



Kairos E-News #70 - Current News for Kairos Volunteers – May 2017

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away: behold, the new has come. 2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV

Springtime—God’s Special Time (Evelyn Lemly, CEO)

As spring brings flowers, budding trees, and singing birds, it also brings a multitude of Kairos Weekends. That means many hours spent in team meetings, preparation, and training. It means hundreds of prayer warriors covering the ministry. And it means that we will see God at work and feel His presence. We are blessed to be a part of this and know God’s Special Time! We cannot emphasize enough the importance of the preparation to get to the Weekend—for the spiritual unity, each person knowing their role, knowing the facility rules, and knowing the program by the manual. Nor can we emphasize enough the importance of the Continuing Ministry—for the building of community, forming accountability and prayer, and learning and growing in faith. We celebrate the hard work and dedication of everyone involved in Kairos and being dedicated to working the ministry with Excellence. Philippians 4:8: *“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.”*

2017 Annual Conference (Ann Kreller, Executive Administrative Assistant)

The 2017 Kairos Annual Conference will be held July 25–29, 2017 at the Wyndham Peachtree Conferencing Center in Peachtree, GA. Registration can be found on the www.mykairos.org website by using this link:

http://www.mykairos.org/docs/kpmi/conference_registration_form_2017.pdf

Annual Conference Workshops (Ann Kreller, Executive Administrative Assistant)

A listing of the conference workshops can be found on the mykairos.org website:

http://www.mykairos.org/docs/kpmi/conference_workshop_descriptions_2017.pdf

Agape Contacts Reminder

A listing of Agape contacts for upcoming Kairos Weekends is now available on the mykairos.org website. This information is compiled from the Weekend information that is posted on the Kairos Kalendar and is available in Excel format. You will be able to cut and paste all of the contact email addresses into your email instead of cutting and pasting each one individually. We hope this will make the exchanging of Agape much less cumbersome. In order for this to be effective, please be sure your Weekends are posted well in advance of their actual dates and your Agape contact and their email address is included in the posting. To access this information, please go to:

<http://www.mykairos.org/kalendar.html> and click on ‘Agape Contacts for Upcoming Weekends.’

Board of Directors Update (Vicki Spurgeon, Board Chair)

In April the Board of Directors met over three days to learn, share, and grow as one body striving

to do the will of our Lord for Kairos. Spiritual health and growth remains a primary focus of the Board as we realize we must be spiritually healthy as individuals to be a spiritually healthy group. Twice daily group devotional, reflection, and prayer times were a highlight for us. We also interacted with all of the Kairos staff as we shared lunch, conversation, and laughter. Additionally, we prayed for each staff member and the work they do to bring glory to God. Time was spent hearing from the Program Coordinators, learning about financial reports from the Controller, and receiving information from the CEO.

We also received and approved a recommendation from the Foundation Board to streamline activities and incorporate the functions of the Foundation into Kairos and adopted a Gift Acceptance Policy they had previously reviewed and adopted in the fall. We had conversation about our Board roles and the role of the CEO and staff in an organization operating in a governing board model. As we considered our fundraising responsibilities as a Board, we also discussed Board expenses and how to best handle those moving forward.

In all of our governing bodies, from the Advisory Councils to the Board, we come together to give our best effort, to Listen, Listen, Love, Love as we pursue the Kairos mission. Let us do it together and remember: *May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.* Romans 15:5-6

International Council Update (John Miller, International Council President)

Spring finally made it here, and the Weekends are upon us! As I write this, there are 60 Weekends and two AKT trainings coming up. And the beauty of this is that it is INTERNATIONAL! You all know, whether you've been a Weekend leader or a team member, the amount of planning, the volunteer recruitment, the spiritual growth of the team, that it takes to do a Weekend. Multiply that times the number of states and countries and the Advisory Councils in Kairos. You are to be commended for your successes, but more importantly, for your commitment to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Your bringing in the light and love of Jesus to the dark depths of the prisons and the outside communities is what makes the difference in people's lives. The guests begin to realize at the Prayer and Shares and at the Reunions that there is a Christian community in which they can share and of which they be a part. This is why we do the Weekends—not for the sake of the Weekends, but rather to build that Christian community in the facilities and in the outside communities. Continue to fulfill our mission of Listen, Listen, Love, Love and Jesus' command in Matthew 28:19-20. Continue to reach out and recruit new volunteers. There is a wealth of people wanting to work, and all we have to do is ask.

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

I want to thank all of you for the warmth and support I have received since I walked through the door March 29th to start this new adventure. I look forward to supporting and helping you in your Kairos Ministry as we pray and talk together. It is amazing how quickly God can change the course of your life and use a lot of experiences and events that He wove into the fabric of your life when you weren't watching or really noticing—just ask me, and I will tell you the story!

As we are in the midst of the spring Weekends, I am in awe of the potential impact of your loving and listening. Go to the Kairos Kalendar on mykairos.org and see the number of Weekends coming up. Then take some time to pray for the impact of Kairos on the men, women, and youth who are imprisoned, and on everyone impacted by their incarceration.

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

We are in the midst of doing Weekends all over the world. As Weekend Leaders, teams, and Advisory Councils are taking care of the last-minute details for each of these Weekends, they all need to be mindful and remind volunteers that they are ***always*** guests in the Warden's house.

The Warden has the authority to set the rules for his or her house, and as Kairos volunteers we should not resist or complain about the institution's rules and regulations. If volunteers don't explicitly follow the rules and regulations of the institutions where they serve, they are not only putting themselves in jeopardy of not being invited back into the institution to serve, but they are also putting Kairos in jeopardy of not being invited back to the institution! Volunteers must all realize and accept that the first concern of the institutions is security. Weekend Leaders must be constantly aware of the activities of every member of their team throughout the Weekend, and sensitive to any action by a team member individually, or the group as a whole, that violates the rules and regulations of the institution or might do harm to Kairos' relationship with the institution.

One of the ways that experienced team members get into trouble is that they become so familiar and comfortable with the ministry that they slowly forget about obedience. "They" know what to do and what can be done. The rules are for someone else. We must all be mindful, because sooner or later the loss of an obedient spirit may catch up with individuals and they may find themselves being removed from participation in the ministry.

The Kairos life is one of learning to lay down our will and to joyfully serve in obedience. It starts with Christ, and extends to prison authorities and the methods of Kairos.

Kairos Torch Update (Kevin Resnover, Youth Ministry Coordinator)

Lite n' Lively activities are a very important element on the Kairos Torch Weekend. The youthful Participants will typically have short attention spans, be full of energy, and be eager to participate in fun activities. The Lite n' Lively activities listed in the program manual are designed with these facts in mind and when properly executed can meet those needs and add to the development of the Participants' concept of teamwork, self-esteem, and other life-management skills. These activities can also be an opportunity to present biblical concepts in a subtle, non-threatening way. Having fun while learning is a great combination for hurting youth.

Is Your Weekend Listed?

If your upcoming spring 2017 Weekend is not listed on the Kairos Kalendar, complete the electronic registration on the www.mykairos.org website so we can adequately publicize your Weekend. **This is especially important for #1 Weekends.** We create a banner-type advertisement especially for those #1 Weekends.

Spanish Translation of the E-News

A Spanish translation of E-News (E-Noticias) is also published monthly. If you would like to view previous issues or subscribe to future E-News in Spanish, please go to:
http://www.mykairos.org/news_enevs-sp.html

La traducción al español de E-News (E-Noticias) se publica mensualmente. Si quiere ver las E-Noticias anteriores o suscribirse para recibir ejemplares futuros, vaya a http://www.mykairos.org/news_eneews-sp.html

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