



Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc.

Kairos of Texas State Chapter

Changing Hearts, Transforming Lives, Impacting the World

Kairos of Texas – 2nd Quarterly
State Chapter Committee Meeting
Hill Country Bible Church & Zoom
8:30 A.M., May 9, 2026

Attendance: Steve Whatley, Susan Huse, Ray Middleton, Susan Mannas, Scott Van Pelt, Bill Johnson, Andrew Hamilton, Leona Tatum, Robert Kimmel MD, David Ross, Pastor Marvin Schick, Driskoll Tubbs, Audrey Duke, Dusty Meil, Dickson de la Haye, Dawn Terry, David Burris, Dawn Jonas, Brian Gibson, Julie Cole, Dawnya Wineinger, Wesley Padgett, Roger Harbert, Don Wineinger, Willa Bellerd, Joyce Atkinson, Dianna Jackson, Valerie Stiner, Ray Sims, Sarah Sims, Ladean Smith, Margorie Whitner, Jean Gilmore, Diana Bailey, Marcy Garza, Desiree Martinez, Becky Terry, Duke DuTeil, Tim Acklen, Michael Hill, James Malac, Elizabeth Padgett, Ashley Oestreich, Jessica Van Pelt, Scott Baker, Pam Baker, Jim Syptak, Margie Scavone, Debbie Higgs, Ramona Wright, Margie Soto, Paula McGregor, Driskoll Tubbs, Mario Ayala, Scott Murphy, Aaron New, Randy Nettles, Harriet Watkins, Larry D. Rogers, Margie Robertson, Steven Fike, Marion Fike, Larry Rodgers, Kim Ross, Rose Mary Pena, Tim Acklen, James Fisher, Dawn Jonas, Dusty Meil, Bill Anderson, Kay E Warren, Tabitha Popish, Valerie Schick, Cindy Supan, Kathy Anderson, David Stone, Pam Gremminger, Myke Scavone, Melinda McDonald, Luke Vollemaere, Mildred Todd, Evie Carrigan, Billy Carrigan, Lesha Sanchez, Sharla Bursey, Rick Alba, Jo Alba, Jon Gograce, Richard Lauzon, Leslie Whatley, Doug Bramley, Mike Springer, Luella Miller, Ernest Miller, Richard Montgomery,

Attendance via ZOOM: Matt Theis, Brian Bray, Damian Cortez, Charlie Hoeppepner, Glenn Smith, Jim Jones, John Bodiford, Karen Reip, Marla Badillo, Mitch Hall, Dave Kerry, Red Gilbert, Rex Morris, Richard Wiley, Ray Munn, Tom Patterson

Advisory Council Representation: Amarillo Torch, Bartlett Innovation. Beto, Bridgeport, Briscoe, Clemens, Clements, Coffield, Cole, Coleman, Connally, Crain, Dalhart, Daniel, Ellis, Ellis Torch, Estelle, Ferguson, Gainesville Torch, Giddings Torch, Goree, Hightower, Hilltop, Hobby, Hughes, Hutchins, Jordan, KO Abilene, KO Amarillo, KO Central Texas, KO Fort Worth, KO Houston, KO Lubbock, KO Midland, KO North Texas, KO San Antonio, Linsley, Luther, Lynaugh, McConnell, O'Daniel, Plane, Polunsky, Robertson, Smith, Stevenson, Stiles, Telford, Torres, Vance, Wainwright, Wallace, Willacy, and Wynne.

ACs not in Attendance: Allred, Boyd, Estes, Huntsville, Katy Torch, KO Wichita Falls. Memorial, Michael, Montford, Pack and Terrell.

The Kairos of Texas 2nd Quarterly Meeting opened with Praise and Worship music led by Mario Ayala, setting a reverent and unified tone for the gathering. Pastor Marvin Schick followed with a devotional and opening prayer, asking the Lord for divine protection, wisdom, and anointing over the meeting and all participants.

Pastor Marvin's devotional, titled "**Made New**," centered on the deep questions of worth, identity, and spiritual transformation. He reflected on three key scripture passages—**John 3:3**, **Romans 8:15–16**, and **2 Corinthians 5:17**—to illustrate how believers are born again through Christ, adopted as children of God, and transformed into new creations with renewed purpose and meaning.

State Chair Report

Steve Whatley provided an overview of the Advisory Councils he has visited and served with over the past quarter. He reiterated his goal for 2026: to visit and actively support as many AC units as possible in order to strengthen relationships, encourage volunteers, and demonstrate the commitment of Kairos of Texas leadership.

Steve shared several ministry updates, including recent visits to multiple locations and the addition of the **68th Advisory Council**. He also noted ongoing efforts to engage government officials for potential support of Kairos programs. In addition, he reported continued collaboration with TDCJ regarding Volunteer policies and highlighted upcoming meetings with TDCJ leadership to address current concerns and strengthen communication.

Steve recognized the life and service of **Lucinda "Cinda" Rose**, a long-time servant leader who recently went home to Jesus after her battle with cancer. He also honored **Kyan Kirby**, Cinda's devoted caregiver, who selflessly ensured Cinda received exceptional care throughout her illness. Cinda served faithfully as an AKT Coordinator for Kairos Prison Ministry International and played an instrumental role in the launch of KO Abilene.

Steve also announced a vacancy for the **Kairos of Texas Volunteer Recruitment Subcommittee Chair**. He emphasized the need for someone who will actively organize and attend recruiting events statewide, providing guidance and support to AC Outreach/Recruiting Coordinators. Several Volunteers have already expressed interest, and Steve will continue evaluating candidates for this important role.

The session concluded with instructions for Volunteers to transition into Breakout Groups for focused discussion in designated areas.

Breakout Sessions

Participants were offered several breakout session options, each focused on a key area of ministry operations and leadership development:

- **EZRA** – Mike Springer
- **New Starts** – Brian Gibson

- **Financial Secretary** – Ray Middleton
- **Kairos Inside** – Steve Whatley, Bill Johnson, Audrey Duke, Driskoll Tubbs
- **Kairos Outside** – Dawn Terry, Dusty Meil, Susan Mannas, Audrey Duke
- **Kairos Torch** – Dickson de la Haye

Audrey Duke provided fundraising guidance in both the Kairos Inside and Kairos Outside sessions, and Ray Middleton was available for financial discussions.

EZRA Breakout Session – Led by Mike Springer

Mike Springer conducted an in-depth training session on the EZRA system, covering its history, purpose, and practical application across all Kairos programs. Key points included:

- **Purpose and Development** Mike explained that EZRA was created to standardize the Kairos Weekend process across Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside, and Kairos Torch. He described its origins in a program he developed for Walk to Emmaus called *Walk Wizard*, which was later adapted for Kairos and formally adopted by the Kairos Board of Directors in 2003.
- **System Features and Configuration** Mike provided a comprehensive walkthrough of EZRA’s 10-step process, demonstrating how the system is configured differently for each Program type while maintaining a consistent overall structure. He highlighted ministry-specific terminology, role-based buttons (such as Observing Leader and Angel Coordinator), and the importance of following EZRA’s step-by-step workflow to ensure accurate data transfer between Weekend Leaders.
- **Ordering, Installation, and Technical Requirements** The session included instructions on how to order and register EZRA, along with troubleshooting guidance for common issues such as Microsoft security blocks. Mike emphasized that EZRA requires a Windows-based computer and noted the availability of local EZRA “angels/gurus” for support.
- **Training Resources and Future Development** Mike pointed Volunteers to online tutorial videos and other support materials designed to help leaders become proficient with the system. He also shared that development is underway for a future web-based version of EZRA.
- **Administrative Processes** Mike reviewed the process for obtaining EZRA approvals through the Kairos Kalendar system and reinforced the importance of proper data management and adherence to established procedures.

State Chair Report and Return to Regional Tables

Following the breakout sessions, participants returned to their Regional Tables for a time of praise and worship with Mario Ayala. The group joined together in several songs, sharing messages of faith, encouragement, and community.

- Steve requested the playing of the **Kairos of Texas 40th Anniversary Theme Song**, created through AI collaboration by Brian Gibson and Susan Mannas. The song received

enthusiastic and positive feedback from attendees. Steve also suggested the possibility of creating a celebratory video featuring Volunteers dancing to the song.

- Steve informed the group that Kairos of Texas will need to secure a **new venue for quarterly meetings beginning in November** due to the school's security concerns at the current location. Bill Johnson and Susan Mannas have been actively searching for a facility that meets the ministry's needs. The August meeting will be the final gathering at Hill Country Baptist.
- Steve also discussed the **Leadership Track for the Kairos Inside Program** and ongoing planning for a **Weekend Retreat for the Kairos Outside sisters**. Attendees were encouraged to contact Dawn Terry or Susan Mannas with suggestions for retreat locations, discussion topics, and areas of interest.
- Steve concluded with an update on efforts to increase engagement with state leadership. He shared that KO Volunteer **Kristi Pritchett**, who works for an individual whose son is a Texas State Senator, may be able to assist in facilitating a meeting with Texas state officials. He noted continued efforts to gain recognition and support from state government leaders, including the potential for future meetings with the Lieutenant Governor.

Approval of Minutes - Secretary Susan Huse requested a motion to approve the 1st Quarter Minutes. Bill Johnson made the motion, Driskoll Tubbs seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Susan then conducted Advisory Council roll call.

Lunch and Guest Speaker

Pastor Marvin offered a blessing over the lunch meal. A heartfelt **thank you** is extended to **Ed and Bettye Keefer** for arranging and coordinating lunch for all attendees. The group enjoyed a meal of brisket and chicken sliders, spring salad, and an assorted fruit platter—an appreciated and delicious blessing.

- During lunch, attendees were honored to hear the testimony of **Bryan Kelly**, the meeting's guest speaker. Bryan shared his powerful personal story, beginning with his life sentence in 1992 and his introduction to the Kairos Prison Ministry program. He described his initial skepticism and how the loving, Christ-centered environment of Kairos transformed his outlook and opened his heart.
- Bryan spoke movingly about his journey from incarceration to leadership, emphasizing how Christ's forgiveness brought him purpose, redemption, and a renewed identity. After serving 22 years in prison, he now serves as the **CEO of a reentry program and Director of Outreach for Crosswalk**, where he helps others transition successfully from prison back into community life. His testimony was deeply impactful and a meaningful reminder of the life-changing work of Kairos.

After lunch, Mario Ayala led the group in additional praise and worship music.

Financial Report and Treasurer Report – Ray Middleton, Financial Secretary

Ray Middleton provided an update on the financial status of Kairos of Texas, highlighting key aspects of financial management, investment strategy, and inter-ministry support:

- **KPMI Fees:** A 15% fee is assessed by KPMI. There is **no fee** for inter-ministry blessings or gifts-in-kind.
- **State Fees:** State fees are calculated at the same time as KPMI fees. Notification emails are sent to the Donor Coordinator and Treasurer; Ray will now include the AC Chair on these communications.
- **Financial Assets:** Texas Kairos currently holds **\$1.5 million** in total assets, including **\$470,000** in operating cash and **\$759,000** accumulated since the transition to **Model 1**, which pools funds from all 68 units into a single state account.
- **Investments:** The State Executive Committee approved investing **\$750,000** in a money market fund earning **3.2% annually**, generating approximately **\$24,000–\$25,000** per year for state projects.
- **System Improvements:** Ray reviewed enhancements to the financial system, including the adoption of **direct deposit reimbursements**, which have been well-received by Volunteers.

Ray also reviewed **Bob Crane’s Treasurer Report** and announced that **Bill Schamberger**, a retired CPA who has been assisting Bob, is willing to assume the role of Treasurer next year, concluding Bob’s decade of faithful service.

Please reach out to Susan at susankotsec@gmail.com

New Starts and Program Expansion – Brian Gibson

Brian Gibson provided updates on ministry growth and expansion:

- Recent successful Kairos Weekends at **Bartlett** and **Crane** units.
- **Prayer & Share** at Plane State has grown to more than **60 Volunteers**.
- Plans to expand Prayer & Share to **three additional units**—Billy Moore (Overton), Byrd, and Holliday (Huntsville)—within the next **30–45 days**.
- Collaboration with **Rose Mary Peña** to develop **Spanish-language Kairos Outside Weekends** for monolingual Spanish-speaking Guests, ensuring they can fully understand talks, meditations, and table activities.

Mask Exercise – Valerie Schick and Pastor Marvin

Valerie Schick, Gainesville Torch Chair, and Pastor Marvin led a reflective **Mask Exercise**. Volunteers were given two minutes to draw the “mask” they hide behind. The activity was both meaningful and enjoyable, reminding everyone of the universal need for unconditional love.

The session concluded with a dramatic reading on the theme of masks—how individuals often hide their true selves—and emphasized the importance of authenticity, vulnerability, and genuine connection. Marvin facilitated additional discussion, inviting Volunteers to share the meaning behind their drawn masks.

Programs Report – Dickson de la Haye

Dickson de la Haye, Programs Subcommittee Chair, provided a brief update on Program Coordination:

- Introduced the **Kairos Inside Coordinators**, **Kairos Outside Coordinator**, and noted his role as **Torch Coordinator**.
- Reported progress on forming an **AC Reviewer Group** for the 44 men's KI Advisory Councils.
 - There are currently **four KI minute reviewers**.
 - **Dawn Jonas** reviews KI women's AC minutes.
 - **Dawn Terry** reviews KO AC minutes
 - **Dickson** reviews Torch AC minutes.
- Explained the transition from **three program chairs to one**, with unit coordinators being reorganized to improve communication and streamline the review of meeting minutes.

Closing Worship and Adjournment

The meeting concluded with additional praise music led by Mario Ayala. Pastor Marvin offered a closing prayer, after which the meeting was formally adjourned.