



Kairos E-News #37 - Current News for Kairos Volunteers – October 2014

Prayer coverage (Evelyn Lemly, Executive Director) – As we serve in this ministry, let us ensure we are covering each volunteer, Advisory Council, State, Country, staff, volunteer leader, Weekends, and continuing ministry activities in prayer. As we know, this is God's ministry we serve in. We need to be seeking His guidance, asking for His grace and wisdom, and giving all to Him for His glory. Each week we send out the upcoming Weekends for prayer coverage, but let's remember to pray continually for Kairos Prison Ministry.

ACT Training - We are excited to announce that the Advisory Council Training, or ACT, will be available to all Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside, and Kairos Torch Advisory Councils beginning in December 2014. The program coordinators will hold a "train the trainers" weekend in November for our new ACT trainers. If your Advisory Council is interested in receiving this new training, please contact your State Committee chair, who will then contact Phaedra Mills at the International office to make all the arrangements for a trainer to come to your state and conduct the training. Please, whenever possible, coordinate with other Advisory Councils in your state to come together for this valuable training.

Board of Directors Update (Jim Hankins, Chair) – It's great to be heading into fall and leaving summer behind. I think it's wonderful that Kairos Prison Ministry is so widespread that fall means something different to us depending on where we are. In Arkansas, it means we leave behind the heat and humidity of August and enjoy several months of cool, crisp, dry air in forests of brilliant fall colors. To some of you it may mean snow, while others may see little change outdoors but enjoy the season of football.

The Board of Directors is preparing for its Fall Retreat in North Carolina. We have many challenges to discuss, as operating a nonprofit in our world today remains difficult. We will also continue training as a Board to be sure that we are at our best in guiding Kairos. We remain dedicated to serving God's ministry and seeking ways to form community with all those God has given us to reach. Please be in prayer for the Board as we meet October 30-November 1.

International Council Update (Lee Turner, International Council President) – The International Council and our committees remain focused on improving the quality of our programs; defining the parameters of starting the ministry in a new country; evaluating the excellence of our programs in a meaningful way; providing recruiting tools for our volunteers; looking for synergy across the three programs; and capitalizing on our strengths and common ground.

As we all work toward improving the operational health of the ministry, it occurs to me that what we may be facing is simply an attitude issue. Not a "good attitude" or a "bad attitude," but simply the difference between "try" and "do." In my experience, it is simple: *The word "try" is a failure*

word. It allows you to have a failure plan versus an accomplishment plan. As an air traffic controller, I would have never thought to say, "I will try to keep these two airplanes apart."

Imagine the difference to an Advisory Council that says, "We'll try to recruit a full team" vs. "We will recruit a full team." Why do we use the word "try," and do this to ourselves? Because it is easier that way. Saying "try" and failing has become a noble thing in our society (Google Teddy Roosevelt's Man in the Arena speech), as it implies that you put forth effort. But, imagine the difference of "try" versus "do" if you were standing next to a 1,000-foot drop-off into a chasm filled with molten lava. "I'll try not to fall off this edge" vs. "I'm not falling off this edge." Which one would you pick? I know which one means more to me! Are the consequences of "try" vs. "do" to those we minister to at least as important?

Ok, so is this all just semantics? I think a "will do" attitude can make a huge difference in this ministry. We can accomplish even greater things (John 14:12). So what if you miss the mark? It's okay! The world will not stop spinning. Keep on "doing" for the Kingdom.

Men's Ministry Update (Ken Rocks, Men's Ministry Coordinator) – Welcome Kentucky to the family of Kairos Prison Ministry! Kentucky became the 35th state to have Kairos. Over the weekend of September 25-28, Kentucky State Prison (KSP) in Eddyville, Kentucky, conducted the first Kairos Men's Weekend event. I was blessed to be able to witness the tremendous efforts of the local volunteers. When I say local, I mean that Illinois, Indiana, Tennessee, and Kentucky contributed to the effort. God opened doors in smooth fashion as we watched the Holy Spirit do what only the Spirit of God can do. By all accounts, it was a glorious success. A total of 24 men participated in what can be described as a united effort by the Prison Administration and staff. KSP is already looking forward to their second Weekend next year. State Chair Larry Choate spoke of a women's facility opening up to Kairos in Kentucky as well. Let's give all the Glory to God, and pray for the men and women who supported KSP #1 in such a holy and unselfish manner.

Women's Ministry Update (Gina Brockmeyer, Women's Ministry Coordinator) – I am so excited to begin my work here at Kairos. As I begin this new journey, I am excited to see what God has been doing with all of our women's ministry programs, and I am even more excited to see what He will do in the future. I want to thank everyone for their kind words of welcome; they have truly blessed and encouraged me. As we go forward, it is my prayer that we will grow the women's ministry programs, that we will strive to serve Him with a "spirit of excellence," and that the women we serve will see Christ in each of us. I pray they will truly come to know and understand that they are extravagantly loved by God!

Kairos Torch Update (Kevin Resnover, Youth Ministries Coordinator) – The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was enacted by the United States Congress in 2003 to address the problem of sexual abuse of people in the custody of U.S. correctional agencies. The Act applies to all public and private institutions that house adult or juvenile offenders and is also relevant to community-based agencies. It addresses both inmate-on-inmate sexual abuse and staff/volunteers sexual misconduct. Some of the Juvenile correctional facilities are beginning to require that Kairos Torch Volunteers go through this online training before they can serve in their institutions. In an effort to stay current, we have added this information to Advanced Kairos Training (AKT) for Kairos Torch. Your facility will soon require this training ,so please go online today and get ahead of the prerequisite. You can go online to [http://www.djj.state.fl.us/docs/prea/prea-core-training-9-18-2013-website-version-\(2\).pdf](http://www.djj.state.fl.us/docs/prea/prea-core-training-9-18-2013-website-version-(2).pdf)?sfvrsn=6

On October 17-19, three new-start Kairos Torch Communities will present #1 Weekends to youth housed at the Chaderjian Youth Correctional Facility in California, Daytona Juvenile Residential Facility in Florida, and Logansport Juvenile Correction Facility in Indiana. Keep each of these teams in your prayers, and don't forget to get your Agape sent to each of these Weekends.

Best practices to take us toward ministry excellence in our financial management of God's provision of funds – **Financial Segregation of Duties:** When one individual has control over an entire accounting transaction, fraud is possible. To prevent most types of theft, it is required that an organization segregate duties that relate to financial management. This also protects the individuals performing the duties by creating checks and balances. At a minimum, the following duties should be segregated to prevent theft:

- Collecting cash
- Preparing bank deposits
- Reconciling bank statements
- Posting receipts to the general ledger/contribution system

Recruitment (Loretta Abney, wife of Terry Abney, Recruitment Committee member) – It can start with nothing more than cookies. Our teams need 2,500 - 4,000 dozen cookies to take into the prison with us. I want to tell you why cookies are so important. When I go in with a team for a 4-day powerful Kairos Weekend of discipleship, only 36 of the 150 women who apply will be chosen. There are another 1,180 women on the yard, and of course, they feel rejected. Kairos makes it our goal to pass out a dozen homemade cookies to every female on the yard, two days in a row, and tell them Jesus loves them too. In order to do this, we need help. Maybe God hasn't called you to go into prison personally, but you can go in by supporting Kairos in prayer and cookies. If you will bake cookies, you will be blessed.

Confidentiality (Communications Committee) - "Loose lips sink ships" was one of the slogans of WWII. We all know that we cannot post or share photos of any of the participants of any of our programs, including official group photos, in/on our websites, newsletters, church bulletins, social media pages, texts, or in any email. That means we should also not be recording in any format an image or sound that includes our participants, except for the single approved group photo. But we should also not be sharing personally identifiable information of any kind about them or any staff member in any way, including our conversations. We need to Listen, Listen, Love, Love and protect the ministry and our participants.

New on the Website – Updated instructions for ordering the Kairos Pull-up Display Banners for fundraising/publicity events are available at
http://www.mykairos.org/docs/kpmi/kpmi_pullup_banner_directions.pdf.

The 2013 Annual Report is now available at http://www.mykairos.org/downloads_library.html.

Is Your Weekend Listed? – If your upcoming fall 2014 Weekend is not listed on the Kairos Kalender, 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_eneWS-sp.html

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