

Thomas Becker - KOT Vice Chair

KPMI UPDATES



KPMI has implemented some new procedural changes that will affect your local Advisory Councils (ACs).

Memorandum of Understanding:

The first policy update is regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for KI programs. As you all are aware, whenever a new warden is appointed to your unit the AC must have a new MOU signed by the new warden. However, going forward, all newly signed MOUs must also be sent to Ms. Ann Kreller, at KPMI, for signature from Ms. Evelyn Lemly –

Executive Director. The MOU will then be returned to the AC to be kept on file. Also understand, the MOU cannot be modified or altered in any way by the local AC. If a warden has exception to any verbiage in the MOU he/she may insert edits, but they must be subsequently approved by Ms. Evelyn Lemly at her discretion. Therefore, the only signatures on the MOU will be those of the warden and Ms. Evelyn Lemly. The MOU can be found at <http://kairostexas.org/documents/InstitutionalMemorandum.pdf>. Note: If your MOU is current it does not need to be sent to KPMI. But whenever you have your next change in warden the new MOU must be sent to KPMI.

Bank Signature Cards:

The second policy update is regarding bank account signature cards for KI, KO, and KT programs. If you have a change of banking institution the signature card must go to KPMI first for signature from Ms. Evelyn Lemly, then it will be sent to KOT for signature from Mr. Robert Robinson, and then returned to the bank for signature from the AC Treasurer. Note: If you have not changed banks then the current signature card does not need to be sent to KPMI. But as soon as you have a change in banking institution the new signature card must be sent first to KPMI.

Logos:

KPMI has an official registered logo with the US Patent and Trademark office. As such we must be consistent in its use. The logo must be blue or black and cannot feature any background image. Specifics of the registered logo can be found within the Kairos Style Guide located at <http://www.mykairos.org/docs/kpmi/styleguide.pdf>. Furthermore, we must demonstrate proper use of the logo in order to maintain the trademark registration. Therefore, we urgently ask you to update your AC webpages with the registered logo. All other unofficial logos need to be removed from the webpages or we risk losing our registered trademark. Also, please add the Kairos Mission Statement to your AC webpage to add legitimacy and consistency with all other KPMI webpages.

Things to Remember:

I have heard it said “Nothing worth having was ever achieved without effort”. I believe we can all agree Kairos is a ministry worth having in Texas. Furthermore, this is a ministry that requires a lot of time, effort, and work from us all. With all of our “busyness” I know how easy it is to overlook some of the more mundane aspects of this ministry. I certainly have this struggle and always welcome timely reminders from my Kairos brother and sisters. Listed below is a short list of reminders to help improve compliance and continue to expand this great ministry.

Advisory Councils:

September is the month to request nominations to the AC (1/3 roll off).
By year’s end elections should be completed and positions filled.

(Continued on page 7)



An Atheist's View on Life

I will live my life according to these beliefs
God does not exist
It is foolish to think
That there is a God with a cosmic plan
That an all-powerful God brings redemption and healing to the pain and suffering in the world
is a comforting thought, however
It
is only wishful thinking
People can do as they please without eternal consequences
The idea that
I am deserving of hell
Because of sin
Is a lie meant to make me a slave to those in power
“The more you have, the happier you will be”
Our existence has no grand meaning or purpose
In a world with no God
There is freedom to be who I want to be
But with God
Everything is fine
It is ridiculous to think
I am lost and in need of saving

A Christian's View on Life

(NOW READ IT FROM THE BOTTOM UP)

In Loving Memory

During the Kairos Prison Ministry International Summer Conference July 15-19, 2014 at Indianapolis, In., there was a memorial service for all who have gone to be with the Lord in the past year.

Their name was called out and a candle was lit for each one. The names that were called were: Joseph Carmona, John Adams, Jesse Bohls, Wilbur Cannon, Don Collins, J.C. Cox, Dale Cozby, Elizabeth Gaffaney, Margaret Griffin, Larry Homann, Carl Johnson, Diane Mobilia, Marilyn Pattison, and Janice Snyder.



Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



2014 Governor's Criminal Justice Volunteer Service Award Woodlands Church Receives Governor's Volunteer Award



Front row, from left to right: Christ Church United Methodist members Dr. Glenn Smith, Stoney Burke and John Osborne. Back row, from left to right: Texas Board of Criminal Justice Chairman Oliver Bell, Keynote Speaker Judge Cathy Cochran and Texas Department of Criminal Justice Executive Director Brad Livingston.

(AUSTIN - April 17) – During ceremonies in Austin today, Christ Church United Methodist members accepted the Governor's 2014 Criminal Justice Volunteer "Religious Service" award. The senior and associate pastors are among 12 volunteers from the church who support nearly every faith-based program at the Hightower Unit.

The award was presented by Oliver Bell, Chairman of the Texas Board of Criminal Justice, and TDCJ Executive Director Brad Livingston.

"These men and women give their time not for monetary reward," said Livingston. "They volunteer because they have a personal passion in seeing others succeed. We are grateful for their selfless dedication."

Programs facilitated by Christ Church United Methodist include the Disciple Bible Study, Christmas blessing bags, praise and worship service, communion service and KAIROS. The Hightower Unit's first faith-based dorm was initiated by the church. The volunteers support the unit chaplain as Certified Volunteer Chaplains Assistants and provide donations for the chapel programs such as televisions, folding chairs, DVDs and Christian books to support the needs of the unit.

When asked what motivated the church members to volunteer with TDCJ they replied it was a "call from God" to visit the offenders at the Hightower Unit in Dayton which is about an hour from The Woodlands.

For their dedicated service to the offenders and assistance to the unit staff, Christ Church United Methodist was selected to receive the "Religious Service" volunteer award.

Christ Church United Methodist of The Woodlands is one of 6 organizations and 15 individuals from across the state recognized today for their efforts to help inmates and those who are on parole or probation.

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostatexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



Dawnya Wineinger - Ministry reaches out to women who have loved ones behind bars



It's nothing like those you see on television and, in fact, it cannot even be seen. That doesn't make it any less real, nor does the fact that Wineinger has never been convicted of any crime. She graduated magna cum laude from LeTourneau University with a degree in interdisciplinary studies less than two years ago. Yet, even as she walked across the stage to pick up the diploma, her life was in lockdown.

The sentence that Wineinger received came when her husband went to prison, and her parole will not come until his does, maybe by the end of the year. It's called, "doing time on the outside," and Wineinger is one of many women facing the same situation whether they be wives, girlfriends, mothers or sisters.

And just like Wineinger, they can find help through an organization called Kairos Outside. "I had no idea that I needed what they were giving," Wineinger said. "It was overwhelming." What Kairos Outside gives is understanding and love through the lens of Christianity, though it is not an organization that pushes women to convert, or even believe. The main focus of the group's activities in East Texas is offering two weekend retreats a year where women related to those who are in prison are pampered and, most importantly, allowed to talk. The motto of Kairos Outside is "listen, listen, love, love."

Wineinger said she did not know she was to be served at the retreat. "I thought I was going to work," she said, "but there were women who knew I needed to be involved. When we got to the retreat they told me what was happening. They wouldn't even let me carry in my own luggage." That was the beginning of a transformational weekend for Wineinger and about 30 other women who learned that many people shared their circumstances and that there were others who cared about them as human beings. "It is amazing. You find out you are not the only one hurting. There are many out there in your same situation."

The weekend includes discussions and workshops, many of which Wineinger says the group does not discuss to the outside world. During the weekend, men are present but never in the meetings. The men are there to cook and serve the food. "We eat really, really well," she said. "The women are treated like royalty." As might be expected, this is not the sort of treatment to which the women are accustomed. Still, it is not always easy to convince women who have family members in prison that they will benefit from Kairos Outside, but Wineinger said once the guests arrive, that changes quickly.

"It's interesting to see how people arrive. Some come in these brand-new 2014 cars and others come in cars held together by duct tape. It doesn't matter because in the end we are all the same."

During her first weekend, Wineinger went as a guest. The next two meetings, she went to help others. She'll be doing the same thing when the next Kairos Outside retreat is held the first weekend in May. She's not the only one who has come back to serve. "Once they have been through the retreat, you see the women are ready to give the love they have received," Wineinger said.

Kairos Outside is a part of Kairos Prison Ministry Inc., which began as an ecumenical effort to minister to prison inmates. Texas has an active Kairos organization. In 1989, the first Kairos Outside meeting was held in Northern California for the families of inmates. A third ministry, Kairos Torch, aims to help youths who have been incarcerated for the first time.

After the Kairos Outside meeting, the women form a support group that meets monthly. "I see people who have no hope, and they discover that there is light at the end of the tunnel. They still want to serve the Lord, and they want to serve people, that is very important." The light at the end of Wineinger's tunnel is growing shorter by the day, so the question is, what will she do when her husband gets out of prison?

"I'm staying in the group," she says with finality, "no matter what."

PLEASE, WE NEED RECIPES!!



Kairos Outside Amarillo

Kairos Outside of Amarillo, Texas is gathering recipes for a cookbook to sell as a fundraiser for upcoming KO Weekends. The average number of guests that attend these weekends are between 20 and 25. It costs approximately \$180 per guest to stay at the retreat center for the weekend. This does not including breakfast, lunch and dinner served.

The KO Amarillo Advising Council hopes to have the cookbooks out by Thanksgiving if not sooner. The first weekend is scheduled to be September 19 through 20th of this year.

Recipes need to be submitted to Shannon Poole at spool08@hotmail.com or to Marge Bell at ralphborders@wtrt.net as soon as possible.

KO Amarillo appreciates your support and prayers in this fund raising endeavor.

Bumper Sticker Wisdom

Here are a few samples of bumper stickers from the internet.

Have you ever stopped to think and forgotten to start again?
Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
I don't suffer from insanity. I enjoy ever minute of it.
Make it idiot-proof and someone will make a better idiot.
Always remember you are unique - just like everyone else.
I have pride. Others have vanity.
Why is "abbreviation" such a long word?
It's lonely at the top, but you eat better.
Hard work pays off in the future. Laziness pays off today.
Warning: dates on the calendar are closer than they appear.



LISTEN
LISTEN

LOVE
LOVE

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Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



Precious in His Sight

God's gift of salvation through faith in Jesus is our greatest blessing - a blessing we must never forget as we tend to become discouraged. God's gift of salvation forms the main story of the entire Bible. In the beginning, "God created man in His own image" (Genesis 1:27). Then, when sin entered the world and man became separated from God, "He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

This is the greatest love story in all history; "While we were still {lost} sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). He died for you and me, and also for all those other lost sinners scattered around us. Jesus Christ, "who being in very nature God" (Philippians 2:6), was born in a dirty stable; "He made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant" (Philippians 2:7). He lived His life with the single purpose of dying so that ALL who believe could be eternally restored to the Father; "the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men" (Romans 5:18).

God loves us VERY much! And He doesn't just love those who love Him in return or faithfully serve Him - He loves ALL. We are precious! Yes, God hates sin and will one day judge with an eternal damnation all who fail to believe; but His love - His offer of Salvation - extends to all...even to our noisy neighbor and difficult co-worker, our obnoxious family members, and the disrespectful kids who wear strange clothes, pierce their body, and...well, you get the point.

God's love is so much a part of who He is, and of who we ought to be, that Jesus commands us by His example: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (John 13:34). We are to love as Jesus loved; and as if this was too difficult a concept for our finite minds, we are commanded to love in terms we can all understand.

Galatians 5:14 "The entire law is summed up in a single command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

God wants us to love others primarily because He loves them and desires His love to be expressed through us! He encouraged this love by creating us with a natural capacity for love. When we are hungry we feed ourselves; when we are hurt we care for ourselves; and when we are down, we pray to be lifted up. These are natural expressions of self-love - the same love God desires we show to ALL.

Let's evaluate our thoughts, words, and actions in terms of their effect on others. Are we encouraging or adding burdens? Are we building up or tearing down? Are we bringing others closer to Jesus or pushing them further away? Are we as loving to others as we are to ourselves? Let's be His hands, feet, and voice of love in the world around us. Let's begin to see others as through His eyes; and remember, we are ALL precious in His sight.

Remember the definition of Faith: choosing to Believe and Live Out the Truth of the Bible regardless of my circumstances, emotions, or cultural trends even when I don't feel like it is true. The reason we can know it is true is God said it is true; and if God said it is true, it is true.

Have a Great Day! and God Bless, Jim McGee

Retired City Director for Life Builders, Austin TX an Adult Ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ, Int.

Web site: <http://www.jimfmgee.snappages.com/>

Thoughts from Steve Troxel, God's Daily Word Ministries some editing by Jim McGee

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Affiliation fees and Audit fees need to be submitted according to the schedule (unless paid in full earlier this year).

Monthly Financial Reconciliations must be submitted to KOT within 15 days of months end (timely submittals keeps us compliant with the IRS and the ECFA).

Ensure upcoming weekends are approved by KOT; based on the following:

- Completion of AKT
- Submission of Spiritual Resume

Participate in the Regional Conference calls; learn about policy and procedural updates coming from KPMI and KOT.

Upcoming Weekends:

Strive for 1:1 hosting (KI program).

Recruit plenty of volunteers to ensure a full team.

Complete mandatory team formation (34-36 hrs. for KI and 36 hrs. min. for KO).

Encourage 100% team meeting attendance from all volunteers.

Remind volunteers of the importance to commit to Instructional Reunions and Saturday Reunions.

May we seek God first in all we do, extend cooperation and charity among one another, and pray for strength and wisdom to carry out the mission we are called to do through Kairos.

Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed. Proverbs 16:4



Cell vs Bible

Ever wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?

What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?

What if we flipped through it several times a day?

What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?

What if we used it to receive messages from the text?

What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?

What if we gave it to Kids as gifts?

What if we used it when we traveled?

What if we used it in case of emergency?

This is something to make you go ... hmm ... where is my Bible?

Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.

Makes you stop and think "where are my priorities?" And no dropped calls!

When Jesus died on the cross, he was thinking of you!

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Explanation of GOD

One of God 's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.

God 's second most important job is listening to prayers An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times besides bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.

God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's heads asking for something they said you couldn't have.

Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren't any who come to our church.

Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K. And God did not let Jesus stay in the grave, but raised him from the dead

His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.

You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.

You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God!

Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway.

If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids. '

But you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases.

And... That's why I believe in God.

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ABC's of Life

All persons need salvation. Everyone has a problem with what the Bible calls sin. Sin is a refusal to acknowledge God's authority over your life. The result of sin is spiritual death (Ezekiel 18:4B). Spiritual death means eternal separation from God.

Believe God loves you. God offers new life, although we have done nothing to deserve it. In the sacrificial death of Jesus on the cross, God provided redemption for all who willingly repent of sin and place their faith in Jesus Christ.

Come to faith in Jesus for eternal life - salvation and redemption. Admit your sin of separation, and ask Jesus to deliver you from the consequences of your sin. Yield control of your life to Him, to become your Lord and savior. (Romans 10:9-10).



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