



COLORADO



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I would like to point out a few highlights of 2017 from our Colorado State Chapter Committee.

What a year this has been. As a State Committee, we have been working hard to create an efficiently running organization that fulfills the needs of the State of Colorado and works well with the requests of KPMI.

We have created a check list for the filing of all forms requested by KPMI so the individual ACs can have a quick way to know they are supplying the needed information to our governing body and to the effective running of our Kairos teams.

We have facilitated communication so all financial secretaries can work properly with Donor to provide the needed financial information to KPMI and better organize finances for the State.

Recruitment has been made a primary goal and methods have been presented to help each AC follow the path of continually infusing their program with new recruits to keep their programs healthy.

Fundraising has been a major focus for allowing our organizations to remain viable.

We continue to work toward the effective expansion of Kairos in more facilities in Colorado and we have a committee considering bringing Kairos Outside into Colorado.

All of this has been done through team work and through prayer. Relying on the Lord is key to making the Kairos experience exceptional. Bringing the love of Jesus Christ to the incarcerated has been strengthened this year. Good people working together for a God inspired cause has made all the difference.

Our two face to face meetings and three meetings by phone have been an effective way to conduct the necessary business of the SCC to have a fruitful year.

I want to thank each of you on the State Committee for serving so selflessly.

I pray that we continue to glorify God in our Kairos pursuits and pursue His will in all our efforts for this great organization.

Blessings to all and a big Thank You.

Timothy K. Brady

State Chairman of Colorado



**"There are two kinds of light –
the glow that illumines, and the glare that obscures."**

James Thurber

REPORT FROM KPMI 2017 CONFERENCE

Each morning began with worship as did each individual session and workshop in keeping with the vision priority of nurturing the spiritual health of KAIROS. There were nearly 400 in attendance.

Wednesday was devoted to the International Council meeting where Evelyn Lemly gave a statement of welcome and set the tone for the meeting. Several items were covered during the meeting to include: encouraging ALL volunteer to attend an outside weekend even if they have already served a weekend or weekends; KI, KO and Torch all have EZRA now; KAIROS Messenger has been launched which should make reporting easier as well as coordinating information; discussion of the unfortunate trend in volunteer behavior in engaging in the things we don't hold in common (outside the riverbanks); and DOCs needing to clamp down because volunteers are putting money on inmate accounts as well as violating PREA Guidelines. Some volunteers have actually been incarcerated for some of these ventures outside the KAIROS Riverbanks and State and Federal laws.

Elections of new members of the board of directors and IC officers were held, results of which can be found on mykairos.org under "Directory." International Council Training followed with a review of the KAIROS Vision and mission Statements, Core Values, Statement of Faith, SCCOP, ACOP, and ICOP- with particular attention to the duties and responsibilities of the International Council members. We were reminded that the Board of Directors governs the program while the SCCs and ACs operate it. The International Council Sub-Committees are KI, KO, Torch, Governance, Communications and Program Excellence. Evelyn gave a presentation on how all the parts of the ministry work and what the 5 year strategy plan is, how it works and how it is updated. The individual program coordinators spoke with emphasis on training – AKT and ACT. There are tools to help us stay up to date – conference workshops, E-News, ACT, AKT, and EZRA. The floor was then opened for a question and answer session. Sexuality came up and Evelyn said as long as volunteers are not promoting their sexual life style it should not be an issue. If one does, draw a line in the sand and side with scripture.

Thursday was devoted to committee meetings. I attended as a guest the KI meeting. A template will be sent to AC State Reps shortly for all ACs to complete and submit with concerns that will then go to the committee and hopefully higher up. I got the feeling from the committee that submission of such forms were the reason that one on one hosting has been relaxed. However, Evelyn did not confirm that this was the reason in a conversation I had with her later. In an informal query I made of four other states (Florida, New Mexico, Texas, and West Virginia), Colorado's DOC training is far more extensive than any of theirs. In the PEC (Program Excellence Committee) meeting and workshops, stress was on the fact that the Excellence Initiative is not a tool of the KAIROS cops. Having the Advising Leader complete it works well. All but the pages with personal information should be brought to the weekend to be completed as the weekend progresses. There is a flow chart on line. On-line EI work can be saved and returned to when time allows.

Two PowerPoint presentations will be sent to all ACs for their info and use; one from the Music in KAIROS workshop and one from the Leadership Success workshop.

In the Music in KAIROS workshop, there was a discussion of the importance of CCLI licensing and that should be examined by ALL ACs. We were all reminded that the monthly reunions were run by the graduates and that they should provide music and program.

Successful weekend leadership is the Advisory Council's responsibility. The ACs number one responsibility is ensuring the spiritual health of KAIROS. They need a community and team of servant leaders who are accountable. Thus recruitment and outreach is vital for the continuing growth and development of the ministry. Have a speakers' bureau to go tell about the work of KAIROS. Be deliberate. Have a plan. Use EZRA to identify and track future leaders.

The Training and Leadership Development team reminded us to replace ourselves as we develop relationships and pass the baton. Identifying leadership candidates is crucial. They need to be spirit-led, lead a Christ centered life, be a visionary and an encourager who can delegate and allow others to participate. They need to invite feedback, teach and

REPORT FROM KPMI 2017 CONFERENCE (continued)

be teachable. We spent time sharing special moments for us in KAIROS – the why of our involvement, a form of testimony...which is necessary for us to be effective recruiters of future leaders.

Friday and Saturday evenings were devoted to general sessions. We heard from a Georgia correctional officer about how KAIROS makes a difference. Tommy Fisher whom we've heard on video was there to tell us of his transition to life outside of prison. A couple who'd only been married four months when the husband went to prison shared how KI changed him inside and KO changed her outside.

Glenda Condon, Colorado Representative to the International Committee

ARE WE SELFISH?

We are KAIROS Prison Ministry volunteers, how could we be selfish? We give our time, our money and many volunteers make significant sacrifices to participate in this ministry. So why would I even ask such a question? Obviously, Kairos volunteers are not selfish people.

When I go to team formation meetings or engage in conversation with other Kairos volunteers, we always end up talking about how much we get out of serving on Kairos weekends, how much God has blessed us for serving. I will be forthcoming, I really get a great feeling from serving as a Kairos volunteer in every capacity. I cherish the uplifting feelings I have from knowing that God approves of what little I am able to contribute. But, are these feelings selfish? The answer is a qualified yes. The qualified yes comes when I keep these great feelings and God's blessings to myself. The qualified yes comes when I don't share the wonderful Kairos experience with others whom I come in contact. Is it not very selfish for me to experience such closeness to God, see the transforming work of the Holy Spirit, and not tell anyone about this and let them know that they too, can experience the same thing?

It is selfish for Kairos volunteers to not tell others about how wonderful and fulfilling serving on a Kairos team can be. This is why we must always be in recruiting mode. We should be quick to tell others, whom we come in contact with about this wonderful ministry and how they can be a part. When all of us are willing, to not just give our time and our money, but also have a desire to share our spiritual blessings with others, we will see big changes in Kairos of Colorado.

One important thing, that will help each of us get to where recruiting is second nature, is prayer. There are two elements in recruiting, prayer and hard work. Prayer is of the utmost importance. Kairos as a ministry is built on a foundation of prayer. We must have this same prayer effort in our recruiting.

I have asked each Advisory Council to have someone on their council to be in charge of prayer; someone that can get a foundation of prayer going on short notice. When you have someone you are sharing the Kairos ministry with, it is good to be able to call someone and know they and others will be praying for you, as you unselfishly share your spiritual blessings with them. Prayer will also bring prospects into your path for you to tell about the Kairos Ministry. You may be saying, "I don't know anyone I can recruit for KAIROS." Pray that God will put someone in your path with which you can share Kairos. God answers prayer. The purpose of the prayer teams are to give each of us prayer support when we share with others the wonderful Kairos Ministry.

As Kairos volunteers, if we are not willing to tell other Christians about this Ministry and share with them the many blessings we receive, then yes, we are being selfish.

Submitted by Lee Schafer
Incoming State Chair

**"Prayer does not fit us for the greater works;
prayer is the greater work."
*Oswald Chambers***

A FUND RAISING DISCUSSION

TOP FIVE PROVEN AC FUND RAISING IDEAS!

All AC's have struggled at times with how to raise enough funds to cover all necessary 4-day weekend costs, 2-Day weekend costs, new facility start-up costs, cash advances for food, State Chapter Committee costs, and National KPML costs. A separate article from this author addresses what those reasonable costs should be, and how much each AC needs to raise per weekend to cover them.

At our August SCC Meeting in Frisco, we brainstormed the most proven, successful fund-raising approaches taken by AC's in our state (and in other states). Then each of your state committee reps was asked to vote for their top 5 choices that they would be willing to support at their local AC's. Here are the top 5 ideas from the group, and I strongly encourage all AC's to adopt a localized version of each of these:

- ◆ **Church Mission Committees** – each AC arranges for their members and volunteers to approach all churches represented by their volunteer base. Ask the Mission Committee to add an annual amount to support the Kairos mission (and their members/pastors who participate in Kairos). Churches often budget \$300, \$600, \$1000 per weekend (2 weekends per year). Alternatively, ask churches to sponsor their church team members'/pastors' meals and lodging (usually around \$300-350 for one person for one 4-day weekend, not counting the other costs to conduct Kairos).
- ◆ **Meal Tickets to sponsor inmates** – each AC arranges for all members and volunteers to sell meal modestly priced tickets to help pay for one or more meals for inmates and possibly team members. Sell these inside and outside your churches. Ticket templates are available on MyKairos.org, or AC's can make your own. These small gifts allow many more people to participate in the ministry, even if they do not feel comfortable joining an inside team.
- ◆ **Team Member Donation Fund Raising Goals** – set an average amount for each team member to solicit from others (e.g., SCF has had a 4-day weekend \$300-350/member average goal for several years). However, please do not expect or ask team members to pay out of their own pockets, this is not what Kairos is about! We want many smaller donors, which honors their hearts' desire to participate in the ministry in whatever ways they can! Remember, the base goal amount per person (say \$350) must cover all 4-day and 2-day weekend lodging, meals, scholarships, cookies, drinks, other expenses, plus the AC share of State and KPML expenses (see future article for what these are and why). The most successful team members simply ask their Small Groups, Churches, Family, and Friends for small donations, and they easily beat the goal, some raising over \$1,000 each. People are happy to donate in small amounts when they can. Effective methods are to send letters/emails to all prior donors, using the Donor Program data base and letter creation features. Many people send out personal letters. Some AC weekend team members and volunteers also donate or obtain donations for food, drinks, cups, utensils, paper, coffee, sugar, Freedom Guides, etc. Many restaurants will donate meals as well.
- ◆ **Church Presentations, Church Conferences, 4th Day Closings, etc** -- ask for opportunities to present with powerful testimonial videos and handouts available from MyKairos.org. Ask for meetings with Pastors to help identify and introduce you to members ready for their next step in their faith walk with Christ. Ask Pastors to participate as Clergy on weekends, along with their church members on the weekends. Assign a small committee at the State Level to attend all 4th Day Closings (Emmaus, Cursillo, etc), make presentations, and provide opportunities to sign up to attend a Closing or join a team.
- ◆ **Give Other People Opportunities to contribute** – organize community/other fund raising events such as: Breakfast (or other) Fund Raiser Meals/Events with Santa (that's you, Russ G!); Raffles, Auctions, Bake Sales, Bingo; Golf, Running, Chorale Competitions; Solicit foundations where they are open to such donations; see if Employers will Match their employees' donations; ask Vendors like Panera or others to sponsor a Kairos day; direct people to our state website for online donations; ask for Vehicle donations; provide opportunities for Estate Planning/Legacy Giving.

As the State Fund Raising Committee Chair, I hope all AC's and their local fund-raising committees will discuss how best to localize the above ideas, then prioritize them, then commit to tackle the top 3 ideas right away, because they are relatively easy and can be implemented quickly. Idea 3 is very important to implement. Ideas 4 and 5 require a bit more planning and effort, so I encourage you to decide which of these might make sense for your volunteer base. Find local leaders willing to take at least one of these on and make them happen.

I have seen how God has blessed several AC's with adequate funds when they commit to implement the above ideas. But each AC must also keep up their local fund-raising activities for every weekend or they can fall off again.

Randy Weldon
State Fund Raising Committee Chair

A FUNDING DISCUSSION

Every year we have new SCC (State Chapter Committee) members elected from our AC membership, and every year we have new AC Chairs, Finance Secretaries, and Weekend Leaders. One of the most common questions from these new groups is "how much do we need to target to raise at our AC level to properly fund our Kairos 4-day weekends, 2-day weekends, new facility startups, State expenses, and national KPMI expenses for conducting this wonderful ministry." As the current SCC members know from recent meetings, our Kairos of Colorado bank account has been going down in the last year or so, making it difficult to fund the AC weekend food advance requests, so it is important for everyone to have clear visibility into all costs, so we can either reduce costs or increase fund raising, or both. If we want to fund some new things like going into more new facilities, or if we want to stop doing some things we think are unnecessary, we all need to know what the true costs are.

Here is a list of what I think it really takes to fund our ministry at all levels. Of course, these costs vary by facility and location, so these are intended to be reasonable representations for everyone, which can be adjusted to local conditions. For example, at one facility, we are required to buy food from the culinary arts program, which although high quality and excellent, can be more expensive than if purchased or donated from outside vendors.

Weekend and other Costs to cover with AC donations:

4-Day Weekend Costs (say, 30-40 team members x \$300 donations raised = \$10-12,000 received)

- ◆ Lodging (share 2 per room) and meeting room (\$80 with tax x 3 nights x 30-40/2 team members = \$3,600-4,600, say \$4,000). Depending on location and number of team members, could be more or less.
- ◆ Food for team breakfasts, snacks outside (say, \$50 x 3 = 150)
- ◆ Food for inmates, team, and several officers inside (72-90 people x \$10-15 x 5-6 meals = \$5,000 - \$8,000, so say \$6,000).
- ◆ Cookies, drinks, chips, snacks (3 days x 72 x \$5 = \$1,080. If cookies are bought for all inmates/staff at facility, this can be more).
- ◆ Trailer, licensing, storage, etc (add more dollars, say 6 mos x 300/mo min = \$1,800), but volunteers sometimes donate.
- ◆ Totes, pens, markers, pencils, paper, etc (add say 72 x 5 = 360, but try to get donations to cover as much as possible).
- ◆ AKT fees for 2 leaders/weekend, in-state, national travel if not done in-state (2 people x 2 nights at \$80 (\$320), 3-4 meals each (\$80), snacks, coffee, etc, plus meeting facility, plus materials. Say \$450, not counting any airfare).
- ◆ Total of above: say \$12-14,000 counting trailer costs etc, but not counting the costs below. Therefore, if team size is only 30, or team donation goals are only \$300 each, the total raised will not be enough under most circumstances.

2-Day Weekend Costs (often forgotten in terms of donations to cover)

- ◆ Similar to above. Lodging at \$80 night per room, shared by 2. Possibly meals, snacks, etc. (Say, 6 people=3 rooms x 1-2 nights = 6 x \$80 = \$480 plus any food/snacks.)
- ◆ National KPMI Expenses (15% donation amount)
- ◆ Office lease, utilities etc
- ◆ Staff Salaries, Benefits (very small team administering ~400 weekends, 35+ states, numerous AC's, manuals, EZRA/Donor/AKT/ACT Training and materials, Testimonial videos/materials etc)
- ◆ Printing, Websites, Phone Conference lines used by all states, conducting annual meetings etc.
- ◆ Audit fees. Etc.

Continued on next page

A FUNDING DISCUSSION (continued)

Statewide Shared Expenses (working now to see if 3, 4 or 5 % is enough to cover reasonable costs)

- * AKT Costs (facility rental, food, materials, lodging, etc). Need charge enough to cover all costs (not happening recently).
- * ACT Costs (when bring in trainer, plus materials, facility (2 trainers, 1 time, so far). KPMI may cover some)
- * Donor Program Training costs (when fly in trainer (1 time so far), KPMI may cover some)
- * PC costs for Financial Secretary (don't currently cover any other PCs)
- * Postage for Agape
- * State Chapter Committee meetings
- * 2-3 in-person, 1-2 remote
- * Facility rental (\$25/hr x 5) in e.g., Frisco (central state location)
- * Now may move to churches in front-range.
- * Statewide Volunteer Meetings
- * Facility rental (\$25/hr x 5 = \$125, in Frisco at Senior Center)
- * Modest food, cups, plates etc. Cooked by team member.
- * Annual National Conference Meeting (2-3 people: State Chair, Vice Chair, IC Rep)
- * SCC members learn what/how to do their jobs. Share best practices re fund-raising, recruiting, etc).
- * Airfare, Housing, Food (all modest, never in high cost locations/facilities)
- * Some attendees have paid their own way, when feasible.
- * Est \$5-600 per person event fees for facility, food, etc. Plus \$500 airfare, taxis etc per person, when not paid by individuals
- * New Facility Start-Up costs
- * Need build up enough to cover say \$15k each for tables, trailer, etc
- * So far only covering shortfalls in donations compared to receipts
- * New KO, plus more KI programs requested
- * Bank Balance needed to cover AC Weekend Advances
- * 6+ weekends x average \$5+k each = \$30,000+

In summary, total costs to conduct Kairos in Colorado is comprised of about 80% local 4-day and 2-day weekend costs, and about 20% shared State and National costs. I encourage each AC to add in the need for enough donations to cover all the 4-day costs above, plus the 2-day costs, which are often overlooked. Also, there are reasonable state and national costs which must be covered as well. Your local AC reps assigned to represent you at the State Chapter Committee (SCC) meetings should report your feelings about reasonableness of the above costs for your location, so we can continue to refine our estimates.

Randy Weldon ("good and faithful servant")
State Fund Raising Committee Chair

**Whenever you feel distant from Me, whisper My Name in loving trust.
The power of My Name to bless both you and Me is beyond your understanding.
Sarah Young, in "Jesus is Calling," meditation for 12 July**

LA VISTA KAIROS #3 CLOSING

1. What spiritual condition were you when you arrived?

Solid, distant from God, back and forth, broken, curious, solid, shaky, waffling, hurting, heartbroken, denial, unsure, pain, closed, desperate, confused, angry at God, doubtful, and unhappy.

2. What did you find here?

Hope, encouragement, love, understanding, wholeness, spirituality, connection, forgiveness, letting go, lighter, found myself, inner peace, caring spirits, lots of love, caring and faithful people, God, family, healing direction, unity in Christ, and peace, new understanding and sisters in Christ, freedom from pains and hurts, Christian sisters, calories, wholeness and connection.

3. What are you taking with you when you return to the compound?

New and real solid friends, sisters, God, love, faith, study, more in tune with a personal relationship through study, independence, we are not alone, God's love, new friends, new found freedom, support, confidence to teach others about God, gratitude, extra weight, new recipes, excitement and growth, renewed version of self, patience, and renewed assurance that God is in control.

Open mic reflections:

- ◆ I really needed a break from what had become my normal life. This KAIROS weekend has been very impactful. On Saturday night, I watched grudges that I had held for years, drown in the bowl of water. I'm finally free of them.
- ◆ I had been waffling and had lots of anger toward one specific person in my life. It's pretty amazing that I could forgive them. I'm finally free!
- ◆ I learned that there are so many of us in the same situation but we've all gone down different paths. What I learned here is that I need to let go and move on.
- ◆ Words can't express how I feel but I'll try. I felt forgotten, but this weekend showed me that love is out there and it's from people who don't even know us. I was moved by dissolving forgiveness in the water. This is something I'll never forget.
- ◆ Before this weekend, I was confused and misguided. I was in a state of denial and had been reaching out to anyone who might seem like they could help me find the answer. I haven't been able to forgive and watching that paper dissolve is just what I needed! I've finally forgiven myself and people in my past. This is something I needed badly. I believe this has been the best weekend of my life.
- ◆ The best weekend I had...EVER! I have never felt this much love...except for the love I have for my children.
- ◆ We've been sent to prison for doing something wrong. But to know that we're worth something and have you all share God...even though we're in prison, something good can come out of it.
- ◆ I've been up and down. I was jealous for KAIROS #1 and #2 when my name wasn't on the list. But finally, my name was there. The food was good, yes, but beautiful things are happening here (pointing to heart) and here (pointing to head.) But I didn't get it until the forgiveness ceremony when the tears began to flow like a waterfall. My family's story was always mine and it all changed when I began to cry and finally watch those names dissolve in the water. I couldn't have done this by myself. THE LORD IS REAL! And I'm going to keep coming back, too...you'll see.
- ◆ I had a friend come up to me on the yard and look me right in the face. As she started to cry, she said, "You really need KAIROS!" I turned in a kite and I was picked. She was right! This has been a life-changing weekend for me. I will NEVER forget it!
- ◆ I've been in prison for a long 12 years and have been turned into a cold-hearted person. I never expected this but it was amazing! I had a lot of anger for my family; I missed some of them and I actually missed myself. This weekend is something I'll never forget...Thank You All and God Bless!
- ◆ I'm really shy, so this is huge for me (to get up and speak.) I came with low expectations and didn't think I'd learn anything. I believed God had forgotten about me. I found out that He's always been with me and right there by me. I met great people, both volunteers and sisters in green.
- ◆ I didn't expect tears, but when they come, they are tears of joy. I didn't tell anyone, but now I can...this is the second time I've been through KAIROS. But I can tell you for sure, I really needed it.
- ◆ I know I can't say, "Thank you," so I'll just say, "Gracias!" This was amazing! I was broken but moments change a life. Mine was turned upside down in a moment. Someone said, "Close your eyes and ask for God." This weekend came in the nick of time for me. I didn't think I had anything left in my tank or in my life. Now, I know I have lots left. This opens a door for me.

DENVER WOMEN'S

1. A Conversion Miracle during Denver Women's Correctional Facility KAIROS #29 :

DW's September 4-day weekend began as most do with residents expressing emotions running the gambit from anxiety and worry to eagerness and anticipation. Many wanted to strengthen their faith but one woman asserted boldly that she was a life-long pagan. What we know is that when the team is faithful to the KAIROS program and regulations of both KAIROS and CDOC, it is common and expected that the Holy Spirit shows up and changes lives. Would this pagan worshipper hear the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ or just enjoy a couple of days of vacation from prison?

By open mike Saturday, she stated that she was going to pray to Jesus from here on because she wanted her prayers to really matter. She reaffirmed this at closing and by the monthly reunion three weeks later, she had already begun participating in other Christian programs at DWCF. She is only one of the many who have been changed. She now understands, as we all do, that everyone needs Jesus. Just another normal weekend in God's miracle factory and a confirmation of the reason why we devote so much time and energy to KAIROS.

2. Comments concerning the One-Day Refresher Event held at Denver Women's (DWCF) in October:

The main comment from our group, was that a day retreat worked well for them.

A few stated the 4-day was long and intense but this felt like a break in the darkness. They mentioned it was difficult to return to their "real" life after the 4-day, but they felt protected and cared for and focused. This one-day was an easier transition and it still gave them the attendees Sunday and a chance for visitors.

It was a great day and the topic was very meaningful.

I do not know what was more joyous to witness - the transformation of residents who participate in the weekend or the enthusiasm of the first-time volunteers! Either way, God was at work during the weekend.

BENT COUNTY KAIROS #4 CLOSING — 2-5 November 2017

In what spiritual condition did you arrive?

Lacking direction, invisible, broken, lost, hungry, apprehensive, up and down, inquisitive, wavering, non-existent, hopeless, lonely, doubtful, judged, broken, bound, in need of spiritual repair, and asleep.

What did you find here?

Renewed enthusiasm, brotherhood, forgiveness, ourselves, new friends, spirit-filled leaders, Jesus' Love, fellowship, love of God, we are not alone, peace, learned how to listen, Agape, grace, spiritual gas station (came in on E - empty and leaving F - full), presence of God, joy, happiness, camaraderie.

What are you taking with you when you return to the compound?

Hope, Courage, Not Alone, going to hold each other accountable, new brothers, God's love, self-confidence, hope, forgiveness and a new beginning. A full belly, acceptance, a new way of life, new lease on life, presence of God, and someone to reach out to in the unit.

Open mic reflections:

From the officers with us during the weekend:

- ◆ God loves you all! If you need me, I am here to help you.

From the new KAIROS Brothers:

- ◆ I was drowning—I needed to catch my breath and accept Jesus Christ.
- ◆ We need to keep God with us. We also need to study and break down the walls.
- ◆ Feeling full off the spiritual food - this food is going to give me life.
- ◆ I loved the unity we found here. Jesus is in the house. We need to remember accountability with each other and stand strong and study - without that, I am nothing.
- ◆ This is the biggest crowd ever and I am shy, but I am feeling bold for God.
- ◆ Lives were transformed and I'm looking forward to the fourth days ahead with our new KAIROS brothers. Please keep the mighty prayers going for KAIROS communities here and around the world.

THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH

Questions are the searchlights that illuminate the path to the answers we seek in this life. Why do we ask questions? We ask questions because we want to know the truth. By asking questions we seek the answers that at the time of the question we did not know. Sometimes the answers we obtain satisfy us. Other times the answers we receive only open the door to a myriad of other questions that cause us to move past the superficial layers of our own thinking and reach for the deepest parts of our own minds in order to discover and analyze the truth or falsity of what we find. We all ask the same type of questions only framed differently. We ask questions related to origin when we ask how the Universe or the human race began. We ask questions related to meaning whenever we pose a question at all about anything. Especially the purpose of life. Questions about morality are raised every time we discuss how we as human beings ought to behave versus how we actually do behave. Then of course there is the ultimate question of destiny. We all want to know where we're headed whether it be in the next five minutes or when we die. Origin, meaning, morality, and destiny. These are some life's most critical questions and we were designed with an innate desire to acquire the answers to these questions. But what is truth? Who gets to determine what's true and what's not? Is everybody's truth the truth? Is what's true for you only true for you and not necessarily for me? If everybody's truth is the truth then everybody's right even when they're wrong. Right and wrong actually become meaningless concepts without any distinction. All sound logic is destroyed and language itself becomes useless and meaningless. Is something true simply because we believe it? Or is it true regardless of if we choose to believe it or not? If something is true simply because we believe it then truth is determined by each individual's perspective and contradictory results are produced. Nobody is ever wrong about anything even when they are. Truth is absolute. There is no way to deny this statement without affirming the very thing you're attempting to deny. When Jesus claimed to be God, He left us with two alternatives. Either His claims were true or His claims were false. If His claims were false, then that creates two more alternatives for us. Either He knew His claims were false or He did not know His claims were false. If He knew His claims were false then He intentionally misrepresented Himself which would make Him a liar, a hypocrite, a demon, and a fool because He died for what He knew was a lie. If He did not know His claims were false then He was sincerely deluded as a lunatic. But the man never misspoke, He taught some of the world's most profound truths with absolute perfection. Do lunatics conduct themselves in such ways as these? On the other hand, if His claims were true then He is God. He is our Lord and Savior. If this is in fact the truth we are left with just two alternatives. We can either choose to accept Him or reject His as Lord. These are our only two options and they each bear eternal consequences that cannot be undone once the final decision is made and we come face to face with the Creator of the Universe. Truth is not determined by individual perspectives. It can't be. If someone says that "All truth is determined by individual perspectives," and I say that "All truth is NOT determined by individual perspectives" they can't agree with me because my perspective directly contradicts their perspective. But they can't disagree with me either because by disagreeing with me they refute their own perspective by holding their own perspective absolutely and denying mine. How can I possibly be wrong in their eyes if all truth is determined by individual perspectives and it's my perspective that it's not? Truth by definition is exclusive because it excludes everything that is false. If truth were all-inclusive, then nothing would be false. But if nothing were false what would be the meaning of truth? Either Jesus Christ is God or He is not. The choice is yours to make. The truth is NOT! It is Absolute.

Presented by Preston, a Graduate of Delta Kairos #52, at their Closing in October

*"The one mastering obligation of our life as a worker is to persuade men for Jesus Christ,
and to do that we have to learn to live among facts:
the fact of human stuff as it is, not as it ought to be;
and the fact of Bible revelation, whether it agrees with our doctrines or not."
Oswald Chambers*

DELTA

Following is a short excerpt from an important letter from Steven Green, Warden at Delta Correctional Center (DCC) concerning Kairos Prison Ministry International.

“Due to (several) facts...I am hereby notifying the Colorado State KAIROS Chapter Committee and KAIROS Prison Ministry International (KPMI) that I am terminating the KAIROS program at DCC effective November 1, 2017 .”

The reasons behind this decision were many and reflected various major policies found in the latest KPMI Silver Program Manual.* In particular, it became clear from attrition statistics that the Delta program was not able to comply with the new policies having to do with length of stay in the facility by Kairos graduates after a Kairos Weekend, simply because of the rate of turnover in the offender population.

While there is sadness in accepting this letter, we are thankful for the many years of success in the Kairos program at DCC and the titanic dedication of the Kairos volunteers involved. We lift you all up in acclamation and thank you for your stewardship and willingness to serve our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ!

Submitted by Russ Gorrell,
State Secretary

* See a synopsis of this at: http://www.mykairos.org/docs/kpmi/guidelines_minimum_security_facilities.pdf

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

Never have the idea that a worldling is unhappy — a worldling is perfectly happy, as thoroughly happy as a Christian. The persons who are unhappy are the worldlings or the Christians if they are not at one with the principle that binds them.

When a worldling is not a worldling at heart, he is miserable; and when a Christian is not a Christian at heart, he is miserable, he carries his religion like a headache instead of something that is worth having. A worldling is one who has wisely kept within bounds of the disposition which the Bible alone reveals as the disposition of sin, viz., my claim to my right to myself. When once that is broken into by overt acts of wrongdoing, the worldling is miserable, and he ceases to be a true worldling.

Remember, then, the two things that disintegrate the devil's kingdom:

- ◆ breaking out into acts of sin, and
- ◆ the conviction of the Spirit of God.

This is the solution of a number of moral problems.

Oswald Chambers, *“Still Higher for His Highest”* — meditation for 22 April

NEWSLETTER NEW SCHEDULE

Announcing the new schedule for the KAIROS of Colorado Newsletter! The 2017 State Chapter Committee voted to move the frequency of the KAIROS of Colorado Newsletter from quarterly to semi-annually. This schedule coincides with the schedule of Colorado KAIROS weekends and allows capturing vital information from each KAIROS weekend held. Since the Spring KAIROS season ends in May, the first publication will be set for June of each year. Likewise, the Fall KAIROS season ends in November so the second publication of the year will be set for December. Other non-scheduled newsletters will be sent as situations and information merit their publication. Keep an eye on your email for these deliveries from your AC leadership! And for the Events Schedule, go to our website.

Anxiety is a result of envisioning the future without Jesus.
Jesus Calling (Sarah Young)

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL

[Kairos Prison Ministry](#) is a lay-led Christian ministry which conducts a highly structured program designed for use in male and female correctional institutions. The Kairos program starts with a weekend event which allows participants to receive Christ's love through the servitude of Christian Kairos volunteers. During this event participants are given the opportunity to experience a spiritual renewal, accepting God's call to a life of Christian witness and service to one another during their stay in the institution, and beyond. Participants are encouraged to establish small, two-to-five-person "Fourth Day" Prayer and Share groups within the institution. The groups meet regularly to share their lives on a deep spiritual level and to pray for one another, other residents, and staff in the institution.

Kairos is currently in thirty-five states and nine other countries — Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, South Africa, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Peru. The course materials are available in English and Spanish. The international ministry now includes some 30,000 volunteers.

COLORADO STATE COMMITTEE (effective 1 January 2018)

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New Facilities	(open)		
Newsletter	(open)		
Training	(open)		

The Colorado Chapter of Kairos Prison Ministry International publishes this newsletter biannually, in June and in December. (See article on previous page.)

Kairos is a 501(c)(3) ministry. Donations are appreciated and tax-deductible.

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www.kairoscolorado.org

Intercession leaves you neither time nor inclination to pray for your own "sad sweet self."

**The thought of yourself is not kept out, because it is not there to keep out;
you are completely and entirely identified with God's interests in other lives..**

Oswald Chambers, "My Utmost for His Highest" — meditation for 3 May