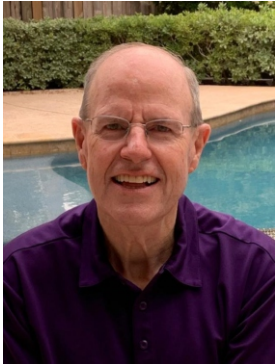


KAIROS

November 2025

www.kairostexas.org

Issue 65



Scott Baker
State Chair

As we approach the New Year, I am filled with many great KOT memories in addition to the Weekends I have been privileged to serve.

I enjoyed serving under Ray Sims for four years as your Texas SCC Vice-Chair. And I hold fond memories of the challenges in spite of the Covid environment we had to endure with untimely but necessary TDCJ shutdowns. We even got to the point in mid-2020 where the churches would not allow us to enter. But Pastor Lisa Harbert opened wide the doors of her Alamo Heights Christian Church in San Antonio for our Q3 KOT Meeting to proceed! I am still thankful for her generosity and outreach.

I am also very thankful for the opportunity you gave me to serve as your KOT Chair for the past three years. Together we have continued to enjoy a flourishing KOT blessing. I thank all of you who have served on a Kairos Weekend and those who have provided the support to the Teams who entered the various ministry venues. I am thankful for all of you for your support of our Weekends, many times without appropriate appreciation being expressed. Without lots of agape and wonderful food, the Weekends could not have delivered the long-lasting and life-changing impact of Kairos.

Because of the work that each of you provides to the ministry, we have continued to deliver the life-changing love and encouragement of our Lord and Savior. Your service and support benefits thousands of people every year in Texas. And in many cases your service has multiplied the impact of Kairos as many have subsequently joined us as Kairos servants with a powerful story to share.

Under the leadership of Steve Whatley and his New Starts Teams, and the masses of Volunteers who make

the Weekends successful, the ministry has continued to grow. For those of you who were able to attend Steve's breakout session at our 2025 Annual Conference in Augusta, GA, you came away motivated to recruit and were equipped with more tools to effectively do so. As a result, KOT has now grown to 67 AC's, an achievement that will be exceedingly challenging for other States to rival.

In 2025, we will deliver 111 Weekends which translates to directly impacting over 4,000 incarcerated adults, detained Youth, and women impacted by the incarceration of a loved one. In short, I am humbled to have been associated with such a powerful life-changing ministry and all of you faithful servants who make it possible.

I have additionally enjoyed attending the Annual Texas Prison Ministry Awareness and TDCJ Chaplaincy events since they started 7 years ago, thanks to the leadership of C.F. Hazlewood. We and TDCJ have directly benefitted from the opportunity to meet annually in a more casual environment, to explain our Kairos ministry, and to listen to their Chaplaincy feedback on their challenges that guides us towards better serving their needs.

The phrase "faith without works is dead" is found in the book of James, specifically James 2:17 and James 2:26. This message explains that true faith is incomplete and ineffective if it is not demonstrated through actions. And I am confident that those who are reading this message of "Thanks" from me, fully embrace the discipline of "Works" as we voluntarily serve the Kairos communities wholeheartedly.

In summary, I thank all of you for the "Memories". And I am humbly thankful for all of the support you have provided to our Kairos ministry in Texas. I am looking forward to even greater things from KOT and to further serving KOT under the strong leadership of Steve Whatley.





Steve Whatley Incoming Chair - 2026

Fellow Servants!

Thank you for your vote of support by electing me the State Chair of Kairos of Texas! I am humbled and excited to see what Christ has in store for our State Chapter in 2026! If the last 2 years are any indication of what's coming, we're in for blessings beyond belief!

Like me, I am sure that this Ministry is likely one of the most important things you have done! What a privilege to be called into serving those incarcerated and affected by incarceration! How are we so fortunate to witness Christ's transformation before our very eyes? Even when it's our own transformation! Not only are we fortunate to witness Him and His glory, we're also responsible for taking His Kingdom to those who need Him the most! It's about following His lead by guiding and shepherding this Ministry to the greatness it can become!

2026 brings wonderful opportunities to celebrate God's blessings and expand our reach to additional prisons, youth facilities, and outside communities! The new year highlights the opportunities to celebrate both our 40th Anniversary of Kairos of Texas, and our 50th Anniversary of Kairos Prison Ministry International! We also have the opportunity to have several Kairos Inside, Kairos Outside and Kairos Torch New Starts! But first, we must come together as a unified State Chapter focused on growing His Kingdom!

Kairos of Texas now has 67 Advisory Councils – the most in a State Chapter world-wide! While we celebrate Christ's blessings, I believe we have the responsibility to be the leader in the Ministry! The best way we can do this is by every one of our 67 Advisory Councils being represented whenever we meet. Coming together as a State Chapter is as important as our Weekend team formation meetings.

I promise whether or not you have attended a quarterly meeting over the last few years, you'll not only see but feel a difference in 2026! The new year will bring a focus on positivity, unity, support and encouragement! With Advisory Council members seated at “The Table” (regional tables), we'll come to better know one another, share ideas, solutions to age-old barriers to success, and plan the future! Rumor has it that we'll also be blessed by inspirational guest speakers!

Your incoming Kairos of Texas Executive Committee is not waiting to begin coming together to plan the new year. We have our inaugural Executive Committee meeting on Saturday, November 29th in Austin! We're excited! We're fired up! We're ready to go! Please pray for each of us as we seek Christ's guidance!

In closing, if Christ is encouraging you join the excitement, please give prayerful consideration to joining one of our subcommittees or joining the 40th Kairos of Texas Anniversary Planning Team. Please feel free to reach out with questions or interest (stevewhatley@att.net or 614-284-6514).

Blessings,
Steve

2026 Election Results

Effective 1/1/26:

Steve Whatley was elected to serve as KOT Chair

Kyan Kirby was elected to serve as KOT Vice Chair

Leona Tatum was elected to replace John Osborne as a KOT IC Rep

Tammie Yule was elected the new KO Sub-Committee Chair replacing Laurie Garner

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostatexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



Driskoll Tubbs - Continuing Ministry



Driskoll Tubbs
Chair - Continuing
Ministry

I am extremely pleased to report that all of the K.O. and K.I. (both men and women's) A.C. units in the state of Texas are now reporting their Prayer & Shares, Reunions, Retreats, Instructional and K.O. SWAPS except for one K.I. men's unit who will comply after their A.C. elections this month when they get a new Continuing Ministry Coordinator.

Of the 4 active Torch Units (more on the way), only 2 are far enough along on Continuing Ministry, and they are both putting their continuing ministry information in Messenger.

I sent out by e-mail to all the K.I. AC Chairs and Continuing Ministry Coordinators about the proper procedures for electing the Kairos Inside Resident Community Councils which every Kairos Inside unit should have to run the Prayer & Share and Reunions events at their Units. The Kairos Volunteers serving each at these units should have one or two people who are selected and trained by the Advisory Council as Prayer & Share and Reunion facilitators. Kairos volunteers are not involved in running and planning these events. Kairos Team members are to attend Prayer & Share and Reunions to show our support for the involvement of the Kairos residents, visiting with them and singing if there are songs led by the residents to show our love.

When we sign up to serve on a Kairos Inside weekend, in accordance with the grey manual, we are committing to come back to the prison for monthly Reunions, especially in the six months after the weekend. In conversations I've had with several of the K.I. leadership, there are Reunions where as few as 2 to 6 volunteers show up. This includes volunteers who didn't serve on the last weekend. We must do better! During the training for the Kairos weekend, the weekend Leader needs to emphasize at every training meeting the need for the volunteers to commit to

attend these Reunions and maybe a Prayer and Share occasionally to show our support, love, and interest in their desire to improve their life. By the way, we do not join them in their Prayer & Share groups including Reunions, the exception being if the Reunion includes them each bringing a resident guest.

The Prayer and Share groupings are not a place to talk about sports and similar type subjects!

This quarter I plan on contacting all the Kairos Outside Chairs and Continuing Ministry Coordinators to see how we can get more SWAPs, Reunions, and if we can help them with any other needs they may want help.

Believe All Things Are Possible

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are Possible."
(MATTHEW 19:26 NIV)

There are times in life when facts are not your friend. If you look at your situation only in the natural, you may not see how it can happen. The facts will tell you, "You're not going to get well; you saw the medical report. You'll never break that addiction; you've had it for years. You'll never accomplish your dreams. You don't know the right people. You don't have the training." If you listen to the facts, they will keep you from your destiny. The facts can talk you out of your dreams. The facts can convince you to settle for mediocrity. But here's what I've learned: (Hallelujah!) My God is bigger than the facts. You may not see a way in the natural, but He's a supernatural God. (BIG! GOD! Hallelujah!) He can do what medicine cannot. He can promote you without the training: He can make rivers in the desert. He's not limited by the laws of nature, science, and economics. When you believe, all things ARE possible! Father, You said in Proverbs 3:5, "*Lean not on your own understanding.*" (HALLELUJAH!).

I'm leaning on Your understanding, God. You're bigger than any challenge I face. I don't see a way, but I know You have a way. You control the universe. You spoke the world into existence. I trust Your understanding, God! Amen.

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



Answers to Life's Questions

ANSWERS TO LIFE'S QUESTIONS: Why doesn't God answer my prayer sooner? (GENESIS 45:25--46:4)

If God hears our requests and loves us so much that He sent His own Son, Jesus Christ, to die for us, then why does it appear to take Him so long to respond to some of our most urgent requests?

Carefully consider the following ten reasons. The delay may be caused by:

1. Our disobedience

Our sin can prompt God to withhold His gracious hand (Ps. 81:10-12). When we disobey His commands and refuse to repent, He sometimes stops His ears from hearing our requests.

2. Our doubt

Without faith, no one who asks anything of God will receive what he requests (James 1:5-8). But with faith, all things are possible (Mark 9:23).

3. Our attempts at manipulation

If we try to control or manipulate God, we should not expect answers to our prayers (1 Sam. 13:9-14). He is the Master; we are the servants.

4. Wrong motivation

Neither self-centered requests nor those tinged with evil intent will receive an answer (James 4:3). God refuses to partner with our lusts or our schemes.

5. Our lack of responsibility

God cannot be expected to compensate for a lazy or negligent person

(Prov. 19:15). The Lord has His work to do; we have ours.

6. An illegitimate "need"

Is this thing you want really a need, or is it something that you have illegitimately come to expect? Often we have bigger eyes than stomachs (Jer. 45:1-5).

7. Rejecting God's method

Don't turn away a means of supply merely because it doesn't fit your expectations or criteria (Josh. 6). A man named Naaman almost made this mistake---and it would have cost him his health (2 King 5:8-14).

8. God's redirection

Sometimes God is in the process of redirecting us or preparing us for something new (Gen. 37, 39-50). God loves to do fresh, exciting things with His people (Is. 43:19).

9. God's desire to teach us

God may want us to focus on our spiritual and eternal needs so that we will learn to trust Him in all things and for all things (Is. 48:18).

10. God's desire to bring us to repentance

God may want us to own up to our sin, confess it, and repent of it (Luke 15:11-31). And even when God delays His answers, He instructs us to keep on praying (Luke 18:1-8). Prayer is life's greatest time saver, even when it doesn't seem like it.



A BEAUTIFUL CHRISTIAN

A man or woman's heart should be so hidden in Christ that a person should have to seek Him first to find them.

When I say that 'I am a Christian', I am not shouting that 'I am clean living. I'm whispering I was lost, but now I'm found and forgiven.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I don't speak of this with pride. I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not trying to be strong. I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not bragging of success. I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not claiming to be perfect. My flaws are far too visible, but God believes I am worth it.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I still feel the sting of pain. I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

When I say 'I am a Christian' I'm not holier than thou, I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace, somehow.

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



Albert Trujano - I Once Knew A Man

I once knew a man who was distressed, broken, and afflicted in his heart. He often told me that suicide seemed like the best way to end his pain. He would take pills to cope with life and frequently wake up contemplating death, wondering if that day would be the day he would stop the pain in his heart. He felt outcast from the world and believed that God had let him down. He didn't feel good enough to be accepted by God and thought he had to portray a certain image for God to love him. It all seemed so hopeless to him.

Later, this young man found himself in the penitentiary system for several charges, facing a combined total of 150 years in prison. The prospect of seeing the light of day again was bleak, but the very same God he thought had deserted him intervened in a way only He could. God moved upon the hearts of the district attorney and judge. The judge initially sentenced him to 35 years, but it was quickly reduced to 20 non-aggravated years, with all charges running concurrently. This meant he would not have to serve half of his sentence before becoming eligible for parole. Although he had faced a potential 150 year sentence, God showed him mercy and grace. Who knows why? Perhaps it is because God is so forgiving and compassionate towards those who are lost.

Moving forward in this young man's story, we come to the beginning of his new life. When he arrived in prison, he was segregated by the authorities for various reasons. What he thought was another tragedy in his life turned out to be a blessing in disguise. For one whole year, God allowed him to sit alone in a cell for 24 hours a day. God watched as the young man tried everything in his strength to get through each day. God watched until He knew the time was right. He woke the young man up and prompted him to read the Bible. Reading the Bible was something he had never really done before. He opened it to Romans and started reading. He read and read until he was convicted and moved by God's mighty word. For hours each day, he would read the Bible. Over time those hours turned into days. Finally, one day, alone in his prison cell, he covered his cell door, fell on his face, and cried out to Jesus with his whole heart. He later told me he wasn't exactly sure what happened, but he knew he had an encounter with God that would change his life forever. He had given up trusting everything else and started trusting in Jesus.

I share this story to say that if God can reach out to this young man in a prison cell, He can do it for you too. If you are lost and know that you need Jesus, just cry out to Him and let Him into your heart.

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostatexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org

Mart Kairos Torch - NEEDS YOU 18 miles east of Waco



Dickson de la Haye
dicksondlh@gmail.com
979-236-7345

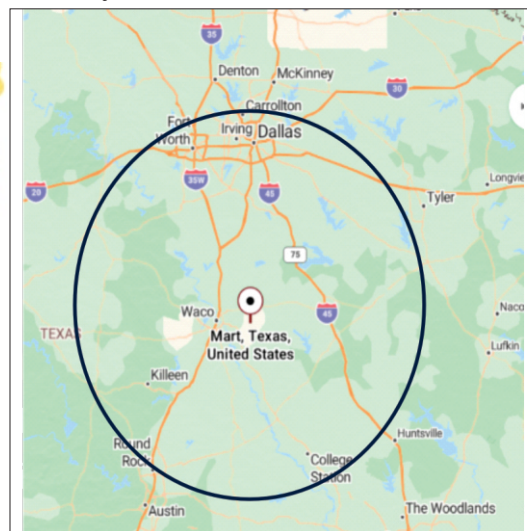
In Texas we currently have 5 Torch programs established, with our newest underway at the Ellis Unit - Youthful Offender Program. The Mart State Juvenile Correctional Facility, located in Mart Texas, is the largest Texas Juvenile Justice Department Facility that houses both boys and girls. This facility is looking forward to having a Torch program, but it **Needs You!** We have numerous Kairos Inside and Outside communities that serve from the Waco, Dallas-Fort Worth, and surrounding areas. They are well situated to support the establishment of a Mart Kairos Torch community and mentor program. It is my prayer that some of you will answer God's call to embark on this new challenge.

To learn more about Torch, check out the [Kairos of Texas](http://www.kairostatexas.org) website or feel free to contact me.

In addition to forming an Advisory Council and conducting the Torch Weekend, Torch's Continuing Ministry consists of one-on-one mentoring. Note that there are some allowances for special circumstances, but consistent participation is necessary to build trust and develop positive personal relationships. Kairos Torch also allows husbands and wives to equally participate.

Like all new starts we will have a multitude of issues to resolve, I have no doubt that God is calling us to action under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We Need You! Will you answer His call?



THANKFULNESS



Rev. Mary Powell

Below is the newest devotion, reminding us to be thankful. How many ways? Blessings, Mary Powell
So Much to Be Grateful For
Psalm 23 is a beautiful example of tangible ways God cares for us. Look at this list and thank God as you read through it:

- He provides all our needs (v. 1)
- He makes us lie down in green pastures (v. 2)
- He leads us beside quiet waters (v. 2)
- He refreshes our soul (v. 3)
- He guides us along right paths (v. 3)
- He is always with us (v. 4)
- He comforts us (v. 4)
- He prepares a table before us (v. 5)
- He anoints our head with oil (v. 5)
- We will dwell in the house of the Lord forever (v. 6)

Now some of these may seem confusing so let's go through them:

He makes us lie down in green pastures—We are often compared to sheep and for sheep to be made to lie down, there are 4 conditions that must be met. They must be free from fear, friction with others of their kind, pests/parasites, and hunger. Because God provides all our needs, we can lie down in green pastures.

He leads us beside quiet waters - He knows what will give us life and nourishment. He knows what “waters” are good and what are bad. He takes us to those that are quiet and full of nourishment to refresh us. This is a metaphor but there are many times in life we can compare to this.

He prepares a table before us - God goes before us. He knows what lies ahead and promises to prepare the way and never leave us or forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). Our great Good Shepherd is going ahead of us in every situation, anticipating what danger we may encounter, and praying for us that in it we might not succumb.

He anoints our head with oil - This has a couple of meanings. When a sheep begins to be bothered by flies, the shepherd applies an oil to their head that keeps the flies away. This saves them from irritation and disease.

These 10 things are just a handful of the promises Scripture gives us on all of the things God does for us. We have so much to be grateful for!

What is God saying to ME through this Word?

What specific things in your life are you grateful for?

Prayer Focus: Those who feel they are walking in the wilderness...

My prayers go out for...



Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



Bob Crane - State Treasurer



Bob Crane
State Treasurer

Information for donations made from qualified accounts (IRAs, Charitable Gift Funds, etc.)

- Donor needs to provide the following information to the financial institution that is distributing the funds:
 - Recipient Name:
 - Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc.
 - 100 DeBary Plantation Blvd
 - DeBary, FL 32713
 - EIN Number 59-1970458
 - Request a memo be included with the donation specifying where the donation should be used
 - For example: KPMI - Texas - *AC Name*
- If the institution processes gifts electronically and requires assistance, they should contact Kris Buchanan at KPMI:
Kris@kpmi.org
407-629-4948
- KPMI will send the donor a thank you letter; donations from qualified accounts are not included in the year-end tax letters sent to donors
- IMPORTANT – Whenever a donation is given from a qualified account, please provide the details to Bob Crane, State Treasurer. Details requested are: Advisory Council to receive the donation, name of the donor, name of the financial institution, donation amount, and donation date. If I am made aware when a donation of this type is made, I will work closely with KPMI to ensure funds are

directed to the correct Advisory Council.

KPMI is very diligent about watching for these types of donations and redirecting them.

- You can also refer donors to the related information at this link: [Kairos Prison Ministry - Planned Giving Home](#)

Thanksgiving and Gratitude

-by Charles Stanley

Thanking God glorifies and magnifies Him, but did you know it also benefits us? Giving thanks . . .

Refocuses our attention. Life is filled with things that keep us from seeing all God has done. Instead of carrying the weight of the world on our shoulders, we should try refocusing on the Lord by thanking Him for His provision, guidance, and faithfulness.

Relieves anxiety. We all deal with pressures, expectations, and responsibilities. But when we bring our concerns to the Lord with thanksgiving, the burden shifts to Him, and His peace comes to us (Phil. 4:6-7).

Refreshes our relationship. Gratitude keeps us from thinking that the Christian walk is all about us. Our fellowship with God is enhanced because we're focused on Him instead of ourselves.

Reinforces our faith. When we thank the Lord for His past faithfulness, our confidence in His present faithfulness soars.

Rejoices our spirit. Thanksgiving brings us a sense of joy and helps us combat discouragement.

Although gratitude is always beneficial, that doesn't mean it's easy. Shifting our focus and thanking the Lord for all He's done is the fastest way to change our attitude and reenergize ourselves to push through whatever challenges we face.

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



Texas State Officers

Chair - Scott Baker
Vice-Chair - Kyan Kirby (Interim)
Secretary - Susan Huse
Treasurer - Bob Crane
Financial Secretary - Ray Middleton
KI Coord. - Kyan Kirby, Andrew Hamilton, Cinda Rose
KO Chair - Laurie Garner
Torch - Dickson de la Haye

Kairos International Council

Rep. - Susan Mannas
Rep. - Andrew Hamilton
Rep. - John Osborne
Rep. - Scott Van Pelt
Rep. - Bill Johnson



Excellence Initiative

State Coord - Open
KI - Bill Johnson
KI - Larry Rodgers
KI - Melvin Dudley
KI - Mike Tavy
KI - Richard Schreyer
KO - Laurie Garner
Torch Chair - Dickson de la Haye



Committee Chairs

Advisory Council Chair - Scott Baker
Agape - Audra Lee Johns.
Audio/Visual - Roger Harbert
Clergy Recruit./Train. - Pastor Lisa Harbert
Continuing Ministry - Driskoll Tubbs
Food Coord. - Don & Dawnya Wineinger
Fundraising - Jim Thompson
Hotel Res. Coord. - Richard Lauzon
& Dawn Jonas
Music Coord. - Scott Van Pelt
Newsletter - Bettye Keefer
New Starts - Steve Whatley
Recruit./Outreach - Dawnya Wineinger
Registrar - Julie Cole
R.O.C.K. S/C Chair - Chris Wilson
State AKT Training Coord. - Cinda Rose & Kyan Kirby
Trailer Coord. - Mike Tavy
Website Dev. - Joe Pichotta

Texas TDCJ

Good Advice

When a flashlight grows dim, we don't throw it away. We replace the batteries.

When a person messes up, do you cast them aside? Of course not. You help them change their batteries.

Some need AA batteries:

Attention

Affection

Some need AAA batteries:

Attention

Affection

Acceptance

Some need a C battery:

Compassion

Some need a D battery:

Direction

And if they still don't shine, sit with them and share your light.



BIBLE IS:

BASIC
INSTRUCTIONS
BEFORE
LEAVING
EARTH

Important websites:

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KPMI: www.mykairos.org





Changing Hearts, Transforming Lives
Impacting the World



Be sure to visit our website at www.kairostatexas.org. The schedule and location for State Board meetings for 2026 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.

Prayers of Gratitude

The Creator and Ruler of the universe invites us to communicate with Him, and prayer is the amazing privilege of entering into His throne room. Typical components of prayer are intercession, petition, confession, praise, and thanksgiving. Which one of these consumes most of the time you spend talking with the Father?

Though Scriptures urges us to express gratitude (Eph. 5:20; 1 Thess. 5:18), there are a couple of reasons why doing so may seem less of a priority. First, whatever fills our mind is also what dominates our prayers. So, if we're feeling overwhelmed, petitions naturally become more urgent; when concerns for loved ones preoccupy us, intercession will be uppermost in our mind.

Another issue is this: After we've seen God work in our life or answer a prayer request, we're filled with gratitude and thank Him repeatedly. After a while, however, we tend to forget and drift back into our regular thought patterns.

Learning to know the Lord more deeply is the key to keeping gratitude and praise foremost in prayer. As we read Scripture and discover God's glorious nature and mighty works, He'll become our focus. Then our prayers will be filled with praise and thanks, not just for what He's done for us but for who He is---our good, loving, faithful, and glorious God (Ps. 138:5).

Important websites:

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KPMI: www.mykairos.org

KOT SCC. Meetings 2026

Dates: Jan. 31, May 9, Aug. 8, Nov. 14

Time: 8:00 am - 2:30 pm

Location: Hill Country Bible Church

12124 RR 620 North

Austin, TX 78750

Meeting Minutes Archived

KOT Executive Committee Meetings 2026

Date: Jan.30, May 8, Aug. 7, Nov. 13

Time: 5:00 pm Kairos of Texas Board

Time: 7:00 pm Kairos Outside Board

Location: Hill Country Bible Church

12124 RR 620 North

Austin, TX 78750



If you're looking for a great gift idea or a gift for the Leader of the upcoming weekend, this hand made pen is it! Beautifully engraved with our Kairos logo, these are made out of pieces from Louisville Slugger which gives it a unique connection to this summer's Annual Conference!

Pens are \$50 each which includes shipping. 20% of each pen sold will be donated to Kairos of Texas.

Please email Andrew Hamilton at

hamyjuniorchili@gmail.com to place an order.–

Andrew Hamilton

New Braunfels, TX