on the West Coast, but is nationwide. This article is written by Co-Leaders Brian & Lynne Seeber of Kairos Torch in Florida. Their Weekend took place the very same time as the one in California:

Daytona Torch #1
Crosses the Finish Line!

It may have taken three years of hard work and planning, but it was all worth it to see the effect Daytona Torch #1 had on twelve participants during the weekend of October 17-19, 2014. Twenty adults trained through the Summer to be ready to bring Christ's message of love and forgiveness to the young men who agreed to spend the weekend with our team's 12 women and 8 men.

While the participants talked a lot about the birthday cakes, Bibles, and agape given to them by the team, what seemed to affect them even more was the agape posted around the community room, including posters and messages and the paper chain hung around the room representing prayer and support from Australia, Bolivia, France, Canada, and throughout the United States. The participants asked if they might make agape to be sent to other Torch weekends, and so construction paper posters carried their messages of love and support to the Torch weekends scheduled in Orlando, Florida, and New Orleans, Louisiana.

The G4S facility administration that hosted the Weekend, was supportive and encouraging in the months leading up to the Weekend, and there is a great deal of excitement about the mentoring process which has now begun.

The closing ceremony welcomed members of the community and especially from the Kairos offices which are located only a half hour from the facility in Daytona Beach. It was a joy to see the youth participate in the closing by sharing how the Weekend affected them, and by using the American Sign Language they had learned during the Weekend to join in praising God with their voices and their hands through the song Holy is the Lord. The Weekend has provided new people to serve on the Advisory Council as we look forward to many more Torch weekends in Daytona Beach.

Ah, so what about this finish line?

Finish lines are often associated with competitive racing and finishing first. Kairos Torch is a very different kind of race. It is not a race of opposition against another. In fact we strive to insure that everyone gets across in "Kairos (Gods) Time".

Winning for Torch Participants and Volunteers is never measured in time; it's only measured in crossing the line. When we get to the Weekend finish line, we are simply standing on the starting line of mentoring. It's important to stop for a few minutes to celebrate the wonderful things God has completed through us. But don't linger too long, there's a new race to be run!

Please remember Kairos Prison Ministry in your Charitable Bequests

A charitable bequest is simply a distribution from your estate to a charitable organization through your last will and testament. As you are planning, please remember the Kairos Prison Ministry you have served for years by giving a portion of your estate. In general, a charitable bequest works for anyone who would like to support Kairos Prison Ministry in the future. Because you can change your mind at any time and make your gift in relative proportion to bequests to family and friends, this type of gift has universal appeal.

A charitable bequest could be right for you if:

- You want to support Kairos after your lifetime.
- You have a will or living trust, or are ready to create one.
- You are young or old, wealthy or middle class.
- You want to make a charitable gift while ensuring family is taken care of first.
- You want to maintain the flexibility to change your mind at any time.
- You want estate tax relief.

If you need help with correct language or opportunities for giving, please contact Kairos: 1-407-629-4948.

Celebration of 100 Kairos Weekends

On Sunday October 26, 2014, the Kairos Community in San Diego California and the surrounding area completed their 100th and 101st Kairos Weekends at Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility (RJDCF). The Weekends occurred on Yards C and D simultaneously with each yard starting and finishing with 36 residents for a total addition of 72 new members to the Kairos Community. Another Kairos Weekend had also been planned for yard A, however a major plumbing problem under the chapel forced the cancellation.

In the 24 years of ministry at RJDCF we have been blessed with the support of the institution, especially from the two chaplains; Buzz Brewer and Bill Brown and the four Wardens who have served at the institution during these years. We have also been blessed by the surrounding Christian Community with their support in the form of new volunteers, prayers, agape, cookies and money. It is only by God working through all of these individuals have we been able to complete the 101 Weekends.

HISTORY

The Genesis of Kairos at RJD began in Carson City, Nevada when Buzz Brewer, a Salvation Army Pastor, was attending a meeting there. A chaplain from The Nevada State Prison in Carson City was raving about a program they had just had called Kairos and told everyone that it was wonderful. In the late 1980's, after Buzz became the Chaplain at RJD, a group of men from the San Diego Episcopal Cursillo Community approached him about starting the Kairos Ministry at the facility. RJDCF had three medium (level 3) security yards (1 - 3), one Reception yard (4), and one minimum security yard (5).

In 1989 three men from the San Diego area; one Clergy, Fr. Ned Kellogg and two laity, Bill Olson and Bud Shallcross attended a Kairos Inside Weekend held at the Nevada State Prison in Jean, Nevada. On November 28 – December 1 of 1990 the first Kairos Inside Weekend was held in Yard 1 (now A) at RJDCF. Yard 1 was chosen by the warden because it was the most dangerous yard, with the most violence, and he hoped the Kairos event would quiet it down, which it did.

Kairos #1 was staffed by 27 men and women from the San Diego Episcopal community and 9 people from Jean, NV. In August of 1991 Kairos #2 took place in yard 2 (now B). For the next two years one Kairos Inside Weekend was held in either Yard A or Yard B each March and September. In March of 1994 Kairos of San Diego was allowed to expand the ministry at RJDCF to cover both Yard A and Yard B at the same time. This meant holding four Kairos Inside Weekends each year, something that was not happening anywhere else in the Kairos Ministry in the U.S. or abroad.

In 2000 the Kairos ministry again expanded into a third yard (C) (Level 4), which meant that Kairos of San Diego was now holding six Kairos Inside Weekends a year. This continued until 2003 when a reorganization of the prison forced Kairos of San Diego to cut back to supporting only two Yards (A and C) and four Kairos Inside Weekends per year.

In 2011, RJDCF was again reorganized which opened the opportunity to start up Kairos Inside Weekends in the third Yard again and possible future expansion into the fourth yard.

In 2013 members of the Advisory Council for RJDCF met with new Warden, Daniel Paramo, and he gave approval to resume the Kairos program on a third yard. In March of 2014 Kairos of San Diego resumed Kairos Weekends in thee yards with, #97 on yard A, #98 on yard C, and #99 on yard D.

Continued on following page

WHAT'S IN THE FUTURE

After 24 years the Kairos ministry at RJDCF continues to thrive. When the work is completed in the Yard A chapel in 2015 we will again resume conducting three Weekends simultaneously. We have also heard that Warden Paramo would like us to start Kairos in the fourth yard. Is this possible? It may be, but we need to recruit more men because we have begun to lose some of those who have been working Weekends since the early 90's. In fact Bill Olson, who was one of the three who brought Kairos to RJDCF was called home by the Lord on the night before we started Kairos #100.

Recruitment

Across the U.S. in numerous states we are being invited to go into more and more correctional facilities to share the love of Jesus Christ. Just think about it, we have government officials asking us to share Jesus and impact the individuals and the entire prison.

If God has opened the door to ask us in, then don't we think He will help us get the volunteers necessary to serve? So let's get busy asking others to be blessed by giving their time to share Jesus Christ' love in the prisons and communities. I know God is already there and waiting for us to walk through the door.

Ministering with a Spirit of Excellence…..

By Gina Brockmeyer

Are we serving and ministering with a Spirit of Excellence?

I have been reflecting on this for several weeks, and I would like to challenge all of our volunteers in 2015 to serve with a "Spirit of Excellence".

In a devotional I recently read on the subject, the author reminded his readers that the ultimate purpose of excellence is to please God; there is no other reason for pursuing it…..
He went on to say that striving for excellence requires discipline in our daily lives – in our work ethic, and in our service to others.

In Matthew 5:14-16 Jesus states "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven.

When we turn our minds and our hearts to God, putting Him first, listening to Him, we will be changed…..

It is my prayer that in 2015 that we strive as Kairos Volunteers to serve with a Spirit of Excellence. And in doing so, we will also do the following:

We will turn our minds and our hearts to God;

We will strive as we serve to set aside our personal agendas – remembering that it is not about us, but always about the people we serve;

We will seek God's will for every aspect of this ministry, always keeping Christ at the center of all we do and say;

We will serve with humility – giving God all the glory, honor and praise for the success of Kairos both publically and privately;

We will serve obediently – following our program manuals and our other foundational documents, and striving to stay within the Riverbanks;

And finally, that we will embrace the Mission of Kairos…. to bring Christ's love to the incarcerated, their families, and to those who work with them……..

Clarence Hodges, age 87 of Winter Park, FL, passed on to eternal life on October 26, 2014. He was born on November 23, 1926 in Murray, Kentucky to Eli Hodges and Nell Ray Blanton. Clarence was a graduate of Douglas High School. After High School he joined the military and served for 26 years. He was a World War II and Vietnam veteran and retired from the Air Force at the rank of Master Sergeant. He then worked for Prudential Insurance Company for over 20 years.

Clarence was an active member of St Margaret Mary Catholic Church since 1969. He worked various retreats including Marriage Encounter, Engaged Encounter, and Cursillo. He was instrumental in the Cursillo movement by being one of the first members of the church to attend and was a team member on numerous weekends. He served as a Lay Eucharistic Minister and Minister of the Sick. He was involved with Habit for Humanity and was a member of the Historical Society of Orlando. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus. He served on the Board of Directors for the Depugh Nursing Home. Perhaps one of his biggest loves was his involvement with Kairos Prison Ministry, as one of the original "nine old men." Kairos is now an international prison ministry that has helped shape the lives of countless men, women, and juveniles who are/were incarcerated.

He devoted many of his retirement years in service to others. His interests included family and sports of all types. Often asking about his immediate and extended family and wanting the best for them, Clarence was a gentle and loving family man.

He is survived by his brother Charles from Toledo, Ohio; 4 sons, Carl (Brooklyn, New York), Chuck (Winter Park), Chip (Woodbridge, VA), Leo (Orlando) and 5 grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his lovely wife, Christine, who died in 1985. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Kairos Prison Ministry International, 100 DeBary Plantation Blvd., DeBary, FL. 32713.

Bill Olson, San Diego, CA passed away October 23, 2014. He was born and raised in Minnesota and in 1956 joined the National Reserve. In 1958, he transferred to active duty. After retiring from the Navy in 1980, Bill earned his BA, MBA and MS.

In 1989 Bill Olson, Fr. Ned Kellogg, and Bud Shallcross attended a Kairos Weekend at the Nevada State Prison in Jean Nevada. In October of 1990 Kairos # 1 at R.J. Donovan Correctional Facility was held on Yard 1. Bill and his wife Jo were both on the team, as well as Weekends #2-6.

Bill was also heavily involved with the Episcopal Cursillo community in San Diego and worked 2 Kairos Weekends and 2 Cursillo weekends each year. His love was music, so on most Weekends he worked he was either the music leader or table leader/music team. He believed that the music should be played as it was intended, especially "Abba Father", so if the song was meant to be played slowly that is the way we did it. In 1998 he was the Weekend Leader for Kairos #26 on Yard 2.

Bill worked approximately 35 0f the 101 weekend that have been conducted at RJD. He probably would have worked more, but health problems kept him from doing so. He was part of the San Diego Episcopal Dioceses team (music leader) that went into RJD one Sunday a month to put on services for all three Yards.

In the last 6 months of his life Bill spent most of his time in a Convalescent Home, however in his last week he was able to be at home with his family. He was cremated and his remains were taken to sea by the United States Navy, were he was buried with full military Honors, including a 21 gun salute.

Bill was never happier than when he was singing songs of praise. Following his Cursillo in 1979, Bill learned to play the guitar. After his introduction to Kairos in the late 1980's, Bill

helped organize the San Diego Kairos which began at the R.J Donovan Correctional Facility. Bill was called home to the Lord on the very day that the R.J. Donovan #100 Weekend began.

Joanne Elizabeth Astalos, born on November 7, 1935, lived within four days of her 79th Birthday, meeting Jesus on November 3, 2014. She was married to her husband Bob for 60 years.

Joanne was the model of a genuine Christian woman who lived what she believed, just as much in private as in public. She was a leader with wonderful skills for working with others, a warm open heart that instinctively affirmed those around her with a marvelous balance of clear thinking and deep feeling. Learning motherhood skills by watching her friend's mothers, she raised four delightful children into responsible adults: Stephanie and sons Mark, Michael and Robert.

As mentor, counselor, and friend she influenced those who were blessed to come across her path. In her final weeks she was amazed at the huge number of people who sent cards and notes and visited her. With true humility she had difficulty understanding why so many people loved her. Those of us who knew her knew, knew exactly why she was treasured by so many.

As a leader, she introduced Kairos Outside a spiritual program for women who have loved ones incarcerated; she was one of the leaders of the Stephen Ministry program at Epiphany Lutheran Church. She was a frequent women's retreat leader and maintained a Spiritual Direction practice.

Joanne was the very first graduate of the Christian Spiritual Formation Program at Columbia Seminary. 701 S. Columbia Dr., Decatur, GA 30030. Joanne loved that program so much. If you want to see her face light up, all you had to do was ask her about it. She loved it, thrived on it and lived it.

Carolyn Ann Shiple Smith, Columbia, SC: Mrs. Carolyn Ann Shiple Smith, 80, died Wednesday, November 5, 2014. Born in Perrysburg, Ohio, on January 29, 1934, she was the youngest daughter of the late Fred and Myrtle Velliquette Shiple. Mrs. Smith was a registered nurse and a graduate of Mercy Nursing School in Toledo, OH. She was the former owner and operator of Kids' Stuff Learning Center where she was Mother and Gammy to many.

She was one of the original members of Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church in Columbia, SC, where she remained very active for over 40 years. Mrs. Smith had a lively faith, and she enjoyed serving in the Catholic Cursillo movement as well as Kairos Prison Ministry. Of her other many talents, she was an extraordinary pianist, with a beautiful voice to match.

Please keep her beloved husband of 58 years, Alfred Clemens Smith and family in your prayers. Memorials may be made to Kairos Prison Ministry International.

James (Jim) Brooks Sineath, 65, of Valdosta, passed away suddenly on November 21, 2014. Jim was born in Palo Alto, CA, on June 24, 1949, to the late John Q. Sineath, Jr., and Anne Turner Sineath. The family move to Hicksville, NY, before returning to Valdosta in 1950.

Following in his father's footsteps, Jim had a meaningful career as a developer building in Valdosta and throughout the southeast. He enjoyed his free time at the family farm in Brooks County and his beach house on St. George Island. In recent years, Jim was an avid song writer, performing as "Jimmy James" with the Hot Grease Band.

A former U.S. Marine Corps Reservist, Jim was an active member of the First United Methodist Church of Valdosta and Kairos Prison Ministries. He served on the Board of Directors of the YMCA, the Valwood School and the Refuge of Hope, and was involved in many other philanthropic organizations.

Kairos Weekends through June 2015

12/29/14	AUS	Wolston CC	5	Paul Bryden	Men's Inside
12/31/14	TX	Hobby Unit	32	Gwen Van Cleave	Women's Inside
1/1/15	TX	Ferguson Prison	58	John Schureman	Men's Inside
1/8/15	FL	Jefferson CI	18	Mark Trudeau	Men's Inside
1/28/15	MS	MS Penitentiary - Unit 29	35	Greg Snyder	Men's Inside
2/4/15	NC	Central Prison	41	John Van Kuren	Men's Inside
2/5/15	AK	Wildwood CC	9	Dave DePodesta	Men's Inside
2/5/15	TX	Wallace Prison	32	Mike Fain	Men's Inside
2/19/15	AL	Bibb CF	28	Harry Gabriel	Men's Inside
2/19/15	TX	Hutchins Prison	19	Bob Benton	Men's Inside
2/26/15	AL	Aliceville FCI	3	Sandrea Brasher	Women's Inside
2/26/15	AL	Elmore CI	11	Russell Smith	Men's Inside
2/26/15	IN	New Castle CF	11	David Long	Men's Inside
2/26/15	OH	Ross CI	30	Terry Jackson	Men's Inside
3/5/15	FL	Hernando CI	36	Marti Moore	Women's Inside
3/5/15	**OK**	**Lawton CF**	**1**	**Jerry Wood**	**Men's Inside**
3/5/15	TN	Mark Luttrell CC	29	Anne Floyd	Women's Inside
3/5/15	TX	Jordan Prison	37	Bobby Nelms	Men's Inside
3/12/15	GA	Walker SP	12	Mike Vaden	Men's Inside
3/12/15	OH	Lebanon CI	50	Grant Doepel	Men's Inside
3/12/15	TX	Huntsville Walls Prison	23	Mario Valadez	Men's Inside
3/13/15	MS	Mississippi	21	Darlene Strickland	Kairos Outside
3/13/15	TX	Vance Prison	55	Steve Schultheis	Men's Inside
3/19/15	LA	David Wade CC	38	David Glassy	Men's Inside
3/19/15	OH	Chillicothe CI	4	Gary Eschelbach	Men's Inside
3/19/15	NC	Pender CI	28	Sid Mullins	Men's Inside
3/19/15	SC	Evans CI	43	Keen Lerch	Men's Inside
3/19/15	TX	Daniel Prison	23	Alan Rininger	Men's Inside
3/19/15	TX	Stiles Prison	33	Daniel Wills	Men's Inside
3/19/15	WV	Huttonsville CC	24		Men's Inside
3/20/15	FL	Northeast FL	19	Kathy Houser	Kairos Outside
3/20/15	NH	Goffstown WP	2	Mary Fitzpatrick	Women's Inside
3/23/15	VA	Powhatan CC	4	John Perry	Men's Inside
3/25/15	OH	Dayton CI	6	Lynn Becker	Women's Inside

3/26/15	OH	Lake Erie CC	28	Thomas Brady	Men's Inside
3/26/15	So. Afr.	Krugersdorp	32	Keith Clark	Men's Inside
3/26/15	TX	Clements Prison	42	JD Danner	Men's Inside
3/26/15	TX	Hughes Prison	36	Oscar Saint	Men's Inside
3/26/15	WA	Clallam Bay CC	19	Bruce Prout	Men's Inside
3/19/15	AL	Staton CI	32	Bill Legg	Men's Inside
3/27/15	GA	North Georgia	34	Lillian Robinson	Kairos Outside
3/27/15	TX	Amarillo	26	Ossie Green	Kairos Outside
3/27/15	TX	Houston	31	Marci Tickner	Kairos Outside
4/7/15	MS	Central MS CF	35	Melinda Duffie	Women's Inside
4/9/15	DE	Sussex CI	6	Dan Lipsey	Men's Inside
4/9/15	FL	Columbia CI	27	Lowell Hall	Men's Inside
4/9/15	IN	Indiana SP	17	Pat O'Keefe	Men's Inside
4/9/15	IN	Miami CF	15	Scott Switaski	Men's Inside
4/9/15	NM	Women's CC	28	Emily Yanase-Mori	Women's Inside
4/9/15	NY	Coxsackie CF	26	Michael Coffey	Men's Inside
49/15	OH	OH Reformatory for Women	42	Michelle Grose	Women's Inside
4/9/15	OK	Cimarron CF	22	Matt Theis	Men's Inside
4/9/15	TX	Clemens Prison	17	Mark Rouse	Men's Inside
4/9/15	TX	Lockhart Men's CC	5	Jay Saenger	Men's Inside
4/9/15	TX	Polunsky Prison	34	Ray Parrish	Men's Inside
4/9/15	TX	Stevenson Prison	23	Marvin Neitch	Men's Inside
4/10/15	IN	Northern IN	18	Miriam Mabus	Kairos Outside
4/10/15	KS	Kansas	14	Darnelle Sheetz	Kairos Outside
4/10/15	TX	Lubbock	9	Susan Hidalgo	Kairos Outside
4/10/15	TX	North TX	36	Ann Taylor	Kairos Outside
4/13/15	**AUS**	**Adelaide**	**1**	**Andrew Battersby**	**Torch**
4/14/15	AUS	Junee CC	27	Colum McGovern	Men's Inside
4/14/15	AUS	Mobilong	21	Keith Chiveralls	Men's Inside
4/14/15	VA	Green Rock CC	12	Bob Weinhold	Men's Inside
4/15/15	TX	Briscoe Prison	14	Dereck White	Men's Inside
4/16/15	FL	Charlotte CI	41	Dave Watson	Men's Inside
4/16/15	FL	Polk CI	39	David R. Carr	Men's Inside
4/16/15	FL	Lake CI	65	Peter Connelly	Men's Inside
4/16/15	GA	Lee Arrendale SP	18	Betty Piper	Women's Inside

4/16/15	IN	Pendleton CF	16	Jeff Wood	Men's Inside
4/16/15	TX	Allred Prison	28	Sebastian Hurst	Men's Inside
4/16/15	TX	Coffield Prison	39	Don Warner	Men's Inside
4/16/15	TX	Eastham Prison	29	Richard Schreyer	Men's Inside
4/16/15	TX	Neal Prison	34	Casey Cameron	Men's Inside
4/16/15	TX	Roach Prison	31	William Holmes	Men's Inside
4/16/15	TX	Smith Prison	36	William Redekopp	Men's Inside
4/17/15	MS	South Mississippi	9	Dixie Evans	Kairos Outside
4/17/15	NC	Western NC	12	Marcia Melocik	Kairos Outside
4/17/15	TX	Midland	29	April Terry	Kairos Outside
4/20/15	AUS	Bathurst CC	19	Evan Harris	Men's Inside
4/22/15	TX	Murray Prison	19	Crystal Jackson	Women's Inside
4/23/15	FL	Union CI	78	Jay Johnson	Men's Inside
4/23/15	GA	Autry SP	31	Tommy Barner	Men's Inside
4/23/15	GA	Lee SP	42	Ernie Murrah	Men's Inside
4/23/15	IN	Branchville CF	18	Jon Nuffer	Men's Inside
4/23/15	IN	Putnamville CF	10	Walt Reynolds	Men's Inside
4/23/15	ME	Maine SP	30	George Hervochon	Men's Inside
4/23/15	MO	Potosi CC	10	Jimmie Courtright	Men's Inside
4/23/15	OH	Marion CI	37	Phil Darling	Men's Inside
4/23/15	OK	Davis CF	16	Bob Macemon	Men's Inside
4/23/15	SC	Leath CI	26	Kim Prince	Women's Inside
4/23/15	TX	Allred Prison	28	Sebastian Hurst	Men's Inside
4/23/15	TX	Hightower Prison	14	Brent McQueen	Men's Inside
4/23/15	TX	McConnell Prison	39	Ed Sample	Men's Inside
4/23/15	TX	Michael Prison	46	Bill McRoberts	Men's Inside
4/23/15	TX	Robertson Prison	40	Zach Smith	Men's Inside
4/24/15	AR	Arkansas	15	Georgia Rucker	Kairos Outside
4/24/15	ID	SW Idaho	4	Linda Barrows	Kairos Outside
4/24/15	IN	Central West	9	Jenny Meece	Kairos Outside
4/24/15	IN	Logansport FCF	2	David and Peggy Ritchie	Torch
4/24/15	MD	Maryland	18	Barb Jensen	Kairos Outside
4/24/15	TX	Wichita Falls	16	Tee Shipley	Kairos Outside
4/24/15	WA	Eastern Washington	4	Alicia Doney	Kairos Outside

4/28/15	AUS	Emu Plains	22	Pieta Rientis	Women's Inside
4/29/15	TX	Torres Prison	32	Thomas Troll	Men's Inside
4/30/15	IN	Westville CF	22	Jack Walter	Men's Inside
4/30/15	KS	El Dorado CF	19	Matthew Riedel	Men's Inside
4/30/15	MD	Maryland CI Jessup	5	Reid Reininger	Men's Inside
4/30/15	TX	Bartlett State Jail	22	Craig Severson	Men's Inside
4/30/15	TX	Dalhart Prison	31	Bill Fox	Men's Inside
4/30/15	TX	Wynne Unit	2	Jerry Jenkins	Men's Inside
5/1/15	CT	Connecticut	10	Nancy E Peloquin	Kairos Outside
5/1/15	FL	Southwest FL	15	Jay Perrien	Kairos Outside
5/1/15	**TX**	**Mountain View Death Row**	**1**	**Carolyn Jones**	**Women's Inside**
5/12/15	AUS	Dillwynia	15	Julie Blyth	Women's Inside
5/14/15	IN	Indiana SP	16	Anita Gibson	Women's Inside
5/14/15	IN	Pendleton Industrial CF	16	Brent Chance	Men's Inside
5/14/15	IN	Wabash Valley CF	13	Dave Lefler	Men's Inside
5/14/15	NM	Southern NM CF	23	Kimble Kearns	Men's Inside
5/14/15	NY	Gouverneur CF	7	Dave Takach	Men's Inside
5/14/15	TX	Beto Prison	52	Tony Federico	Men's Inside
5/15/15	AUS	Adelaide	22	Robyn Aitchison	Kairos Outside
5/15/15	AUS	South East Queensland	29	Lauris Luccianino	Kairos Outside
5/15/15	TX	East TX	5	Michelle Edwards	Kairos Outside
5/28/15	IN	Rockville CF	22	Donna Orwig	Women's Inside
5/28/15	NM	Guadalupe County CF	18	Marty Autry	Men's Inside
5/28/15	**TN**	**Bledsoe County CC**	**1**	**Joanie Robinson**	**Women's Inside**
5/29/15	AUS	Melbourne	10	Ineke De Graaf	Kairos Outside
5/29/15	TX	Central TX	4	Bettye Keefer	Kairos Outside
6/4/15	**MD**	**Maryland CTC**	**1**	**Russell Spiess**	**Men's Inside**
6/9/15	NC	Avery Mitchell CI	2	Mike Lawrence	Men's Inside
6/11/15	AR	McPherson Unit	31	Rhonda Johnson-Sizemore	Women's Inside
6/12/15	IN	Wabash Valley JCF	2	Paul Breeze	Torch
6/26/15	**AZ**	**Northern AZ**	**1**	**Gena Martinello**	**Kairos Outside**

For more future Weekend dates and information, please visit the www.mykairos.org website and click on Kairos Kalendar.

In the Mailbox

I must say that this software (EZRA) is far and beyond my original expectations of what I thought it would be. I was looking at it from a productivity angle but it is so much more. I can see where the software is really more of a gift from the Holy Spirit to be used for His work. Another tool from the perfect Helper! I just sing praises to God for how He uses His people to accomplish His work!

A recent Kairos Weekend Leader

I asked for the opportunity to address you on behalf of the Kairos Prison Ministry and the work they're doing behind prison walls. I've been incarcerated for going on 35 years now, that's 35 straight years, so when I say Kairos is THE BEST program ever to enter the prison system, I know what I'm talking about.

Kairos changes and effects the lives of some of the hardest and most hardened inmates. I know because I was one of them, and I've witnessed many, many more changed lives.

Rodney, North Carolina Kairos Graduate

Thank You Kairos Outside

I just want to say thank you first of all for making a change in my life. The Kairos Weekend was the best thing I have ever experienced. We were so excited about what we experienced and we wanted everyone we could get, to go and feel the unconditional love we felt. We have brought groups a couple of times.

In one of the groups was our beloved niece, who was bound by drugs and alcohol. She had lived a very sad life. Like all abusers she was looking and longing to be loved. She found that love at the Kairos Weekend. She wouldn't stop talking about it on the way home. She made sure she got her flowers home safe, as did everyone that went. Those flowers meant a lot to her. No one had ever loved her so much as to give her flowers and a candle light dinner.

A few years after she came home from the Kairos Weekend, she was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer that had spread to her brain. She was told she did not have long to live. We prayed and she said she was ready to go. What an awesome God!

I spent a lot of time with her during the next several weeks. I was sitting in her room singing and she turned to me and asked what the name of the song we sang at the Kairos Weekend. I told her it was 'Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus'. She smiled real big and we started singing the song. She said that was her favorite song. So every time I was with her we sing that song. When she was in a coma I sang for her knowing if she could hear me she was singing too. She treasured the trip to Kairos and thanks you for the love you shared from your hearts with her.

After the funeral her daughter wanted to have the rose the prisoners made for us. We smiled when we saw it, for it

had broken and she taped it back together. I said that must have been important to her.

She never forgot the love she felt even to the end. Kairos has touched so many lives. I want to mention one more life that was so special to us. Her daughter made a special trip to Arkansas just to pick up our sister. She too had lived a lonely life and never had anyone who truly loved her. I guess you could say she was the mean and hateful spirit in our family. But she received a real experience of true love at Kairos and we could see her life changing.

A few years after her Kairos Weekend, she too was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer and lived only a week after finding out. She had changed her life after Kairos. I think I failed to mention this was my nieces' mother.

Praise God for the dedicated people of Kairos. Never be discouraged. Sometimes we think we are not seeing great things done like we want to but I have just written two testimonies of lives that were changed and maybe if it wasn't for all of you, they would never have found their way back and would be lost.

It's been a few years since my experience but sometimes I look at my rose from the candle light dinner and my bed time story bear and I just have to smile and say thank you Jesus for Kairos.

Wanda, Kairos Outside Graduate

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

Matthew 2:10

Kairos Prison Ministry International

In Loving Memory

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, along with the name (s) of the donors. The amount of the gift will not be disclosed. Donors will receive a letter from Kairos Prison Ministry for their tax-exempt contribution.

Advanced Kairos Training is for Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside, and Kairos Torch volunteers who are in or will be in a Weekend leadership role, including Advisory Council or State Chapter positions, anywhere within the Kairos program. Advanced Kairos Training gives the what, who and why of the Kairos ministry. **Kairos policy requires that all Weekend leaders must have completed the entire training course 12 to 24 months prior to leading a Weekend.**

PRINCIPLE STATEMENTS CONCERNING ADVANCED KAIROS TRAINING EXPENSES

1. All Advanced Kairos Trainings are essentially free to any and all attendees. However, paying the expenses of an attendee for training is borne by the state sending its volunteers to a training in or out of its local state. This means that all Advisory Councils or State Chapter Committees should be budgeting for any training expenses deemed necessary for their future Weekend Leaders or other attendees that the Advisory Council or State Chapter Committee wants to attend.

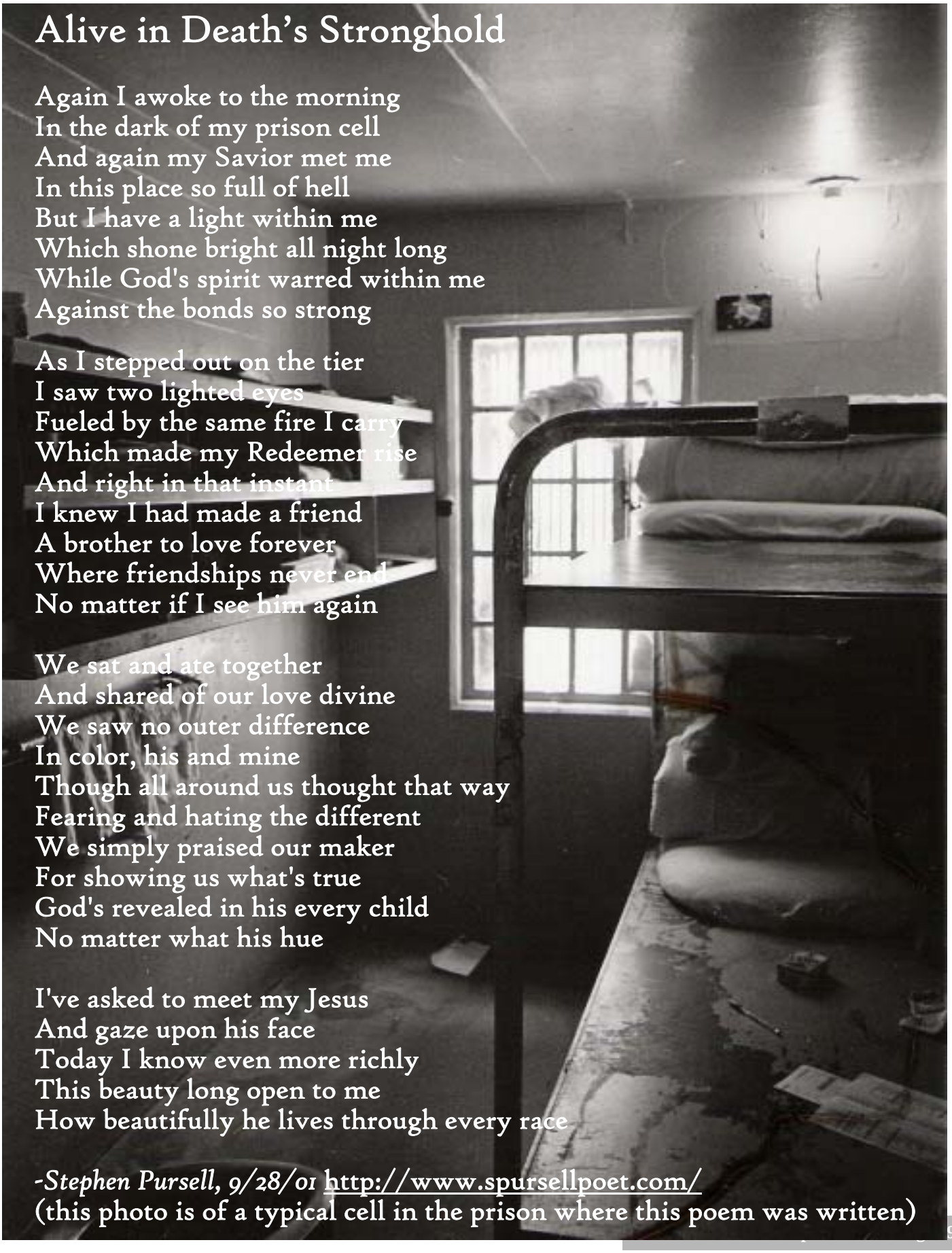
2. Advisory Councils or State Chapter Committees should encourage its volunteers (who may have been used to paying out of their own pocket previously to a Host State) to make their donations to its local AC instead to help build the budget to allow for more volunteers to attend trainings like the AKT training.

BE SURE TO BRING YOUR PROGRAM MANUAL WITH YOU TO THE TRAINING.

2015 Advanced Kairos Training Schedule

January 23, 2015	**COLUMBUS, OH**	**Kairos Inside**
January 30, 2015	**ORLANDO, FL**	**Kairos Inside, Outside and Torch**
January 30, 2015	**RICHMOND, VA**	**Kairos Inside**
February 20, 2015	**FORSYTH, GA**	**Kairos Inside and Outside**
February 27, 2015	**INDIANAPOLIS, IN**	**Kairos Inside, Outside and Torch**
March 6, 2015	**AMARILLO, TX**	**Kairos Inside**
March 13, 2015	**POMONA, CA**	**Kairos Inside and Outside**
April 10, 2015	**KANSAS CITY, MO**	**Kairos Inside**
May 15, 2015	**DENVER, CO**	**Kairos Inside**
May 15,2015	**HARTFORD, CT**	**Kairos Inside and Outside**
June 5, 2015	**HUNTSVILLE, TX**	**Kairos Inside, Outside and Torch**
June 19, 2015	**JACKSONVILL, FL**	**Kairos Inside and Outside**
July 17, 2015	**RALEIGH, NC**	**Kairos Inside**
August	**BALTIMORE, MD**	**Kairos Inside and Outside**
August 7, 2015	**COLUMBUS, OH**	**Kairos Inside and Outside**
September 11, 2015	**BIRMINGHAM, AL**	**Kairos Inside**
October 23, 2015	**GREENVILLE, SC**	**Kairos Inside, Outside and Torch**
October 17-19, 2015	**POMONA, CA**	**Kairos Inside**
November 13, 2015	**FORSYTH, GA**	**Kairos Inside**
November 13, 2015	**WAXAHACHIE, TX**	**Kairos Inside and Outside**

Detailed information for each training, including costs, facility and registration can be found on the mykairos.org website on the Kairos Kalendar.



Alive in Death's Stronghold

Again I awoke to the morning
In the dark of my prison cell
And again my Savior met me
In this place so full of hell
But I have a light within me
Which shone bright all night long
While God's spirit warred within me
Against the bonds so strong

As I stepped out on the tier
I saw two lighted eyes
Fueled by the same fire I carry
Which made my Redeemer rise
And right in that instant
I knew I had made a friend
A brother to love forever
Where friendships never end
No matter if I see him again

We sat and ate together
And shared of our love divine
We saw no outer difference
In color, his and mine
Though all around us thought that way
Fearing and hating the different
We simply praised our maker
For showing us what's true
God's revealed in his every child
No matter what his hue

I've asked to meet my Jesus
And gaze upon his face
Today I know even more richly
This beauty long open to me
How beautifully he lives through every race

-Stephen Pursell, 9/28/01 http://www.spursellpoet.com/
(this photo is of a typical cell in the prison where this poem was written)

The Kairos Staff was honored to have Cleve Bell, one of the Kairos 'Nine Founders', visit at the International Office in DeBary, FL. This was the first time that Cleve had seen the new office. He was not only impressed with the building but also all of the artwork displayed on the walls that was produced by our incarcerated brothers and sisters. Cleve will be coming back to the office in January to assist staff with the large amount of Kairos historical documents that have been preserved over the years. Cleve will also help us to define a clearer timeline of the history of Kairos.
Above: Gina Brockmeyer, Janet Santiago, Julie Collins, Cathy Flinchum. Back row: Ann Kreller, Cleve Bell, Evelyn Lemly, Ken Rocks and Phaedra Mills. Not pictured: Kevin Resnover.

Spiritual Health

In our daily walk with the Lord, we each have struggles and issues that take our time or energy. And thankfully, we have many positive and encouraging things happening too.

No matter what the day brings or where we are, I hope we take the time to be in prayer and the Bible daily. The only way we get closer to our Lord is to spend time with Him.

To all of our Kairos Volunteers

A warm, heartfelt "Thank You" for your untiring dedication for our ministry.

May you and your loved ones be blessed during this Christmas Season and throughout the New Year.

From the staff of
Kairos Prison Ministry International