



Merry
Christmas

“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.”

Matthew 1:21

Finish The Year Well (Evelyn Lemly, CEO)

It is hard to believe that the end of 2017 is near. For those who have served in various leadership positions in 2017, Thank You! If you are ending a term in a position, please make sure you finish well. Often this means doing the last items to close out the year, the event, or the task. It also means passing the right information to the next leader who is taking your role and being available to help them transition in order to keep things moving forward rather than starting over.

You can make a huge difference in their success and to the ministry as a whole operating seamlessly and with excellence by how you finish and hand off your role. Please make a positive difference here too. As you transition, share the job description of your role and explain what was involved and how it worked overall. Think about what you wish you had been told that would have helped you when you started and then help the next person in that way.

Kairos uses the many talents of its people to lead with a team approach. If each part does its role, then the entire team succeeds and the work is divided among many. Be a team for God, each doing our part.

1 Corinthians 12:12 *“Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.”*

Board of Directors Update (Terry Crockett, Board Chair)

As we enter into a season of preparation for the greatest celebration of all, the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus, I am reminded of the words in Colossians 4:2, *“Devote yourselves to prayer; being watchful and thankful.”* 4:6, *“Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”*

Kairos is in a season of preparation of the coming of a new year, which means many new servants filling many positions in our Weekends, our Advisory Councils, our State Chapter Committees, our International Council, our trainers for AKT and ACT, and our Board. As we pray to God for all of these servants in their new positions, let our conversation always be full of grace and seasoned with God’s love for each other.

Finally, each of us has been called to play an important role in His kingdom and always be on watch and be thankful for His presence and His blessings. I am asking for all of us to be reminded that members of the Board have no individual authority or decision making capacity, only the whole Board has governing authority. Please do not put the Board members in that position and similarly the Board members have been asked not to overstep their role.

When we serve others, we serve Jesus, and those interruptions to our daily life could be opportunities to serve Him.

Merry Christmas and have a blessed New Year.

Seeking Candidates for Board of Directors (Governance Committee of the Kairos Board)

"...whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31

Each year 5 Board Member terms expire. The International Council is tasked with electing 4 Board members each year at Annual Conference. After the Board has designated an appointee, the IC is asked to ratify the appointment. Board recruitment should be an ongoing process and is the responsibility of all members of the Kairos community. Although skills and experience are important, the Board, at its recent Fall Retreat, discussed spiritual strength as the most important attribute of a potential board member. More detailed information about the requirements and expectations of board membership is found on the MyKairos.org website under Kairos Downloads, Board Election Information.

To ensure that we have a healthy, diverse, spiritually strong and effective board, all members of the Kairos community are urged to be aware of the ongoing need to recruit and select board members. With more than 30,000 volunteers, spread over the vast geographic area that Kairos serves, the Governance Committee and the Board look to you to submit names, including your own, for vetting and consideration for nomination.

Names for consideration should be submitted to the Governance Committee by January 31, 2018 by emailing the following information to govcom@mykairos.org

1. Name of potential candidate with email and phone contact information
2. Skills/experience offered by potential candidate
3. Names of 2 references with email and phone contact information
4. Your name and contact information in case the committee needs to contact you for additional information

A form has been uploaded to

http://mykairos.org/docs/kpmi/Recommendation_for_Board_Membership.docx to make it easy for you to submit candidates. Thanks for your prayerful consideration for potential board candidates.

International Council Update (Tom McCarty, International Council President)

As we draw ever nearer to celebrating what the incomparable C.S. Lewis termed the greatest of all miracles, let me share with you a story that never grows old.

"Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was 30. Then for three years He was an

itinerant preacher. He never owned a home. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put His foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself. While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed upon a cross between two thieves. While He was dying, His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth, His coat. When He was dead, He was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Twenty long centuries have come and gone, and today He is a centerpiece of the human race and leader of the column of progress. I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched; all the navies that were ever built; all the governments that ever sat; and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of mankind upon this earth as powerfully as has that...ONE SOLITARY LIFE." *by James Allen Francis*

What a strange way to change the world!

Merry Christmas. "Because Jesus lives, Christmas is forever." (From my prison pen pal)

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

I recently saw a post on Facebook that included a picture of men attending a Kairos Weekend –team and guests both. They all looked happy and it was a great picture, but...

I wondered if every man in the prison had given permission for the photo? I wondered if there would be any unintended consequences from this post? I wondered if a victim or their family saw it, what would happen? I wondered if someone in the church who was impacted by a crime saw it what would they think or say to their fellow church members?

While I can only hope that the appropriate release forms were signed to be in the picture, I know that the release would not include anything about it being posted on social media. The reason is that Kairos has a photo policy that says. "**Group Weekend photographs will not be posted in public places, including church bulletin boards, workplaces, and the internet including any social media sites (Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, etc.).**" See the Kairos Photo Policy on mykairos.org to read the specifics.

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

I don't think that we can ever stop talking about the importance of continuing ministry in Kairos, it is the heart of our ministry. Weekends + Continuing Ministry = Kairos.

Our continuing presence in the institutions where we serve and in the lives of our Kairos Outside Guests and Kairos Torch Participants following the Weekends is the thing that makes Kairos Prison Ministry unique.

Each of our program manuals give very clear instructions about the "How to's" of conducting each aspect of our continuing ministry events, and the purpose or the "why" we do continuing ministry. If you have not read the Continuing Ministry section of your manual, or if it has been a while since you read it, please read it again. I believe the information contained there will truly help you to understand why our continuing ministry is so important to accomplishing the mission and vision of Kairos.

As you read about continuing ministry consider the following questions, “What do our Weekend Participants and Guests receive from remaining involved with the continuing ministry of Kairos? What do we want the continuing ministry to provide for them?”

As I thought about these questions and reflected on them I thought of the benefits or what I hope our Participants and Guests receive – I call them the ABCs, as I see them, of our continuing ministry. Here are the three categories and what I believe each provides our Participants and Guests.

1. **Accountability**
2. **Building Blocks for developing their Christian faith**
3. **Connection**

Accountability:

Accountability teaches them about being vulnerable and open, helps them find direction in their lives, helps them develop a deeper relationship with Christ, teaches them coping skills for life, teaches them how to trust God and others, teaches them about intimacy with God and others. It gives them hope, peace, joy, victory, and restoration.

Building Blocks for developing their Christian faith:

As our Participants and Guests remain involved with the continuing ministry I believe they gain important building blocks essential to growing their faith – a deeper and more consistent prayer life, they learn the importance of staying connected to God through his word, and through fellowship with fellow believers, they learn about ministering to and serving others, and they develop life skills and Christian character.

Connection:

Finally, our continuing ministry provides them with connection – connection to Kairos and to others. They learn about being part of a community, a family, and most importantly, the Body of Christ.

Kairos Torch Update (Kevin Resnover, Youth Ministry Coordinator)

Recent studies illustrate the negative effects on youth (across the country) that have been incarcerated for an extensive period of time. There are new trends within the Department of Juvenile Justice to reduce the amount of time youth are being held in detention to offset these findings.

However, most youth are returning to the same environment that was conducive to their being imprisoned. It has also been proven that releasing incarcerated youth into positive surroundings is paramount in reducing their rate of recidivating. I recently heard a powerful testimony of a Kairos Torch graduate that gifted his estranged mother with the opportunity to attend a Kairos Outside Weekend. In his words, it changed both of their lives and deeply seeded their relationship in a highly positive way.

Kairos Torch leaders and mentors, let’s help change these youths’ environments, and diminish their rate of return to the prison system by assisting them in filling out the Kairos Outside applications and offering their female loved ones support and a life changing experience.

Agape Contacts

A listing of Agape contacts for upcoming Kairos Weekends is 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 so that you can easily download it. In order for this to be effective, please post your Weekends well in advance of their actual dates and ensure your Agape contact and their

email address are 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.'

[New Documents Available on MyKairos.org](#)

[Updated Photo Release Form](#)

[Recommendation for Board Membership](#)

[Kairos One Page Flyer - Overview](#)

[New Agape from Angola, LA](#)

Kairos Facebook Group

Many items of interest such as upcoming Weekends, prayer requests, and inspirational stories are shared in our Kairos Facebook group. If you aren't already a member, you can request being added here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/KairosPrisonMinistryInternational>

Is Your Weekend Listed?

If your upcoming 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_enevs-sp.html

If you want to stop receiving the Kairos E-News, go to the www.MyKairos.org Home page and use the on-screen form. You may also subscribe to E-News at the www.MyKairos.org Home page, using the on-screen form.

For more information about Kairos volunteer activities, remember to visit mykairos.org and follow us on social media.

