



## **Kairos E-News #48 - Current News for Kairos Volunteers – August 2015**

***Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.***

**1 Corinthians 15:58 NIV**

**Kairos Annual Conference** (Evelyn Lemly, Executive Director) – In 2015, Kairos moved from our previous two conferences per year to one. We saw an increase in attendance from many states, and we pray this provides an opportunity for more volunteers to be exposed to the exciting work of Kairos across the U.S. and the world. Our theme this year was *Reflections of Light*, with the theme verse from Ephesians 5:8: “For you were once in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light.” May Kairos continue to be a light that reflects Jesus Christ to those impacted by incarceration.

I received many favorable comments about this year’s conference. Those attending especially enjoyed an address from Cleve Bell, the only living member of the “Nine Old Men” who founded Kairos.

I am grateful to all who worked hard to make the conference happen, including our staff, the Kairos of Texas volunteers, and all those who chaired meetings and presented workshops. Thank you for your faithful service.

**Kairos continues to grow and reach more impacted by incarceration** (Evelyn Lemly, Executive Director) – It is hard to believe half of 2015 is gone. Kairos has continued to grow and renew in 2015 like it did in 2014. Within these two years, we will reach more than 50 new communities started across the world. It is amazing what God is doing, and we see a renewed spirit occurring as we approach the ministry with excellence. While the numbers are exciting, what we desire more than quantity is quality. Of course, we can accomplish both when we focus on Jesus Christ leading us and take our time to ensure we give God our best each step of the way. Kairos is blessed to have dedicated volunteers who strive for excellence and to reflect the light of Jesus.

**Board of Directors Update** (Jim Hankins, Chair) – As we head into the second half of the year, thanks are in order. Thanks to all of you who worked hard to make sure Kairos ran smoothly through the first half of 2015. All across this country and the world, you have made a great difference in the lives of many people who are impacted daily by incarceration. You have also attended to the little details that are necessary to keep Kairos accountable and moving ever closer towards our vision.

**Kairos Vision Statement:** A community spiritually freed from the effects of imprisonment reaching all impacted by incarceration, through the love, hope and faith found in Jesus Christ.

The volunteers who serve on the Kairos Board of Directors wish to thank everyone for their hard work in serving this ministry we all love.

**Men's Ministry Update** (Ken Rocks, Men's Ministry Coordinator) – The Weekend leader's report is generated through Ezra, and I read each of the 250 to 350 reports that come to me each year. Here is a gem I picked out. See if you can appreciate the new-found Kairos wisdom in it.

“The Kairos program works, though it seems some spirit leads individuals go at it with a ball bat and a carving knife to bend it to their will from time to time. No matter how much one may profess to be a humble, selfless, and obedient servant of our Lord, given 15 minutes and a podium, a passive and pious person can turn into the ‘let me interpret the Bible and reveal God to you as I see Him’ show. However, the wisdom of Kairos and the three-leader system handles that well. We are equipped with one leader to lead, one to get the shepherd's hook, and one to record what was missed in order to cover it after the show. This was a tiny problem on this Weekend, but [there was a] larger one in the past. We have grown wiser.”

Perhaps the lesson here is—if we continue to learn from our past, we can move the program closer to Christ ... and into ministry excellence. Blessings to all.

**Women's Ministry Update** (Gina Brockmeyer, Women's Ministry Coordinator) – Well, it's August—a time we begin planning for the fall Weekends. Part of this preparation is recruiting volunteers to serve on our teams. In 2010, I led a Kairos Weekend. As I prepared, I sent out an email asking volunteers to prayerfully consider submitting applications to serve. I waited for applications to arrive, and I made a list of my dream team. As the volunteer applications began arriving, I prayed. God quickly made it clear who would serve, and who would not. I began calling people to invite them to join the team. Many of my dream team members were not included. You see, God was assembling His dream team for the Weekend.

Leaders, as you are preparing for your Weekends, remember whose ministry this is. Pray over the team applications you receive. Cover every aspect of your Weekend in prayer. Set aside your agenda, follow God's agenda, and prepare to see God's hand at work!

**Kairos Torch Update** (Kevin Resnover, Youth Ministries Coordinator) – Team formation meetings in the Kairos Torch program are paramount to the success of the Weekend and the continuing ministry of mentoring. Team formation is where comprehensive training, tailored for working with high-risk youth, and the Weekend activities are assembled by the team. Even those having served in Kairos Torch for an extended period of time and who understand the flow and purpose of the Kairos Torch program must make every effort to attend all meetings. Team formation is not just about training; it is also about developing community (the body of Christ). That can only be advanced when we are in the company of each other in the spirit of fellowship.

**Kairos in the News** –.Through this new E-News feature, you can link to news stories that have posted recently about Kairos. We begin with articles from DeSoto, Mississippi; Jackson, Louisiana; and Tallahassee, Florida. Here are the links:

<http://theadvocate.com/news/eastfeliciana/12913665-123/jackson-methodist-luncheon-benefits-ministry>

[http://www.desototimes.com/news/prison-ministry-changing-lives/article\\_fe4eccde-3252-11e5-aa09-6ba17817ef51.html](http://www.desototimes.com/news/prison-ministry-changing-lives/article_fe4eccde-3252-11e5-aa09-6ba17817ef51.html)

<http://www.tallahassee.com/story/life/faith/2015/07/24/christlife-art-music-fest-rock-fairgrounds/30646037/>

**Is Your Weekend Listed?** – If your upcoming fall 2015 Weekend is not listed on the Kairos Kalendar, complete the electronic registration on the [www.MyKairos.org](http://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](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\\_enevs-sp.html](http://www.mykairos.org/news_enevs-sp.html)

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