

KAIROS

May 2022

www.kairostexas.org

Issue 51



**Ray Sims
State Chair**

One Wonderful Weekend - Then What?

I write this, not to brag on the Memorial Unit (formerly Darrington), but as a personal witness to the hand of God moving over the course of two and half years, the waiting time between Darrington #64 and Memorial #65. Also this is a continuation of what I wrote in the last newsletter when Memorial #65 was still up in the air. Of course, no one knew at the #64 closing on October 27, 2019, that our Lord would take us to April 21, 2022, before a full Kairos weekend would unfold. But His perfect planning had a special twist - #65 would be for medium custody residents. For the Darrington/Memorial team, years have passed by without medium custody participation. In the past, we were able to mix restricted housing inmates with the general population. The idea was “send us the negative leaders and watch God change the prison,” but that hasn't happened in fifteen years or more; TDCJ concerns over security didn't allow it.

Beginning in 2019, on a very few weekends, the opportunity to present Kairos to restricted housing has slowly opened medium custody (G4) and closed custody population (G5). In Texas we had a men's Kairos on death row in 2021. The problem with doing Kairos weekends for various custody levels is that mixing general population and restricted housing is not allowed; therefore any continuing ministry would also need to be segregated. #65 would be the Memorial team's first experience with medium custody inmates in a very long time.

Memorial #65 had two false starts with team formation meetings completed only to have the weekend cancelled. The word from TDCJ back then was that all units would open to pre-pandemic ministry when they reached a 70% vaccination rate for inmates and officers. However, there was still one major caveat – warden approval. Darrington passed the 70% vaccination rate, but with a new warden and chaplain, it looked as though we would run into the same old brick wall with no approval. So undeterred, the weekend leader, Wade Brehm, sent out the call to pray. He said, “Pray with the persistence of Daniel in Chapter 6 where Daniel continued his daily ritual of praying three times a day to his God in spite of King Darius' decree that on pain of death, one could only pray to the king for thirty days.” You remember the story; this was in fact a trap for Daniel which led to him being thrown in the lions' den. For the Memorial team, the go/no go date for receiving authorization and holding a weekend passed with no approval. Wade and the advisory council made the decision to carry on, that God had it, and the team formation meetings continued.

The approval for the weekend finally came two weeks before the scheduled date. The following is quoted from Wade's leader report of that weekend, “When the approval was given, we were ready because we had not stopped meeting and planning. We were also blessed for this would be the first G4 weekend for the Memorial (Darrington) unit. The weekend was going wonderfully well. The men were responding to the love of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit brought a number of men to Faith in the Lord. Sunday morning, we arrived to find out a fight had broken out on H-line where most of our candidates were housed. The line was on full lockdown. What could be done? Some suggested contingency plans. Soon, we gathered as a Team with Stewards and the few Candidates there from

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The purpose of Kairos is “To establish strong Christian communities among the population of the correctional institution.” Jesus becomes the focus of their lives. Through our attendance at the Continuing Ministry Events, the incarcerated men and women who have been through the Kairos weekend see and feel the love of Christ that we want to share with them. When we attend a weekend, we are committing to inmates that we will be there the next 6 months. We attend these events to encourage and aid them in their journey with Christ and the new life in the present. The Christian’s relationships are always 3 sided; with God, with others and with us.

Our pastor, this morning, on Mother's Day, said, "We are in Act 5 of God's plan. Act 1 was the creation of Adam and Eve. Act 2 was the garden of Eden, the apple and the snake which brought about "sin." Act 3 was told to us in the Bible up to the birth of Christ. Act 4 was Jesus' life, death and reincarnation. Act 5 is all ours. Jesus showed us the way to love one another, spread his word and work to bring people to Christianity."

The Continuing Ministry is a big part of Act 5 for us who participate in Kairos. This is through Prayer and Share, small group meetings each weekend, the monthly reunions, and the 1 or 2 day retreats. Then the Spiritual fire created on the weekend is fueled and nurtured. The residents attitude begins to change; then trust, vulnerability and love become possible. Without Continuing Ministry, the work we do on the weekend doesn't work the way Christ meant for us to achieve.

I have made attempts to get information from the AC Chairs who the Continuing Ministries are for their AC. Our KOT Master list indicates that there is not a person designated for that position in the following units:

Kairos Outside

Amarillo
San Antonio

Torch

Amarillo (restart)
Giddings (new start)



Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org





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kairostxtr@gmail.com

Donations. We all know that we need them to operate Kairos and we are always looking for efficient ways to collect those donations. Many times, donors prefer to give electronically rather than writing a check or using cash.

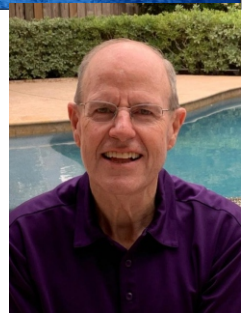
Donors who want to avoid cash or check-writing, should visit the Kairos of Texas webpage. Here is the link for online donations: <https://www.kairostexas.org/how-to-help.html> Individuals can donate using a Credit/Debit card or their PayPal account. The process is easy, just like checking out when online shopping. Donors should follow the directions on the website to complete their donation.

Please remember... if they want to direct their donation to a specific AC, it is very important that they include the name of the AC before completing their donation. If no AC is listed, the donation goes to KOT. If a donor forgets to specify the AC, they can send me an email with the information (their name, the donation amount, and the designated AC), I will make sure the funds are transferred as they desire.

Funds are transferred from PayPal to KOT every month on the first of each month. For instance, all PayPal donations received in May will be transferred on June 1. If your AC uses Wells Fargo, designated funds are transferred immediately using the Wells Fargo online transfer feature. If your AC does not use Wells Fargo, we will mail a check to the AC.

Finally, if there is internet access at a team meeting or other fund-raising event, a computer could be set up and available to process online donations. The easier it is to donate, the more likely it will happen!

As always, if you have questions or concerns about the Treasurer's role and responsibilities, please feel free to contact me.



Scott Baker
Vice Chair

I am happy to report that Covid is beginning to be a much lesser issue for Kairos in Texas. When Covid struck in 2020, we were only able to host 7 KI and 5 KO Weekends for a total of 12. In 2021, we were able to increase that number to 4 KI and 16 KO Weekends for a total of 20.

In 2022, we have already hosted more Weekends than in all of 2021 and expect to have hosted 29 Weekends through mid-year! We are additionally forecasting to host at least 50 Weekends in the second half of the year for a total of at least 79 Weekends! God is clearly opening the doors for us to have a very robust year of Kairos ministry activity in Texas.

It is also noteworthy that Kairos has been very successful in recruiting new volunteers into Weekend service in 2022. Our Weekends this year have attracted an average of 13 first-time volunteers which demonstrates significant growth, strong recruiting, and interest in serving in this ministry.

Most people are aware that the Kairos Annual Conference this year will be conducted in Dallas, TX. Accordingly, Kairos of Texas will be assisting KPMI with significant logistical support and excitement. In 2021, the Annual Conference was held in Kentucky and Texas had 76 representatives. This year, being on our home turf, we are planning on having at least twice that many representatives. All attendees and their AC's will be enriched and strengthened with new ideas and techniques for delivering even more impactful Weekends.

In summary, Kairos in Texas is starting very strong in 2022. And with the Weekends you have forecasted, we are on track to having Covid in our rear-view mirror!

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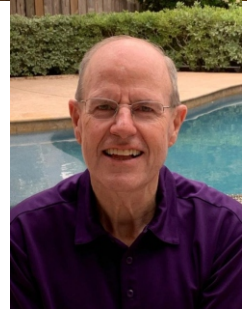


The Kairos Annual Conference will be held in person again this July in Dallas, TX. The last time Texas hosted the Annual Conference was in 2015, also in Dallas. But the venue for the 2022 Conference, the DFW Hyatt Regency, will be much nicer. Most Conference attendees have already signed up as the cutoff date, without a penalty, is June 15. At last count, Texas had 174 people signed up which will be our largest delegation ever. Most Conference attendees will travel to Dallas on Thursday, July 28, and return on Saturday July 30. If you have previously attended an Annual Conference, you know how enriching and enjoyable the experience can be.

The Preliminary Conference Schedule can be viewed on [mykairos.org](https://www.mykairos.org) at: <https://www.mykairos.org/docs/conference/2022/2022PreliminarySchedule.pdf>.

After a very nice dinner on Thursday, there will be a General Session to start the Conference. It is always interesting as Evelyn Lemly and her Team will provide informative presentations, interesting guest speakers, music, and prayer. And you always learn something new to share with your AC. Following the General Session will be a Memorial Service where all Kairos Volunteers who have passed on to be with Jesus in the past year are remembered. It is a solemn remembrance service and reminds us of how expansive the Kairos ministry is today.

Scott Baker
Vice Chair



Each day begins with Breakfast followed by Morning Worship. After Morning Worship, the Workshop Sessions begin, and there will be 4 opportunities to attend any Workshops of your choice on Friday. A listing of the 24 currently planned Workshops, each of which will be conducted twice, can be found at:

<https://www.mykairos.org/docs/conference/2022/2022WorkshopDescriptions.pdf>. The Workshops are always very informative offering practical insight and suggestions covering a broad range of topics.

After a very nice dinner Friday evening, a second and totally different General Session will be conducted. I always find numerous items of interest to share with our Team when I return, so always have some way to record notes!

On Saturday, after Morning Worship, there will be 2 more opportunities to attend Workshops. So, if you had 4 members at the Conference, and each

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Kairos Outside



Michelle Edwards
KO Sub Committee
Chair



What does Kairos mean to you? Recently I had some revelations, so to speak, about what it means to me and it's so much more than just a weekend. At our last State Meeting, I went to dinner with some of the volunteers from my area. Somehow, we got on the subject about had we been there before and the answer was yes, every quarter. I realized that we'd been going to that same spot for over 5 years, once a quarter around the same time and with at least 4 of us. While not always the same people, it was something that has become familiar to me and something that just happens automatically.

This past weekend, I met with a group from my community to tour a facility about some options we had. My granddaughter was with us and we had carpooled together. On the ride home, one of the male volunteers had taken a picture of my granddaughter and the other male passenger who were both sound asleep. Her head was nestled against his arm and all the faith and trust of a six-year-old was right there in her precious face.

Kairos is about building relationships, coming together in good times and in bad and being there to support one another. I lost both of my parents during Covid and at both services, my Kairos family was there to support me. We are there for weddings, for birthdays, for parole releases and holidays.

Have you reached out to someone who may need that extra hug, that reassurance that comes after bad news or that joyous celebration with the good? Our brothers and sisters are not just our fellow Team, they are not just our Advisory Council and not every conversation is about Kairos. We get the honor of coming together and it's that same excitement you get when walking into a new Small Group or Revival.

I imagine that God is like that, the joy that He has when we come together to spend time with Him. It's like meeting our old friends, sharing those smiles, tears, laughter, and prayers. I encourage you to look beyond the weekend and see the blessings God has given us with this amazing ministry/

Continued from page 1 - Ray Sims

another line. In a large circle we started to pray. We prayed for quite a while and asked God to open the doors for the men to join us. Then we began to praise God. H-line was just across a courtyard from the gymnasium where we were, so we turned the speakers towards the H-line and sang out to God. We asked the guard and she agreed to allow us to go into the courtyard in front of H-line where we prayed and sang "They'll know we are Christians by our Love." You could see many men in H-line up close to the windows watching and cheering. Then we heard the incredible news, 'They're coming out', they were on their way to Kairos. What a joyous greeting awaited them as they joined us in the gym. God answered our prayers, He gave us a miracle, and He released the men from lockdown to complete the Kairos weekend. There was not a dry eye in the house! God truly Blessed this weekend in so many ways. The closing was meaningful and touching and the Instructional was a wonderful time of reunion with the men. God truly did wonderful works. Praise God!"

Now the Memorial Kairos weekend #65 was fantastic and it was followed by an Instructional Reunion. But what happens after a weekend is held for those inmates in restricted housing? Continuing ministry and prayer and share, needs to be held. As we all know, Kairos is not just about the weekend. The reason for Kairos Inside is to form those small accountability groups, restricted housing and general population segregation taken into account. Don't let our brothers and sisters in restricted housing down by giving them a half Kairos – just the weekend. They deserve everything any Kairos graduate deserves – continuing ministry! TDCJ, with a few exceptions, will not allow the mixing of G4 and G5 inmates with the general population, so the advisory council needs to be able to support two, and maybe even three different prayer and share sessions if they are planning G4, G5, and general population weekends. So plan for it. In the case of one unit, Polunsky, the warden and chaplain want Kairos weekends for restricted housing, both G4 and G5 plus death row, of which the second death row Kairos is planned for July, in addition to the general population. How does one advisory council accommodate all of that? It remains to be seen, but Jehovah-Jireh is the God of Provision and He will provide the resources!



In Loving Memory

At the KPMI National Convention in July these people, who have gone to be with Jesus in the past year, will be honored:

Charles Allen
James Brunson
Sue Ann Brunson
Marsha Carter
Earl Hicks
Mark Lowry
Linda Neeley
Robert Rippey
Vern Roberts
Lloyd Jean Williams



If you know of anyone we have missed, please let us know.

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attended 6 different Workshops, your AC could be able to experience all 24 Workshops to get the maximum benefit out of the information offered. The Conference concludes after lunch on Saturday at 1:00PM.

I believe the people you meet and share Kairos with will enrich your Conference experience as much as anything else. You will meet Kairos Volunteers from around the world in Workshops, in the common areas over snacks, and over meals. You will undoubtedly gain enrichment and further understanding of the ministry by sharing with others engaged in Kairos Outside, Kairos Torch and Kairos Inside. Your experiences can be as numerous and informative throughout the Weekend as you are inquisitive.

For further information, there is a very informative FAQ section that you can peruse at:

<https://www.mykairos.org/docs/conference/FAQs.pdf>

I look forward to seeing the representatives from your Advisory Council at the 2022 Annual Conference in Dallas!

Humor

Some minds are like concrete, thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

Peace starts with a smile.

I don't know why some people change churches; what difference does it make which one you stay home from?

A lot of church members who are singing "Standing on the Promises" are just sitting on the premises.

We were called to be witnesses, not lawyers or judges.

Outside of traffic, there is nothing that holds this country back as much as committees.

Be ye fishers of men. You catch them - He'll clean them.

Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.

Don't put a question mark where God put a period.

Don't wait for 6 strong men to take you to church...

Forbidden fruits create many jams.

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

God grades on the cross, not the curve.

If the church wants a better pastor, it only needs to pray for the one it has.

God Himself does not propose to judge a man until he is dead. So why should you?

To make a long story short, don't tell it.

Important websites:

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“Proof of Heaven” by Dr. Eben Alexander a Neurosurgeon
Excerpts by Mike Adams Editor of Natural News

There's a secret that's much bigger than politics, health, freedom, science or even the entire history of the human race. That secret remains entirely unacknowledged -- even condemned -- by the scientific community, and yet it is the single most important secret about everything that is. Yes, *everything*.

That secret is simply this: We all survive the physical death of our bodies. Our consciousness lives on, and upon our death in this Earthly dream, our consciousness transcends this physical reality and experiences an existence so amazing and powerful that the human language cannot even begin to describe it.

This is the message from Dr. Eben Alexander, author of the newly-published book, "[Proof of Heaven](#)." I recently read the book and found it both fascinating and also confirming of several important theories I've been developing about the nature of life and the Creator.

A lifelong science skeptic, he never believed in God, Heaven or consciousness. Long before this book was ever written, Dr. Alexander was a practicing neurosurgeon and a lifelong "science skeptic." He did not believe in consciousness, free will or the existence of a non-physical spirit. Trained in western medical school and surrounded by medical colleagues who are deeply invested in the *materialism* view of the universe, Dr. Alexander believed that so-called "consciousness" was only an illusion created by the biochemical functioning of the brain.

This is a view held by virtually all of today's mainstream scientists, including physicists like [Stephen Hawking who say that human beings are nothing more than "biological robots" with no consciousness](#) and no free will.

Dr. Alexander would have held this view to his own death bed had it not been for his experiencing an event so bizarre and miraculous that it defies all conventional scientific explanation: **Dr. Alexander "died" for seven days** and experienced a vivid journey into the afterlife. He then returned to his physical body, experienced a miraculous healing, and went on to write the book "Proof of Heaven."

It all started when e.coli bacteria infected Dr. Alexander's spinal fluid and outer cerebrum. The e.coli began to literally eat his brain away. He went into extremely violent fit of seizures, verbal outbursts and muscular spasms before lapsing into a brain dead coma.

In this coma, **he showed zero higher brain activity** and was only kept alive via a respirator and IV fluids. The attending physicians soon concluded that Dr. Alexander would die within a matter of days, and that even if he lived, he would be a non-functioning "vegetable" with limited brain function. Statistically, the death rate for patients with e.coli infections of the brain is 97%. But here's the real shocker in all this: Rather than experiencing nothingness during these seven earth-days of unconsciousness, Dr. Alexander found himself "awakening" from the dream of his earthly life, suddenly experiencing an incomprehensibly vast expansion of his consciousness in the afterlife.

This experience is described in more detail [in his book "Proof of Heaven,"](#) but here are the highlights:

1. The experience of the afterlife was so "real" and expansive that the experience of living as a human on Earth seemed like an artificial dream by comparison.
2. There was no time dimension in the afterlife. Time did not "flow" as it does in our universe. An instant could seem like eternity, and consciousness could move through what we perceive to be time without effort. (This idea that all time exists simultaneously has enormous implications in understanding the nature of free will and the multiverse, along with the apparent flow of time experienced by our consciousness in this realm.)
3. The fabric of the afterlife was **pure LOVE**. Love dominated the afterlife to such a huge degree that the overall presence of evil was infinitesimally small. In the afterlife, all communication was telepathic. There was no need for spoken words, nor even any separation between the self and everything else happening around you.
4. The moment you asked a question in your mind, the answers were immediately apparent in breathtaking depth and detail. There was no "unknown" and the mere asking of a question was instantly accompanied by the appearance of its answers.
5. There also exists a literal Hell, which was described by Dr. Alexander as a place buried underground, with gnarled tree roots and demonic faces and never-ending torment. Dr. Alexander was rescued from this place by angelic beings and transported to Heaven.

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostatexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



Texas State Officers

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Vice-Chair - Scott Baker
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Treasurer - Bob Crane
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Rep. - Roger Harbert
Rep. - John Osborne
Rep. - Julie Cole
Rep. - Joaquin Ytuarte

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Central - Jaime Gonzales
North & Northeast - Driskoll Tubbs
Panhandle - Debbie Van Pelt
South - Bill Johnson
Southeast - Mike Tavery
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Texas TDCJ

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Mgr. Religious Serv. - C.F. Hazlewood

A Good Thing to Remember

A Good thing to remember. I think we can all get the point of this prayer...

A pastor attended a men's breakfast in the middle of a rural farming area of the country.

The group had asked an older farmer, decked out in bib overalls, to say grace for the morning breakfast: "Lord, I hate buttermilk," the farmer began. The visiting pastor opened one eye to glance at the farmer and wonder where this was going.

The farmer loudly proclaimed, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was growing concerned. Without missing a beat, the farmer continued, "And Lord, you know I don't much care for raw white flour."

The pastor once again opened an eye to glance around the room and saw that he wasn't the only one to feel uncomfortable.

Then the farmer added, "But Lord, when you mix them all together and bake them, I do love warm fresh biscuits. So Lord, when things come up that we don't like, when life gets hard, when we don't understand what you're saying to us, help us to just relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than biscuits. Amen."

Within that prayer there is great wisdom for all when it comes to complicated situations like we are experiencing in the world today. Stay strong my friends, because our life is being mixed with lots of things that we don't care for....relax and wait until the mixing is done.



Praise the Lord

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org





Be sure to visit our website at www.kairostexas.org. Our webmaster is Cheryl Glasgow. The schedule and location for State Board meetings for 2022 are included here. We have a calendar showing when all the weekends will be held. Check your weekend - we depend on you to keep your calendar updated.

On that same website you will find the current state officers, state meetings and minutes, map of state meetings, committees, and the weekends dates. You will also find this current and past newsletters there. If your unit does a newsletter, we would love to add it. There are links to KPMI and TDCJ.

There is information about Kairos Outside, including structure, forms and information, newsletters, and mission field. The minutes for KO meetings can also be found there.

Please take a look and see if we need to change, remove or add anything.

KO STATE Reps. Meetings

Dates: February 12, May 14; August 13; Nov.12

Time: 8:00 am - 2:30 pm

NOTE: All meetings will be conducted on ZOOM and in person until further notice

Location: Hill Country Bible Church

12124 RR 620 North

Cedar Park, TX

Meeting Minutes Archived

KO Executive Committee Meetings

Dates: February 11; May 13; August 12; November 11

Time: 5:00 pm Kairos of Texas Board

Time: 7:00 pm Kairos Outside Board

Location: Hill Country Bible Church

12124 RR 620 North

Cedar Park, TX

512-249-0045



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