

Kairos of Texas (KOT)
State Chapter Committee (SCC) Meeting
Hill Country Bible Church & Zoom
November 8, 2025

Attendees:

Scott Baker, Kyan Kirby, Susan Huse, Bob Crane, Ray Middleton, Susan Mannas, John Osborne, Scott Van Pelt, Bill Johnson, Robert Kimmel, Pastor Lisa Harbert, Driskoll Tubbs, Jim Thompson, Audra Lee Johns, Laurie Garner, Debbie Van Pelt, Dickson de le Haye, Steve Whatley, Dawnya Wineinger, Don Wineinger, Julie Cole, Roger Harbert, Richard Lauzon, Jeff Sefcik, Richard Montgomery, Jim Cronkhite, Elizabeth Padgett, Wesley Padgett, Mildred Todd, Debbie Love Babb, Socorro Hendry, Sharon Johnson, Marion Fike, Steven Fike, Sandy (Dee) Stokes, Melinda McDonald, Tammie Yule, Pam Baker, Crystal Mendoza, Bebbie Higgs, David Stone, Richard Wiley, Valeri Schick, Marvin Schick, Luella Miller, James Rogers, Leo Simpson II, Jo Fern Thomas, Deanna Jackson, Wendy Boyton, Ladean Smith, Nancy Hulit, Marjorie Whitner, Richard Crouch, Duke DuTeil, James (Jim) Fisher, Joelina Alba, Rick Alba, Mike Tavary, Judy Taylor, Steve Newton, Clarissa Van Pelt, Dusty Meil, Brian Gibson, Jerry Jenkins, Larry Rogers, Linda Rogers, Chase Blosser, Dawn Tucker Terry, Becky Terry, Tina Ramirez, Ledezma L. Rodriquez, Lucy Lozano, Lucy Landros, and Kathy Anderson.

Attendees via ZOOM:

John Bodiford (Coffield), Cyrus, Harry, Joseph Pichotta, Rex Morris (Stiles) Jim Jones (Torres), Tara Fleming (Wichita Falls), Sharla Bursey, Michelle Edwards, Glenn Smith, Curt McGhee, Bill Anderson, George Hippard, Damian Cortez (Briscoe), Steve Collins (Estes), Randy Nettles, Joe, 1-817-832-3178.

Please note: *For attendance purposes, it helps to include complete names and if possible, your AC.*

AC Units Represented:

Allred, Bartlett Innovation, Beto, Bridgeport, Briscoe, Clemens, Coffield, Cole, Crain, Dalhart, Daniel, Estelle, Estes, Ferguson, Goree, Hilltop, Hobby, Huntsville, Hutchins, Jordan, Lindsey, Luther, McConnell, Memorial, Murray, O'Daniel, Polunsky, Stiles, Telford, Torres, Wainwright, Wallace, Wynn, KO Abilene, KO Amarillo, KO Central Texas, KO Corpus Christi, KO East Texas, KO Fort Worth, KO Houston, KO Lubbock, KO Midland, KO North Texas, KO San Antonio, KO Wichita Falls, Torch Amarillo, Torch Gainesville, and Torch Giddings.

AC Units Not Represented:

Boyd, Clements, Coleman, Connally, Ellis (weekend), Hightower, Hughes, Lynaugh, Michael, Montford, Pack, Robertson, Smith, Stevenson, Terrell, Vance, Willacy, Torch Ellis Boys (Ellis Weekend), and Torch Katy.

Scott Van Pelt, Laurie Garner and Tony Perez led the Worship Music.

Scott Baker called the meeting to order. We have a full agenda and voting.

Pastor Lisa Harbert gave the opening prayer and devotional (Numbers 6:24). Pastor Lisa reminded us that we have a big day this coming week, Veteran's Day on November 11th. She told us that Veteran's Day became a day of remembrance at the end of World War I. The war

ended at the 11th hour, on the 11th day, of the 11th month. And, that is why Veteran's Day is always on November 11th. Pastor Lisa told us the day before Veteran's Day 11/10 is the 250th birthday of the establishment of the Marine Corp (11/10/1775).

Susan Huse conducted roll call and requested approval of SCC KOT minutes from August 9, 2025. Ray Middleton made the motion to accept the minutes. Driskoll Tubbs seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Ray Middleton gave the KOT Financial Secretary Highlights:

Ray opened with Ephesians 1:11. Ray said the Model 1 Conversion is DONE! God put him where he needed to be for this. With Steve Newton's training, along with the working relationship he had with Bob Crane this conversion happened AHEAD of SCHEDULE!

This is a new realm in KOT on how we are handling financial affairs. We always need a contingency and succession plan. Forthcoming financial issues to be addressed by the State Treasurer and the State Financial Secretary include:

- AC deposit process/procedures
- AC payment process/procedures
- Qualified plan donation process
- Change to State Affiliation Fee process
- Alternative payment processing
- Online donation processing
- Investment of excess cash balance
- Contingency/succession planning

Kairos Prison Ministry International (KPMI) is a 501C3 entity. We must comply with the rules.

KPMI assesses 15% of money earned by ACs monthly for the national affiliation fees. Ray and Bob are trying to reduce the AC state affiliation chapter fees. If KOT is able to invest there is a possibility the state affiliation fees can be paid with interest from the investment.

KOT 2025 (current) Assets are \$1,433,980

KOT 2024 Assets were \$1,272,888

Total Change of \$161,092

KOT 2025 Income for AC Program Events \$1,793,095

KOT 2024 Income for AC Program Events \$1,621,420

If you want a complete Financial Report, please contact Susan Huse at susankotsec@gmail.com to request one and she will send it.

Bob Crane, Treasurer has been working out the kinks in the donation process on the “Give Butter” platform. The PayPal account is completely closed. Donations through “Give Butter” are becoming more efficient. You may put the “Give Butter” link and QR code on your AC website. “Give Butter” does send an email to the donor. Donors use the dropdown menu to select a particular AC. They can schedule monthly, quarterly or annual donations.

Bob is looking for an assistant. Someone that can work with him and learn his role. He needs an assistant to cover for him when he takes vacation and when he leaves the position at the end of 2026.

Please send Bob Crane and Julie Cole the names of the 2026 AC Chair, Treasurer and Data Coordinator.

Ray and Bob accepted many questions from the floor.

- How do the ACs view their account balance? They need to know what they can fund or when they need to ask for help.
Contact Ray and he will get the account balance for you. He is able to generate reports and send them to the AC. Reports can be created immediately.
- Are there any reasons why standard monthly reports can't be sent to the AC Chair, Treasurer, and Donor Coordinator?
For accounting reports contact Ray.
- How does an AC initiate an Inter-Ministry Blessing?
Call Ray.
- When is a New Start no longer considered a New Start?
After the Weekend #2.

The Crain New Start has a weekend in December. They could use an Inter-Ministry Blessing.

Laurie Garner discussed the importance of Kairos Outside. She let everyone know the Kairos Outside held their election last night. Please congratulate Tammie Yule, Chair, Sharon Johnson Vice Chair, and Socorro Hendry, Secretary.

KO is currently in the season of Reunions, S.W.A.P., and Christmas Parties. One of the greatest success stories is KO Wichita Falls was having only one Weekend per year. They couldn't raise money and the guests wouldn't show up. KO generally expects about a 50% show rate of

guests. KO Wichita Falls' Weekend served 7 guests. With teamwork and help, the next Weekend had 31 confirmed guests. Twenty-three guests showed up for that Weekend. KO Wichita Falls is now scheduling 2 Weekends per year.

KI units should reach out to one of the KO units for a speaker for KI Closings.

Guest Speaker Chaplain John Fisher, Ph.D. of TDCJ Wallace Unit spoke to us. Chaplain Fisher shared his story on how he became a prison chaplain. Chaplain Fisher discussed the IMPACT of Kairos Outside in the TDCJ prison system. Chaplain Fisher was a volunteer for Kairos 49 at the Wallace Unit. He has published 2 books and 9 articles.

Kyan Kirby provided information for the Activity Report.

Kyan reported that we have had some minutes from all KI's except the new starts, all 12 KO's have sent in some minutes and Torch minutes have been sent in from all 4 Units. We are very blessed to have reviewers to go over all these minutes. Many of the weekends have been completed and have sent in Leader Reports and EI Reports!

Dickson de la Haye reported on Kairos Torch:

Kairos Torch lost access to so much through the loss of the website. We currently have 4 Torch units and now also have the Torch Ellis Boys that is housed within the Ellis Prison and has its own Advisory Council.

We are looking at a Torch opportunity in Mart, TX. Mart is 18 miles east of Waco. If in the DFW/Waco areas and want to serve with Torch, we need 4-5 Volunteers to get this off the ground.

We will have our first Torch girls weekend next year.

Scott Baker added that the Ellis Unit has a Youth Offender Program (YOP) dorm that houses youth 14-18 years old. These Youth have long term sentences and will enter the adult population at 18 ½ years of age. They are segregated from the older Residents, so have no opportunity to join an Ellis Kairos Weekend. Accordingly, a group of male Volunteers has elected to train and conduct a Kairos Torch program for the young men. The graduates will be eligible to then join a Kairos Inside Weekend and Community after assimilation into an adult population. This is a first for Kairos and has been fully approved by KPMI. I applaud the Volunteers for offering the young men this opportunity to experience Kairos Torch. Due to the significant differences between the Kairos Inside and Torch programs, a separate Advisory

Council is required and has been assembled. I applaud the initiative and look forward to supporting the initiative, a first for Kairos globally.

John Osborne and Julie Cole conducted the Kairos of Texas Officer Elections.

Break-out Sessions and Lunch

Driskoll Tubbs reported on Continuing Ministry:

There is more to Kairos than the Weekends. There should be Prayer & Share; S.W.A.P. and Reunions. He will be contacting the KOT Chairs about Continuing Ministry.

Jim Thompson provided the Fundraising report:

Churches are great opportunities for fundraising. Get on the church's budget if you can! Individuals and team members give much of the donations. Every opportunity is a fund raiser. KI needs to support KO financially and spiritually.

Audra Lee Johns discussed Agape:

Audra stated, of our 67 units, 40 have not sent agape. Please send your Agape or bring it to the quarterly meetings. Audra provided an Agape report that identified the units that have and have not sent Agape. There was a brief Agape Q&A.

Steve Whatley discussed New Starts:

Steve talked about the 2026 goals for Kairos of Texas growth. We want to add a minimum of 6 new KI units, 2 KO units and 2 Torch units.

Julie Cole and John Osborne provided the results of the State Elections:

New officers for 2026 are as follows: Chair - Steve Whatley; Vice Chair – Kyan Kirby; Secretary – Susan Huse; Financial Secretary – Ray Middleton; Treasurer – Bob Crane; International Council Representatives – Scott Van Pelt and Leona Tatum. IC Reps completing their current 3-year term are: Susan Mannas, Bill Johnson, and Andrew Hamilton.

Mike Tavary provided information on Trailers:

Mike reminded everyone to schedule and reserve the trailers through the Regional Trailer Coordinator. Each AC should have a Trailer Coordinator too. Proof of Insurance cards should be on the trailers. This is for shared trailers and for solo trailers.

Dawnya Wineinger provided the Contact Coordination report:

Contact numbers are up. Kairos Outside guest registration has tripled.

The financial team reported that Kairos Outside venue insurance can be provided via KPML's insurance at no cost to the AC. You must ASK for the insurance coverage information from KPML.

Scott Baker, Final Chair Comments:

Scott sincerely thanked Chaplain Fisher for his service and support of Kairos. He thanked Bettye and Ed Keefer for arranging our usage of the beautiful Hill Country Bible Church for all of our quarterly meetings. Ed also arranges for our refreshments and for our lunches. Bettye handles all our personalized Condolence Notes to families who lost a Kairos Volunteer during the year. Bettye tracks and assembles the list of those names for our Annual Conferences. This year we had a record 45 Condolences!

Scott sincerely thanked Pastor Lisa Harbert for serving as our Kairos Texas Spiritual Leader. Scott said he is unsure how many years she has volunteered her Spiritual Leadership. During COVID in 2020, when Kairos was blocked from meeting in a church, Pastor Lisa hosted our meeting in her church in San Antonio.

Scott thanked all of us for our service to the ministry of Kairos in Texas. Because of us, Kairos continues to grow in Texas. Kairos Inside Men and Women and Torch communities have all been added in 2025.

Scott commended everyone for their active participation in every Kairos Annual Conference which speaks volumes about the energy within the ministry in Texas! Thanks to your efforts, Texas delivers an average of over 2 Weekends per week. There were 115 weekends hosted in 2025.

Texas has been approved and now has a first Torch Unit in a prison Environment. Torch Ellis Boys, housed within the Ellis Prison. The initial Weekend is scheduled for May 2026.

There has been some internal discussion about expanding Men's Kairos Inside into Federal Prisons. Scott thinks the opportunities are real, as has been proven in at least one California prison. Texas has had some discussions on the topic with Federal Prison Leadership who are encouraging us to jump in. And, since food cannot be brought into a Federal Unit, the Prison will supply all food and will prepare the food! We will simply need to prepare the menu we want prepared.

Scott shared it never ceases to amaze him with the resiliency of our Teams, whether to

challenges of COVID, Security Lockdowns or Weekend Cancellations, and even on short notice! We have become accustomed to the challenges of change and have responded with requests for Variances. So far this year we have processed 95 Variances. The year is not over, but all have been approved. Scott looks at the statistic as an indication that, because we are focused on delivering Weekends to all Units, some eggs have been broken in the process. But NO BREAKAGE HAS SPOILED THE CAKES.

Reminders:

- If you are interested in being a part of a first Federal Kairos Weekend in Houston, let Steve Whatley know!
- Advisory Council Elections are to be completed by 12/01/2025 and entered into Messenger by 12/31/25.
- The AC Affiliation Agreements are due to the Chair (Steve Whatley) by January 31, 2025.
- The next KOT Quarterly meetings will be February 13-14, 2026. So ... if you are looking for a surprise Valentine's Day gift for your spouse, bring them as well and KOT will provide a free hotel room! (What could be more SURPRISING?)

Scott gave a big THANKS FOR ALL THE MEMORIES!!!!

Pastor Lisa gave the closing prayer. THANK YOU, PASTOR LISA!!!