God's Special Time

Winter 2017 News from Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. Vol. 43 No. 4

Merry Christmas

"O Holy Night, the stars are brightly shining. It is the night of our dear Savior's birth."

Christmas is truly a magical time of year. As we celebrate the birth of our King, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we hope to be the best mirror of Him. This is the time for giving, for reflection, for praise, and the time for unconditional love.

Give with all of your heart.
Reflect on this past year: the good you've been blessed with and the changes you need to make.
Praise the Lord for all things in your life and praise others out of love.
Love unconditionally, as it is said, *"Judge not, that you be not judged." - Matthew 7:1*

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

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Joy, Peace, Hope, Love

Joy, Peace, Hope, and Love are words we often hear during the Christmas season. We know we truly have these within our heart and soul through Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Christmas is a time to remember the birth of Jesus Christ and the salvation his coming brought to us. At Kairos Prison Ministry, we are thankful for the message of Jesus Christ and the opportunity to share the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ with those impacted by incarceration. How blessed are we to be servants of our Lord and sharing His Great News with others!

Evelyn Lemly, CEO

As we praise our Lord in celebration of Christmas, we usher in a new year as well. It is hard to imagine all that our Lord has done at Kairos over the past 41 years of ministry, across 37 states and 9 international countries, in 30,000 volunteer's lives, in over 27,000 participant's/guest's lives each year, in the lives of the families, in the prisons and the lives of the prison staff, in the churches where we serve and worship, and on, and on.

When God is at work, He does magnificent things and we see Him at work at Kairos. Thank you, Lord, for using us as your servants to share your love, hope, and faith found in Jesus Christ.

This year, our Annual Conference theme was 'Being Present' and we talked about how the impact of the ministry, through the presence of the Lord, through His people being present, and showing the love of Christ to others. We talked about the importance of our Continuing Ministry as that's where the true impact of our work occurs with us "Being Present".

As we know Christ is present in our lives, we can be present to show him to others through our lives and daily walk with Him, so that others can know Him as the greatest present of all.

As we celebrate Christmas and enter into a New Year, may you know the Joy, Peace, Hope, and Love of Jesus Christ and reflect on His great works here on earth, always remembering that our greatest 'present' is our Lord Jesus Christ! *"Today in the town of David a Savior have been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord." Luke 2:11*

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We look forward to what our Lord has in store for Kairos in 2018, our 42nd year of ministry!

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Let Us Celebrate

Let us take more than a few minutes to celebrate. Why am I celebrating, you ask? Because it's the season to celebrate Christ's birth, and we serve a God who is very good indeed!

Our God is so big that He was able to create the whole world, but personal enough to know the number of hairs on our heads. When God saw His people dying in sin, He forgave them and gave up His very own son so that we could have salvation. That's huge.

Jesus, God himself in human form, died so that you could live with Him in Heaven. Let's celebrate, because Our God is AMAZING!

We as Christians celebrate the birth of Christ, Immanuel (God with Us), "the Name above all names," the Anointed One, the Messiah, and this Jesus has become our Lord and Savior. This birth is worthy of celebration in the highest, and is the Story to tell to the ends of the earth.

As we share what we have witnessed in Kairos, we are sharing a story of the celebration of Jesus. A fellow Kairos brother says, "Let me introduce you to my best friend – Jesus." He is celebrating the birth of Jesus on each introduction.

Terry Crockett, Board Chair

Each Kairos Weekend, each Reunion, each Prayer & Share, each mentoring meeting, each support group gathering, each team meeting and all other Kairos meetings, we are celebrating Christ's birth.

So pause to celebrate, not just during the season, but in all seasons, because as said in *Ephesians 1:4, "For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight.."*

A new year is ahead of us with positions on the Advisory Councils, the State Chapter Committees, the International Council, the Board, and all the Weekend Leaders to be filled with new servants (A Celebration).

Kairos is built on the work of servants with many new servants joining our ministry through #1 Weekends and to existing Weekends. Kairos is entering its 42nd year of ministry and you are part of the blessings as we continue to celebrate of what Christ is doing through each of you – thank you.

Titus 3:4-6, "*But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior."*

Merry Christmas and Have a Blessed New Year.

2018 Kairos Prison Ministry Annual Conference

July 24th - 28th

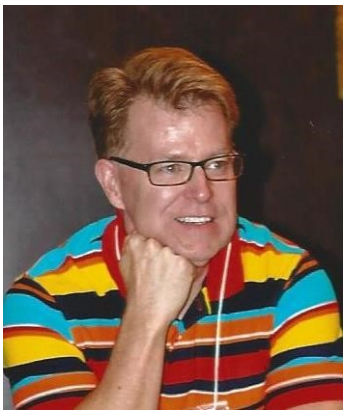
Hyatt Regency Dulles, Herndon, Virginia

Pull out your calendars and set your dates! Preliminary 2018 Kairos Prison Ministry Annual Conference information has been uploaded to mykairos.org at http://mykairos.org/conference_registration.html.

Currently, there is a tentative schedule and a registration form, as well as a link to a prayer vigil hosted by Kairos of Virginia. Check back often as more information will be posted as it becomes available.

If You Aren't Doing Your Best For God, Who Are You Doing It For?

By Craig Combs, Men's Program Coordinator



For me, this statement became an 'unofficial' theme of the recent Kairos Inside "Train the Trainers" event held at the Chamblee United Methodist Church in Atlanta. Thirteen veteran and seven new U.S. trainers were joined by trainers from the United Kingdom and South Africa to fellowship, mentor, pray, laugh, encourage, and to discuss the future details for Kairos Inside Advanced Kairos Training.

Many times this statement came up as we discussed not only AKT, but what happens at home when people don't pay attention to details, become divisive, undermine the authority of the Weekend leaders, don't pray through disagreements, or don't even support or pray for the Weekend leaders. If you aren't doing your best for God...what are you doing?

We tweaked the training to better meet the needs of the Weekend leaders and to become even more interactive. We have added training modules for the leaders to take home to train their teams. We want people to feel comfortable and confident when they walk in the prison; we often hear that they are going in on a Thursday with no real idea how to do their jobs. How can they do their best for God if they don't know what they are supposed to be doing?

One topic that came up often was concerning Prayer and Share. How can we promote the importance of Prayer and Share if we aren't in an accountability group? How can growth and change happen without others in our lives to challenge and correct us? If you aren't in a group like this, I challenge you to start praying about this and find some people to purposefully group with. This will help you do your best for God.

Kairos Inside AKT "Train the Trainers" Event

(from front right to left): Craig Combs, Tim Palacio, Toni Dagenhart, Gina Brockmeyer, Mary Ketter, Lauren Wiebe, (row 2): Lisa Trahan, Carol Boelter, Carol Kuck (Row 3): Christo Viljoen (South Africa), Kirk Duffy, Edith Carnley, Pearline Moore (row 4): Irene Anderson, Alastair Bulley (United Kingdom), Paul Soriano, May Ann Gardner (back row and up the stairs): Bob Dana , Larry Choate, Steve Roe, Jim Hawley, Nolan Gilmore, Don Setterlof, Peter Wilson (not pictured Mike Springer, Evelyn Lemly)

We need to give a huge thanks and a shout out to the Chamblee UMC. They treated us like gold – unexpectedly, an 87-year-old gentleman made us coffee every morning! We were loved and fed amazing food by the Whitworth Advisory Council, Kairos Outside of North Georgia Advisory Council, Carol Boelter's accountability group, and the Lee Arrendale Advisory Council. They definitely did their best for God and it showed as they served us.

Begin looking at the AKT calendar on www.mykairos.org to plan for your 2018 training needs so your upcoming Weekend leaders can do their best for God.

Thanks for a great 2017 and I am looking forward to doing my best for God in 2018! Merry Christmas!

Unexpected Blessings

By Gina Brockmeyer, Women's Ministry Coordinator

Kairos has been described as having a front row seat to see God perform miracles, and I believe that is true. On a recent trip to Cleveland, Ohio, I met with the leadership team for an upcoming #1 Kairos Outside Weekend. I had traveled to participate in a team meeting taking place on Saturday, so some of the Core Team met me for dinner on Friday evening.

One of the Core Team members, who lives in Cleveland, chose the restaurant. When we arrived, she stated she was surprised to see that two of the other Core Team members who lived out of town had already arrived. As we sat down at our table, she asked them how long they had been waiting for us. She commented that she was surprised they had arrived so early, and they explained that they had left their homes early to avoid traffic on the interstate.

> "He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted."
> - Job 5:9

They asked why she chose to meet at the restaurant, stating that it was a bit out of the way, and a brief discussion ensued while we waited for the final team member to arrive. No one was complaining. The ladies were just having a conversation about the logistical issues involved with getting to the restaurant. As we waited we chatted about the team meeting and the upcoming Weekend, and our waitress, Ashley, came to the table to check on us several times.

During one trip to our table Ashley asked us if we were part of a group. We explained that we were all Kairos Outside volunteers, and that we were preparing for an upcoming Weekend. We briefly explained the purpose of Kairos Outside, Kairos Inside, and Kairos Torch, and seemingly satisfied, Ashley left the table.

Ashley returned with our food, and said with tears in her eyes, "I know about Kairos." She went on to tell us that she had done some time in Marysville at the Ohio Reformatory for Women. She talked to us briefly about her struggle to get her life back in order after prison, and she said she continues to work hard to keep her life straight. She explained that she had not done a Kairos Weekend while she was at Marysville, but had always wanted to attend a Weekend.

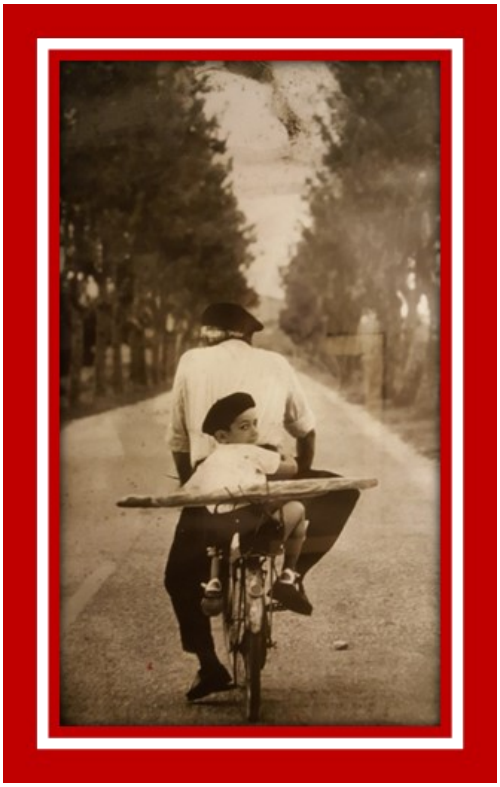
Suddenly, everyone began to tell Ashley that it was not too late for her to attend a Kairos Weekend. They explained that she could attend a Kairos Outside Weekend now that she was out of prison, and they went on to tell her that not only could she attend, but that other female members of her family could attend. Ashley's face lit up as she listened, and before we left that night Ashley was given several Kairos Outside Guest applications -- one for her, one for her mom, and one for her sister.

As we left, we commented to each other that we knew why we had gone to that restaurant, in an out of the way location, to have dinner. It had been chosen for us, by God, so that we could meet Ashley. The ladies of Kairos Outside of NE Ohio continue to check in on Ashley when they can. They hope she will attend Kairos Outside NE Ohio #2.

(Kairos Outside of NE Ohio held their first Weekend on October 27-29, 2017. The Weekend was attended by 20 Guests, and was a great success. They also had 29 people at their first Reunion held on November 18th.)

Instruction, Encouragement, and a Meal.

By Kevin Resnover, Youth Ministry Coordinator



When I was growing up, supper time was what I looked forward to each day. As I think about it, that was the very best part of the day for me. Not just because of the wonderful meal that my mom was sure to prepare, but because that was the time I knew that my father would be home and we got to spend quality time with him. It was the time that I learned the depth of who my father was and the goals he had for himself and for our family.

For most of my childhood, dad worked 12-14 hour days in order to give his family the type of living he wanted us to have. He would head off to his main job with the Indianapolis Power & Light Company each morning before the sun peaked out, and return home in time to shower and sit down with the family for dinner. After dinner he would kiss mom goodbye and head off to his second job (the janitorial service he established). I loved listening to dad talk about his day and the things that took place on his job. I loved listening to the stories he told about his childhood. I loved listening to his instructions and the encouragement he gave after we were given a space to talk about our dreams and goals. And I loved hearing the prayers he prayed over our meal (I still find myself closing each of my meal time prayers the same way he did).

Looking at different scriptures, I see where Jesus used meal times to do some of His greatest work and deliver some of His most impactful teachings. It was the wedding supper where His first recorded miracle took place by turning water into the finest of wines. (John 2:1-11)

- In Luke 5, Jesus eats with tax collectors and sinners at the home of Levi (5:29-32)
- In Luke 7, Jesus is anointed by a woman in the home of Simon the Pharisee during a meal (7:36-50)
- In Luke 9, Jesus feeds the five thousand (9:10-36)
- In Luke 10, Jesus eats in the home of Mary and Martha (10:25-42)
- In Luke 14, Jesus shares the parable of the large banquet in which He urges people to invite the poor (14:7-24)
- In Luke 22, we read the account of the Last Supper (22:14-23)

In each of these stories, Jesus delivers an impactful message to those at the table, those in close proximity of the table, and you/me as onlookers. Even in Revelations 3:20 Jesus speaks to us about His desire to connect with us in our environment around our meal table: *"Look at me. I stand at the door. I knock. If you hear me call and open the door, I'll come right in and sit down to supper with you."*

Dr. Barry Jones, Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministries at Dallas Theological Seminary, wrote, *"Sharing tables is one of the most uniquely human things we do. No other creature consumes its food at a table. And sharing tables with other people reminds us that there's more to food than fuel. We don't eat only for sustenance…tables are one of the most important places of human connection. We're often most fully alive to life when sharing a meal around a table. We shouldn't be surprised, then, to find that throughout the Bible God has a way of showing up at tables. In fact, it's worth noting that at the center of the spiritual lives of God's people in both the Old and New Testaments, we find a table: the table of Passover and the table of Communion…*

(continued on Page 7)

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE CHAIR

I was speaking with our CEO Evelyn recently and she spoke about the blessings we share as we serve the incarcerated and their loved ones. She went on to say how incredibly fortunate we are not only to serve Jesus in this most excellent Ministry, but to come to know and love one another through that service.

As we spoke, a picture in my mind came to light…TOFU! Now before the carnivores are tempted to press the "delete" button, please read on. I have a theory: alone, each of us in Kairos is like Tofu. Yes, that bean curd stuff with little to no taste of it's own.

But mix Tofu with wonderful ingredients and a little miracle happens. It takes on the flavor of each of the mixed ingredients and becomes quite excellent and so much better than by itself. This is what happens to us. As we serve Jesus in Kairos and "mix" together in His love, each of us takes on the "flavor" of one another and becomes so much better than by ourselves.

My brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, as we approach the coming of Jesus this Christmas, as we open our gifts and spend time in worship to God and family love, please remember that each of you are a most treasured gift with a most excellent "flavor". Because of your love and because we are willing to "mix" with one another, we are so much better than we could ever be alone.

Speaking for myself, I am a better husband, father, worker, friend, neighbor, and so on...because of each of you. Thank you so very much. May God continue to bless you and your families as we recall, once again, the birth of His Son. Alleluia!

(continued from Page 6 - Kairos Torch Coordinator, Kevin Resnover)

New Testament scholar N. T. Wright captured something of this sentiment when he wrote, 'When Jesus himself wanted to explain to his disciples what his forthcoming death was all about, he didn't give them a theory, he gave them a meal.'

I'm convinced that one of the most important spiritual disciplines for us to recover in today's world is the discipline of table fellowship. In the fast-paced, tech-saturated, attention-deficit-disordered culture in which we find ourselves, Christians need to recover the art of a slow meal around a table with people we care about. "Table fellowship" doesn't often make the list of the classical spiritual disciplines. But in the midst of a world that increasingly seems to have lost its way with regard to matters of both food and the soul, Christian spirituality has something important to say about the way that sharing tables nourishes us both physically and spiritually. We need a recovery of the spiritual significance of what we eat, where we eat, and with whom we eat."

When my wife brought this picture home and hung it on the stairway wall, I stood and stared at it so long that she asked me what I was doing. It somehow reminded me of dad and sitting at the dining room table more than forty years ago. It reminded me of his strong work ethics, his clear vision for our future, and his affirming direction over a family meal.

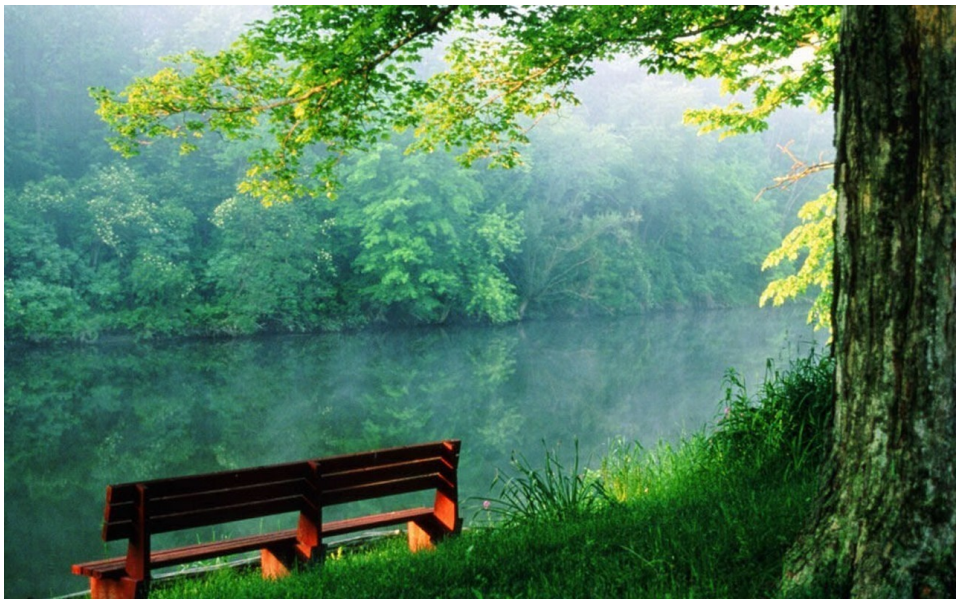
We often hear from the youth on a Kairos Torch Weekend of how they enjoyed the wonderful food we are allowed to bring into the facility and the great love that was displayed in the preparation and delivery of each meal. But I've also had the privilege of attending Weekends where we were not allowed to bring in food. In those instances we ate whatever the facility prepared. Although the youth were not actually excited about that meal, there was still a special spark of exhilaration that illuminated from them. You see sharing a meal is more than the food. A shared meal represents friendship, community, hospitality, affirmation, and grace.

A MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

By Tom McCarty, International Council President

As they say in the current vernacular, "Is this our mission in Kairos or what?" Steve Green answered that question as well as I ever could, so here is his

People Need The Lord



Every day they pass me by;
I can see it in their eyes.
Empty people filled with care,
Headed who knows where?

On they go through private pain,
Living fear to fear.
Laughter hides their silent cries,
Only Jesus hears.

People need the Lord; people need the Lord.
At the end of broken dreams, He's the open door.
People need the Lord; people need the Lord.
When will we realize, people need the Lord?

We are called to take His light
To a world where wrong seems right.
What could be too great a cost
For sharing Life with one who's lost?

Through His love our hearts can feel
All the grief they bear.
They must hear the Words of Life
Only we can share.

People need the Lord; people need the Lord
At the end of broken dreams, He's the open door.
People need the Lord; people need the Lord.
When will we realize that we must give our lives,
For people need the Lord.

People Need The Lord.

Thank you, Steve.
To all of us, keep on carrying that light!

2018 Financial Policies and Procedures Available

Thank you to all State Financial Secretaries! It has been a great year of learning and growing in our abilities to effectively steward the funds donated to this life-changing ministry. Every year, we can only aim to become even better at managing with integrity and transparency.

Therefore, we are pleased to announce that the 2018 edition of the Financial Policies and Procedures is approved and has been loaded on the mykairos.org website. A few forms were redesigned, and a tab was added to the Check Request Form for Interministry check requests (such as for Advanced Kairos Training registration fees). The Chart of Accounts Glossary should also aid in a financial understanding of what the numbers mean.

We are eager for another year of Kairos ministry, and it is my hope that we will reflect *1 Peter 3:8, "Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind."* Merry Christmas! Julie Collins, National Controller

10 Kairos Things You Can Do This Christmas Holiday

Of course we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ at Christmas. This is also a perfect time to take a step back and look at things you can do to make a bigger impact for Kairos Prison Ministry! Here are some ideas:

1. Duplicate Yourself
Invite someone to become a volunteer, perhaps by taking them to a Weekend closing.

2. Cookies
Regardless if your unit takes in prepackaged or homemade cookies, start recruiting cookie donors and bakers.

3. Leadership
Kairos is always looking for good leaders at every level of the ministry. Step out in faith, and ask your Advisory Council how you can become more involved. Pray about what gifts you have, and how they can best be used.

4. Spokesperson
Be prepared to share the Kairos story everywhere you go. Wear clothing with the Kairos logo – it starts conversations. Place an order for brochures at mykairos.org to hand out during the holiday. Our new one page flyer would fit nicely in your Christmas cards.

5. Support Teams and Day Angels
Going into prison may not be for everyone, and finding the time to volunteer for a Kairos Weekend is time consuming and maybe difficult for some. Invite people to serve on Support teams, or if they are not Kairos Graduates, as Day Angels for Kairos Outside.

6. Donors
Many people are focused on giving during the holiday season. They want to give to worthy causes. Let people know that Kairos is always being asked to expand into more communities and prisons. Speak to everyone you know and spread the word that you are looking for Donors for your local Kairos Weekends.

7. Prayers
Prayer is free, and everything we do in Kairos is covered in prayer. Ask people to pray for you, the team, the Weekend, and the participants of Kairos. Tell them how they can sign up for prayer vigils.

8. Agape
Talk to friends, church members, and relatives who have children. Suggest that during the Christmas break they create Agape for your Spring Weekend. Kids get bored during the holidays, this is a great opportunity for them to stay busy while making a difference!

9. Brainstorm
Get together with members of your Kairos community and think of innovative ways to recruit volunteers, raise funds, and promote the ministry.

10. Meal Tickets
It is never too early to begin raising funds for upcoming Kairos Weekends. Order your meal tickets now for your spring Weekends. While everyone is in the giving spirit ask them to purchase a meal ticket or purchase one in the

Cheeseburgers and Pepsi at the Lord's Table

This was a blog post that was passed on to us by a volunteer to remind us even the smallest of things can be a demonstration of love.

I have walked around with the name of Charles Darwin taped to my back. I have written personal questions on a paper airplane and thrown it across the room. I have been blindfolded and forced to navigate an obstacle course by following the verbal instructions of a stranger. In each case, I recoiled at the juvenile inanity of the ubiquitous icebreaker.

However, one of those team-building activities not only taught me a great deal about the personalities and the priorities of those with whom I would be working in close quarters during an intensive three-day weekend. It also allowed me to discover and reflect on one of the most moving experiences of my life. We were sitting in a circle of about 36 chairs, and I was one of the last participants when I told the story of my most memorable meal.

That meal took place at a location not widely known for its relaxing ambiance nor for its culinary delicacies, the North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women in Raleigh. As a member of the Kairos Prison Ministry, I had spent the previous three days working with a group of 24 residents of this maximum-security prison a couple of miles from the state capitol in Raleigh.

With a program including talks and testimonies by lay women and clergy, organized small-group conversations, church services, a healing and forgiveness ceremony, and a lot of singing, Kairos seeks to create servant leaders within the prison population. The residents who participate are chosen from among those with long-term sentences–several years to life–so that they will be able not only to serve as behavioral and spiritual examples to their fellow inmates individually but also, through accretion over time, to stabilize and harmonize the entire environment.

Both the residents and the Kairos team participants learn numerous valuable lessons, primarily about giving and receiving love. We who left the safety of our pristine homes to spend several days in the drab and sprawling brick complex in one of the city's most dangerous neighborhoods learned quickly and forever that we can love murderers, armed robbers, and drug dealers because we saw them through God's eyes and in his image.

Those once-dangerous felons, many of whom had never experienced love, likewise learned–slowly, but I hope forever–to accept and trust that love from others and to feel it for themselves because they finally understood the same lesson we experienced immediately: that they were daughters of God.

One of those lessons in love given and received occurred during the final meal we shared. A great incentive for residents to participate in of Kairos is the food. For three delectable days, they get a reprieve from the sameness of prison food. Members of the kitchen team make hearty and tasty meals–homemade vegetable soup and lasagna and all manner of savory casseroles. Likewise, they provide fresh fruits and vegetables, not readily available in the regular prison diet.

> "An outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, that meal taught me all I need to know about the sacramental nature of daily life. I pray that I will remember it more often."

(continued from page 11 - Cheeseburgers and Pepsi at the Lord's Table)

Even with the required plastic forks and spoons (plastic knives and all metal utensils can be used as weapons), these family-style meals shared at small tables offer the safety for relaxed conversation, interaction, and trust. In fact, even though I spent most of the weekend with the same six women, meal times provided the best opportunities for us to share our mutual stories, and develop bonds that lasted long past the long weekend we spent together.

However, I had never begun to understand the fundamental truth that breaking bread together is the first step to Christian community until the kitchen team brought out the hamburgers on our final night together. Grilled patties were already on toasted buns, but the unimaginable delight were the condiments.

The enthusiasm was contagious as the women got to choose mustard, mayonnaise, or ketchup–or all three. There were pickles and onions and relish, chili and cheese, sliced tomatoes and lettuce! It was the food of the gods for these women who never have those choices–or any. I heard gleeful chattering and saw tears on many faces as these, my precious sisters, made their way down the cafeteria line.

As they sat down at their tables, however, the entire room became eerily silent. Slowly, I heard a collective gasp and looked around, bewildered. And then I saw the reason for this moment of awe and disbelief.

Members of our team were walking from table to table carrying cafeteria trays filled with cans of cold Pepsi. These women were almost unable to grasp the fact that they had been trusted with a can of soda. They didn't grumble about sugar or caffeine or a preference for Coke products. They were simply filled with unspeakable gratitude for this unexpected gift of love.

Yes, I believe that Christ is present when we kneel together at the Lord's Table and receive the gifts of bread and wine in celebration of the Holy Eucharist. But I know he was present in the sharing of cheeseburgers and Pepsi in the gym at the women's prison in Raleigh. An outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, that meal taught me all I need to know about the sacramental nature of daily life. I pray that I will remember it more often.

Ella Raffle, 88, was born October 4th, 1929 in Akron, OH to James and Pearl Dickens. She passed on October 28th in Puyallup, WA.

Ella and family moved to Clovis, NM on Pearl Harbor Day. She met airman Ernie Raffle and they married on Dec 24th, 1947. They moved to Roslyn, WA where Ernie was a coal miner by trade. Their first 3 children were born in Roslyn.

They moved to Maple Valley and Ella worked for 35 years at the Boeing Company, a career she truly loved. She retired in 1990, whereupon she and Ernie took a motorhome trip across the United States.

Ella was active at Cornerstone United Methodist Church while she lived in Maple Valley. She also loved her time spent with the Kairos Prison Ministry at the Washington Correction Center for Women, working on countless retreats and boards where many remember her as Grandma Ella.

After she moved to Auburn, WA she became an active member of the Sumner United Methodist Church. She often stated that worshipping at the Sumner United Methodist Church was like returning home to her Methodist youth in New Mexico.

Ella is survived by her son Lea (Karen) and five grandchildren. She is deeply loved and will be missed by her family and friends. She is preceded in death by: her husband Ernie, infant baby Billy, son George, and daughter Judy.

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Rodger (RP) Pirnie Doyle, 84, was born on May 28,1933 to Admiral A.K. Doyle & Jamie Reese Doyle. He recently passed on November 9th in Pensacola, FL.

RP had two children, Margaret Reese Doyle Yale of Littleton, CO and Austin Crowther Doyle of Ft. Worth, TX. He was also a beloved Pop-Pop to two granddaughters, Reese Yale & Riley Yale of Littleton, CO.

His living siblings are Wright Doyle and Peter Doyle; he is predeceased by brother Austin Doyle Jr. and sister Laurie Hammond.

RP served as a Marine, and graduated from Washington & Lee University and then attended LSU School of Banking. He worked in banking most of his early career and moved back to Pensacola in 1989.

He worked for Lakeview Center, The West Florida Blood Bank, and ECUA.

RP was an all-around great athlete playing football & lacrosse in high school & college. He loved to play golf & tennis and he attended First Baptist Church where he sang in the choir, was a long time Rotary Club member & also faithfully attended a men's bible study.

The most joy he received the last several years was being involved in the Kairos Prison Ministry and visiting family. Rodger never met a stranger and was known to make fast friends. If you ever met him he surely asked his favorite questions, "Where are you from" and "Where did you go to school?"

His favorite bible verse to recite to all he encountered was, "*This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it"* Psalm 118:24

In lieu of flowers, you may send donations in his name to: Kairos Prison Ministry, P.O. Box 11504, Pensacola, FL 32524.

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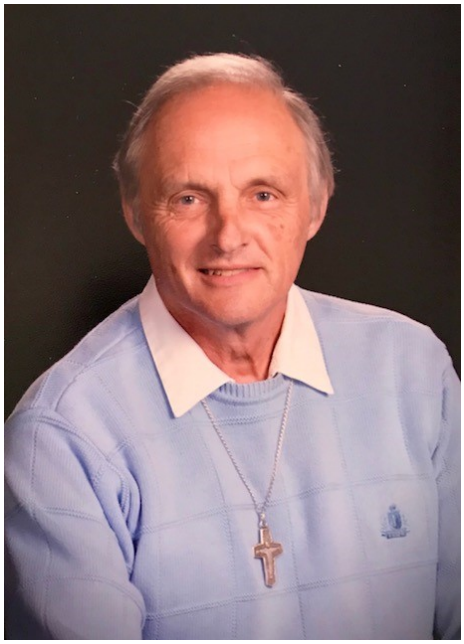
Gary Tatu, 76, of Buffalo, NY passed on November 6th after a short illness. His legacy includes leaving a life as a successful home improvement contractor to become a champion of the poor in Buffalo.

Mr. Tatu was born in Buffalo and was a member of the Class of 1959

at Williamsville High School. After graduating from the U.S. Naval Training Academy in Bainbridge, Md., he studied at the



U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. Returning to Buffalo, he began working as an insurance underwriter for Crum & Forester. The remodeling work he did on his home in Amherst led neighbors to ask him to work on their houses and soon he had a thriving business as a home improvement contractor in Amherst and Clarence.

He and his future wife, Linda, first met through coincidence. Both were attending a roller coaster convention at Darien Lake. "We went up on the Viper and he sat beside me," she recalled. They were married in 1985.

When Gary Tatu and his wife heard Christian singer John Michael Talbot invoke Jesus' message to "sell all you have, give it to the poor," they took that message to heart.

The couple sold their comfortable home in Amherst so they could buy the former South Presbyterian Church at 1782 Seneca St., where they co-founded Harvest House, a spirituality center and service agency in South Buffalo.

"We have $180,000 in a house that serves just the two of us," Gary Tatu told Buffalo News in 1993 after acquiring the church. "We can take that money and put it in this building and serve hundreds of people."

They paid off the mortgage on Harvest House seven years early, and then 14 years ago turned a donated former truck dealership at 175 Jefferson Ave. into the Harvest House Ministry Center, which houses a health care clinic, an education center for adults, and a ministry that provides free clothing for children.

"His vision to help lift people out of poverty is the gift he has left to the community," said Carol Murphy, president of Harvest House.

The Tatus received numerous awards, including Buffalo News 1999 Citizen of the Year, the Daniel R. Acker Community Service Award from the NAACP Buffalo Branch and the Sister Karen Klimczak Peaceprints Award.

They were also honored with the 2011 President's Award for Community Service from Trocaire College and the 2013 Spirit of Mercy Award from Mount Mercy Academy.

He graduated from the Chaplaincy Course at the St. Jude Center. He was active in the Buffalo Cursillo, Kairos Prison Ministry and Koinonia movements. He also was part of the team that took the first Christian retreats to St. Petersburg, Russia.

He volunteered for Meals on Wheels and at the former Erie County Home and Infirmary, where he and his wife started the Christmas Day visiting program.

He was a past member of the Niagara River Yacht Club, the Jolly Boys of Williamsville and the Western New York Coaster Club.

In addition to his wife, survivors include sons David and Daniel; daughter Tamara Rutledge; brother Albert; sisters Sandra McCormick and Barbara Iuvone; and two granddaughters.

"*Gary Tatu was an amazing Catholic man. I have known him for more than 20 years. During that time I have seen Gary fulfill God's plans for him through his dedication to being a true disciple of Christ. He tirelessly gave of himself to better the lives of others. He did this through his work with Cursillo, his work as a Kairos Volunteer, and in his work with Harvest House. Gary and his wife Linda gave up everything to make Harvest House into a reality. What a leap of faith the two of them undertook. Today, tens of thousands of people are the beneficiaries of their sacrifice and dedication to our Lord. God rest his soul."*

God bless you, Mark Duguay

KAIROS REMEMBERS

James (Jim) Warren Boyle, 73, of Valdosta, GA, passed away unexpectedly on December 5th.

Jim's life was characterized by his love of people, sharing his faith and helping others. He graduated from North Florida Junior College and Valdosta State College. He taught school in the Lowndes School System and then transitioned to a career at Langdale Forest Products Company.

He was an active member of the Park Avenue United Methodist Church and was a member of the choir and the United Methodist Men. He was passionate about helping others and very involved in the Kairos Prison Ministry.

His survivors include daughters Sarah Elizabeth Boyle, Stephanie Ruth Boyle, and Allison and Brian Veal; grandson Aaron Veal; sister and brother-in-law Dr. Anita B. Renfroe and Aubrey Vance Renfroe, Col. USAF-retired; niece, Audra Lynn and Sean Campbell; and great-nieces, Emily, Rachel and Abigail Campbell; nephew Aubrey Nicholas Renfroe; brothers-in-law, Paul Sherman and Tim Sherman.

Preceding him in death is his wife, Jocelyn Sherman Boyle; parents, Gloria and Walter Eugene Boyle and mother-in-law and father-in-law, Rev. Dr. Goddard and Sally Sherman.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to: Valdosta Prison Ministries (Kairos) P.O. Box 5203 Valdosta GA 31603 or your favorite charity. Condolences may be conveyed online at www.mclanecares.com.

Holiday Gift Ideas

As you consider your year-end gifts, there are many options that can benefit Kairos.

1. Honor or memorialize your family, friends and loved ones by making a "**Gift from the Heart"** donation to Kairos. This is a wonderful way to commemorate significant milestones such as holidays or birthdays.

2. A **cash gift** is an easy way to help Kairos and secure a charitable deduction in 2017.

3. Gifts of **Appreciated Stock** may offer an even better tax advantage than the gift of cash.

4. If you want to leave a real legacy with long lasting positive impact beyond your lifetime, consider a gift to Kairos in your will in the form of a **Legacy Gift**.

5. Do you own a **life insurance policy** that is no longer needed? It would be a perfect gift for Kairos.

6. **IRA Charitable Rollover**. If you are $70^{1/2}$ or older, an IRA charitable rollover will lower the income and taxes from your IRA withdrawals and provide a wonderful investment for Kairos.

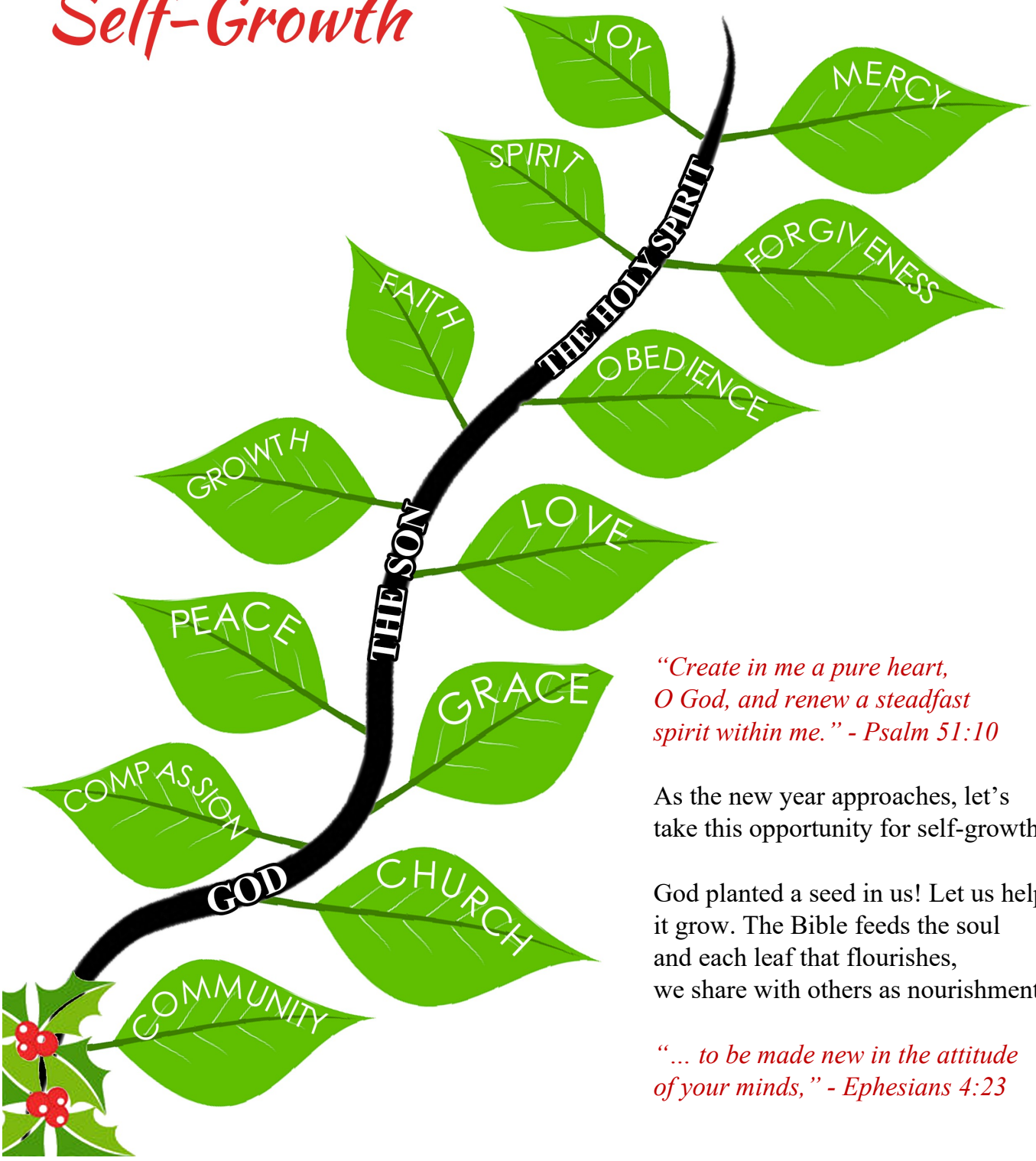
These are just a few of the ways you can support this incredible ministry. Please keep in mind any contributions given for tax deduction purposes need to be postmarked before December 31st.

You have the easy option of visiting kairosprisonminstry.org to use either credit card or e-check, or mailing your check to: Kairos Prison Ministry, 100 DeBary Blvd, DeBary, FL 32713

2018: A New Year To Begin With A

A Fresh Start

Self-Growth



"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." - Psalm 51:10

As the new year approaches, let's take this opportunity for self-growth.

God planted a seed in us! Let us help it grow. The Bible feeds the soul and each leaf that flourishes, we share with others as nourishment.

"... to be made new in the attitude of your minds," - Ephesians 4:23

KAIROS TRAINING

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 who, what, 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 their volunteers (who may have been used to paying out of their own pocket previously to a Host State) to make their donations to their local Advisory Council instead to help build the budget to allow for more volunteers to attend trainings.

Be Sure to Bring Your Training Manual With You to Training!

You must complete the entire Advanced Kairos Training in order to receive your certificate and become a Weekend Leader.

UPCOMING ADVANCED KAIROS TRAINING SCHEDULE

January 12, 2018	**COLUMBUS, OH**	**Kairos Inside**
February 2, 2018	**RICHMOND, VA**	**Kairos Inside**
February 9, 2018	**INDIANAPOLIS, IN**	**Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside, and Kairos Torch**
February 16, 2018	**HAMPTON, GA**	**Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside, and Kairos Torch**
March 16, 2018	**AMARILLO, TX**	**Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside**
March 23, 2018	**KANSAS CITY, MO**	**Kairos Inside**
March 23, 2018	**POMONA, CA**	**Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside**
May 18, 2018	**DENVER, CO**	**Kairos Inside**
June 1, 2018	**HUNTSVILLE, TX**	**Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside**
June 30, 2018	**JACKSONVILLE, FL**	**Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside**
July 20, 2018	**BUFFALO, NY**	**Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside**
July 20, 2018	**RALEIGH, NC**	**Kairos Inside**

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

Kairos Weekends through March 13, 2018

Date	State, Country	Institution	W/E #	Leader	Program
12/28/17	Texas, USA	Ferguson	64	Randy Nettles	Kairos Inside - Men's
12/31/17	Australia	Wolston CC	9	Brian Stone	Kairos Inside - Men's
01/12/18	Illinois, USA	Illinois	5	Carol Prunty	Kairos Outside
01/19/18	Maine, USA	Maine CC	5	Amanda Seekins	Kairos Inside - Women's
01/25/18	Texas, USA	Wallace Unit CF	38	Ron Bearden	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/04/18	Louisiana, USA	Angola SP		Terri Fitzgerald	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/07/18	North Carolina, USA	NC Central Prison	47	Raymond LaCroix	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/08/18	Alaska, USA	Wildwood CC	12	Ronald O'Lena	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/08/18	Alabama, USA	Aliceville FCI for Women	9	Tricia McBride	Kairos Inside - Women's
02/08/18	Kentucky, USA	Kentucky SP	7	Mike Bayer	Kairos Inside - Women's
02/13/18	Texas, USA	Jester Prison III	2	Jeff Eby	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/15/18	Florida, USA	Jefferson CI	23	John C. Hess	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/15/18	North Carolina, USA	Alexander CI	26	Ritch Bolick	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/15/18	Texas, USA	Hutchins State Jail	25	Steve L. Whatley	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/16/18	Pennsylvania, USA	FCI Allenwood	8	Park Williams	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/16/18	California, USA	San Quentin SP	50	Darold Gonzales	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/16/18	California, USA	Valley SP	8	Brian Bennett	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/16/18	California, USA	Central California WF	20	Terri Caruso	Kairos Inside - Women's
02/22/18	Alabama, USA	Bibb County CF	34	Stephen L Frost	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/22/18	Alabama, USA	Elmore CF	17	John Alexander	Kairos Inside - Men's
02/22/18	California, USA	Salinas Valley CF	4	Angel Rivera	Kairos Inside - Men's
03/01/18	Indiana, USA	New Castle CF	17	Britt Buhler	Kairos Inside - Men's
03/01/18	Maryland, USA	Roxbury CI	17	Marcus Day	Kairos Inside - Men's
03/01/18	Texas, USA	Hughes Unit	41	Hugo Naumann	Kairos Inside - Men's
03/01/18	Tennessee, USA	West Tennessee SP	41	Kenny Futrell	Kairos Inside - Men's
03/01/18	Texas, USA	Stevenson Prison	27	Coleman Nalls	Kairos Inside - Men's
03/01/18	Florida, USA	Hernando CI	42	Tammi Wilds	Kairos Inside - Women's
03/4/18	Connecticut, USA	Manson Youth Institution	11	Craig Trent	Torch
03/08/18	Georgia, USA	Coastal SP	17	Louis Buckner	Kairos Inside - Men's
03/08/18	Texas, USA	Jordan Unit	43	Mack Shirley	Kairos Inside - Men's
03/08/18	South Carolina, USA	Camille Graham CI	58	Dianne Boykin	Kairos Inside - Women's
03/08/18	**Texas, USA**	**Hilltop Unit**	1	**Pat Evans**	Kairos Inside - Women's
03/09/18	Mississippi, USA	Central Mississippi	27		Kairos Outside
03/13/18	Virginia, USA	Augusta CC	39	Douglas Gaskell	Kairos Inside - Men's

To post your Kairos Weekend or receive more Weekend information go to www.mykairos.org

Agape Contacts for Upcoming Weekends:

Agape contacts for upcoming Kairos Weekends are located at the top of the Kairos Kalendar page of mykairos.org in Excel format so you can download it. **Please be sure your Weekends are posted well in advance of their actual dates and your agape contact and their email address are included.** Also, remember to send in your agape to agape@mykairos.org.

Have You 'Liked' and "Followed" us on Social Media & Blog?

Our **Facebook** page has OVER 4,500 fans — are you one of them? If not, you're missing out on Kairos news, blogs, and inspirational messages! "Like" our page at facebook.com/kairosprisonministry. SHARE our posts with your friends! This is a great way to spread the Kairos message.

Our **Facebook "Group"** page for volunteers has been transformed into a NEW page with 2,800+ members, are you one of them? This is where we share Kairos topics of prayer, encouragement, stories, etc.! Come "Join" our group at facebook.com/groups/KairosPrisonMinistryInternational. Let your voice be heard!

Follow us on **Twitter** at @kairosprisonmin — Send us a tweet and let us know what you or your ministry is doing, or what prayers are needed. We "RE-TWEET" other @Mentions of Kairos Prison Ministry and its a great way to find out more about Kairos around the world!

Are you on **Google+**? We would love to have you follow us and connect with you there too! You can find us google.com/+KairosprisonministryOrgIntl

Have you seen some of the powerful testimony videos and transformational change that happens when God uses our Kairos team? Subscribe and watch us on YouTube @KairosPrisonMinistryOrgIntl.

Are you a member of **Kairos E-News?** We send out a quick update for our volunteers on the first of every month. To sign up, visit mykairos.org and fill out the Kairos E-News Form at the bottom of the home page.

Sharing and re-posting about Kairos Prison Ministry makes a greater impact on our ministry.

www.kairosprisonministry.org

The Mission of the 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.

Our Vision is a community spiritually freed from the effects of imprisonment reaching all impacted by incarceration, through the love, hope, and faith found in Jesus Christ.

Core Values:

- Lay led Christ Centered Ministry
- Empowerment While Building Accountability
- Continuing Ministry Model to Build Community
- Trustworthy
- Respect and Love
- Stewardship