

KAIROS

April 2015

www.kairossoftexas.org

Issue 23



Steve Newton, Vice Chair KOT

I often conduct informal surveys during team formation meetings. My first question to the group – “If you are involved in Outreach, please stand up”. Normally about half the group stands up and I keep repeating the question until eventually everyone gets the message – EVERYBODY is involved in Kairos Outreach. Everyone is now standing.

With everyone now standing, I ask another question – “Please sit down if you were encouraged to get involved with Kairos when you saw a really cool, heart-wrenching video or a nice, shiny brochure about Kairos”. Almost no one sits down.

Next question – “Please sit down if you were encouraged to get involved with Kairos because you ran across one of the Kairos’ web-sites.” Again, almost no one sits down.

With 99% of the folks still standing, I ask the last question – “Please sit down if you were encouraged to get involved with Kairos because someone asked you to get involved.” Almost always, those left standing now sit down. The point is easily made. Outreach is everyone’s responsibility.

What about you? You’re involved with Kairos. What caused you to get involved?

There’s been lots of material created about Outreach/Recruiting and I want to add to that body of knowledge from my own experiences as the Outreach/Recruiting person for the Allred AC. I’ll cover a few experiences that worked well and some that didn’t work so well.

Where to start? Churches in your local area are by far the best source for soliciting volunteers. Emmaus, Tres Dias, Via de Cristo, Cursillo, etc. come in a close second place. But just based on volume, there are many more churches than Fourth-Day communities.

Select a group of churches from your area (don’t forget your own home church) using the internet or buying a church list from one of the several companies that sell lists of prospects.

Send a short letter to the Senior Pastor introducing Kairos and requesting a meeting to allow you to share the program.

Don’t wait until the pastor responds to the introduction letter. Follow up with a phone call but not an email. During the call, ask the pastor if he or she believes there is a place in their church for a prison ministry. If so, schedule a meeting.

During the meeting show the pastor the video called “From Darkness to Light” offered by Kairos and a copy of “Interest Cards”. Request the pastor’s advice on how to proceed, i.e., give presentation to Mission’s Committee, a Sunday school class, a men’s breakfast group, etc.

- Copies of the Kairos Outreach 2 Presentation Guide and the Interest Card can be found on mykairos.org web site, Downloads, Recruiting

Many excellent videos are available from KPMI but “From Darkness to Light” offers the audience best opportunity to see the wide variety of ways to get involved in Kairos. Many Kairos volunteers never actually go into a prison but are essential to the success of the program.

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

When the video is shown make sure that a few Kairos veterans are available to pass out Interest Cards to the audience. The Interest Cards gives the prospect the opportunity to provide contact data and request additional information about one of the volunteer options.

Immediately send out a written letter to everyone that turns in an Interest Card. If someone checks the blocks indicating they want to serve on a team, send their contact information to the next weekend leader.

Weekend leader should place a personal call (not an email) to the prospect welcoming them to the ministry and explaining the team meeting process.

Some experiences have not worked very well. For example, it hasn't been very productive to give a two-minute "mission moment" talk during a church service. By the time the church service is over, many will have forgotten that you asked them to see you after church or to fill out an Interest Card. Giving presentation to Civic Groups has not yielded very many volunteers.

Let's change the focus for a moment and talk about the 54 Advisory Councils in Texas. Based on the KOT Master List (March 2015 version), thirty Ad Councils have fourteen or more members on their councils (56%). All thirty have assigned a person to the Outreach/Recruiting position. It's interesting, an additional fifteen Ad Councils, with less than full membership, have a designated person assigned to Outreach/Recruiting. Altogether over 80% of the AC's in Texas have someone working Outreach issues. That's encouraging because it clearly indicates how important most Ad Councils feel about Outreach.

ALL Ad Council's should have someone assigned to the Outreach/Recruiting who aggressively pursues the job. The Chair should insure that every Ad Council meeting has an item on the agenda to talk about Outreach/Recruiting. Discussions should be about the results of previous Outreach activities, what Outreach activities are currently happening, and future Outreach plans.

Outreach/Recruiting is no different than any other marketing campaign. Recruiting volunteers is a "numbers game". It may take five presentations to recruit five or six people. As a marketing expert said; "Fifty percent of my marketing effort is wasted; I just don't know which fifty percent."

Kairos is now active in forty of the sixty qualified prisons in Texas. There was a time when starting Kairos at a unit depended on whether the Warden and/or Chaplain had a positive or negative attitude about prison ministries. That condition no longer exists. Now Wardens and Chaplains are supportive of Kairos. So what's holding up expanding Kairos into the remaining twenty prisons? You guessed it - the need for more volunteers.

In my opinion, Outreach/Recruiting is the most important task facing the future of Kairos. Kairos is a time consuming ministry and if it is to continue to be vibrant, the ministry is in constant need of new volunteers. In fact, without aggressive Outreach/Recruiting, over time the ministry will fade away.

Kairos and Kairos of Texas have provided a wide range of tools to help the Outreach/Recruiting efforts. It's up to us to take advantage of them. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Kairos volunteers have consistently overcome a variety of hurdles. We can overcome the volunteer hurdle too. James 2:18 says; "Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds."

We can do this!

LISTEN

LOVE

LISTEN

LOVE

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



Rev. Inetta Reddell - KPMI Board of Directors



I've been involved with Kairos in areas of service for the last 4 years or so. I remember thinking when I was first approached about being on the Board of Director's that surely there must be someone more qualified than I. No doubt that was true, but I was willing. And that is the spirit of volunteering in a nutshell - being willing to step in and serve. As a member of the board of directors it truly is a calling, and I can honestly say that I have truly been humbled by these opportunities and also greatly rewarded.

Serving on the board is, yes, challenging but what aspect in ministry isn't? We humans like to think that we are in control of many aspects of our lives; when in all actuality I am a firm believer that God as the author, orchestrates, and directs all aspects and details of our existence, of this thing we call life. Therefore, I feel He puts people and places together at a time for a season for various reasons and guess what? This happens to be my season for all the right reasons. I truly hope and humbly pray that my contributions on the board will make positive inroads as I collaborate, brainstorm and pray with the other servants that God has raised to serve on the board with me.

I can honestly say that this has been a time of growth and discernment for me. At times I felt uncertain as to why God has specifically placed me in this position. On the other hand it becomes quite clear, especially when I serve alongside such faithful, diligent, hardworking, compassionate, God fearing, men and women of God who truly are dedicated to the well-being and success of KPMI overall ministries.

I am truly honored to say I belong to such a healthy cohesive board, who I believe to be under an esteemed leadership with its sitting Chair (Jim Hankins). While I will always be fond of the exiting Chair (Ed Keefer) for his mentorship and leadership; I have also found wonderful collaboration and meticulous dedication to detail with my other colleagues on the board. There is not enough space here for me to espouse how much enrichment and vitality and truly blessed we are as a ministry to have found Evelyn Lemly to be our Executive Director, who cultivates and leads such an incredible staff at our DeBarry headquarters. Overall I truly am humbly grateful for the opportunity to have been given the chance to serve in this capacity and will continue to do so with the very best interest of KPMI.

May God's Grace Be Sufficient

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL SUMMER CONFERENCE



SAVE THE DATE
2015 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
July 28 - August 1, 2015



AMERICAN AIRLINES TRAINING & CONFERENCE CENTER
DOLCE HOTELS AND RESORTS
4501 HIGHWAY 360 SOUTH
FT. WORTH, TEXAS 76155
[HTTP://WWW.AACONFERENCECENTER.COM](http://www.aaconferencecenter.com)
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM AVAILABLE ON THE
[WWW.MYKAIROS.ORG](http://www.mykairos.org) WEBSITE

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostatexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



Only God can open the doors of a Prison and let in children to visit their dad's for one entire day. This day is called, "One Day with God." It's executed under the power of the Holy Spirit and Forgiven Ministries. This ministry was started by Scottie Barnes, a walking saint, and it's based on her life with her dad behind bars most of her life. Scottie didn't hear that her dad loved her until he was dying in prison and she was 40 years old. Scottie knows the trouble and issues of being an inmate's child and the feeling and experiences that surround the entire family, when a parent is in prison. Scottie was moved by the Holy Spirit to start a program where children are allowed to visit their dads, and receive the gift of being told that they are loved.

The 30-40 dads that are selected are allowed to invite all their children to a "One Day with God" camp. For one day, the men wear a lime green T-Shirt that says "One Day with God" and not their normal 'whites'. The Day starts with an introduction that will make the toughest man cry. The children are all in "One Day with God" T-shirts and each family is escorted in by a man and woman mentor. The children and mentors and volunteers wait in the outside venue and the dads change their shirts and put on a name badge. As each man enters, their family name is called out. The children run (as a family) into their dad's arms. The children range from ages 4-17. It's one of the most emotional reunions. Many times there are dads whose children don't show. It's heart wrenching, but the volunteers stay close and they get to do all the activities as the dads with families.

The day starts with relay races using bean bags, balloons, hula hoops and much more. They break the ice with laughter and just having old fashioned fun. It's a hoot to watch. After the games, there are types of entertainment like a puppet show, strong man, and many other ways for the families to sit together and laugh and listen. Pizza is normally served for lunch, and the mentors serve the family. Forgiven Ministries also provides a giant birthday cake to celebrate all the birthdays that they have missed.

After lunch, the families each make a lampshade out of safety pins, beads and wire. These shades go over an electric lamp and a scripture is presented being the 'light of the world'. Everything is Christ focused. Praise songs are sung throughout the day. All the Glory is given to Jesus. After the craft, the families get time alone. The dads have spent numerous hours in training on what the Bible says about being a Godly dad. They are taught a blessing, like Jacob, over each child. The men prepared letters to each child, the night before. They make picture frames for each child and decorate the frame with spongy stickers. The dads write a love note on the back side of each frame. During the "One Day with God," the families take pictures together. One picture goes to each child and one picture goes back to the dads 'house'.

During the dad's training and teaching, Forgiven Ministries provides music and emphasis about getting the dads to talk to their children to NOT follow in their footprints and go to prison. Forgiven Ministries is committed to strengthen the bond in the family and make it Christ centered. The men also go through a forgiveness ceremony the day before the "One Day with God." Repeatedly, men give their life to Christ or re-dedicate their life to Christ to make a change and be a better Godly dad.

The moms, grandmas, and caregivers stay at the host church and they too are provided lovely gifts and ministered to throughout the day. During the Briscoe Unit's "One Day with God," six caregivers gave their life to Christ at the church, while waiting on their children to return.

One of the last events is as heart wrenching as the initial reunion, a father/daughter slow dance. It's emotional and beautiful. Love and tears pour from the dance floor. After the dance, the father and sons get to 'walk the yard' and get some alone time as father and son. At the end of the day (around 4:30), the children, dads, and volunteers each get a balloon and sing Praises to God Almighty for his mercy and then everyone lets the balloons fly to heaven to say "Thank you God."

Many of our Kairos brothers in white get selected to allow their children to come in. It's the one way that we can bring them something precious in prison, time with their children. It takes about 105 volunteers and \$175 for each child to execute this event. Roger and I got the privilege of driving a grandma and 7 year old girl

(continued on page 10)

19 Ways of Dealing With Life's Burdens

A young lady in front of the room, confidently walked around while leading and explaining stress management to an audience; with a raised glass of water, and everyone knew she was going to ask the ultimate question, 'half empty or half full?' she fooled them all...

'How heavy is this glass of water?' she inquired with a smile. Answers called out ranged from 8oz. to 20oz.

The lecturer replied, 'The absolute weight doesn't matter. It depends on how long you hold it.' If I hold it for a minute, that's not a problem. If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my right arm. "If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an ambulance. "In each case it's the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes. 'She continued, 'and that's the way it is with stress management. If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, as the burden becomes increasingly heavy, we won't be able to carry on.'

'As with the glass of water, you have to put it down for a while and rest before holding it again. When we're refreshed, we can carry on with the burden - holding stress longer and better each time practiced. 'So, before you return home tonight, put the burden of work/life down. Don't carry it home... pick it up tomorrow.' 'Whatever burdens you're carrying now, let them down for a moment if you can. Relax; pick them up later after you've rested. Life is short. Enjoy it and the now 'supposed' stress that you've conquered!

And then she shared some ways of dealing with the burdens of life:

1. Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue!
2. Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
3. Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.
4. Drive carefully... It's not only cars that can be recalled by their Maker.
5. If you can't be kind, at least have the decency to be vague.
6. If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
7. It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
8. Never buy a car you can't push.
9. Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you won't have a leg to stand on.
10. Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.
11. Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, sleep late.
12. The second mouse gets the cheese.
13. When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
14. Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.
15. You may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person.
16. Some mistakes are too much fun to only make once.
17. We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have weird names and all are different colors, but they all have to live in the same box.
18. A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.
19. Have an awesome day and know that someone has thought about you today.

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



Kairos Torch Mentoring



Michael Fox



You may have heard the phrase, “It takes a village to raise a child.” Well, I’m here to tell you that the whole village isn’t necessary, but it is, in my humble opinion, incumbent on Christians to do our part.

Kairos Torch gives a unique opportunity to me to share the word of Christ to young men beyond a weekend, and it is as rewarding as any endeavor I have taken on. While mentoring a young person, you get to share things that these kids have probably never heard, and show them what life can be like, and more importantly, you can give them hope through our Lord and Savior.

I must admit, mentoring was a bit of a daunting undertaking initially. While Kairos gives you guidelines and workbooks to use, it goes deeper than any regimented curriculum. These young people are near desperation in their lives and they want to know that somebody beyond the bars truly cares about them. Like every other walk in society, these children are unique, and the challenge, for me anyway, is to get to know what’s important to them, what makes them tick. The barriers take a while to get through, and it’s been my experience that quoting scripture immediately can be confusing to these precious kids. When the child trusts that you have their best interests at heart, then and only then, can you start to share the promise that is ours in Christ.

Proverbs 22:6 instructs us to train up a child in the way he should go, so that even when he is old he will not depart from it. The amazing thing about mentoring is that I get to take part in that process. Additionally, I get the opportunity to show them that I am like they are, wrought with shortcomings, and not free from sin. Showing a child that being a Christian is exciting and gives you hope and guidance is an incredible thing.

And sometimes during the process, I just listen. Judgment free listening is invaluable. Remembering that I have two ears and one mouth has served me well. Listening to the mentee gains their trust, and it has led me to scripture that addresses the issues they want to talk about, and need to hear.

It’s not always easy to make it to our weekly sessions, which are scheduled for six months, but it is becoming part of my weekly routine that I look forward to as much as anything. Anybody who knows me, knows that I am not available on Thursdays from 6 to 7. And most of the people that I talk to about Kairos Torch say something along the lines of, “I don’t think I could do that.” I’m here to tell you that you can do it, without a seminary or pastoral background. This ministry, to me, is about being real with a child and providing them with hope and encouragement. It’s all about caring for someone who may not have been shown any compassion or love, being something of a father figure, but mostly just a man that loves Christ and wants them to come to the understanding that He is real, and wants them to know Him.

May God’s richest blessing be poured out to you all!

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



THE MAGIC BANK ACCOUNT

THE AUTHOR IS NOT KNOWN. IT WAS FOUND IN THE BILLFOLD OF COACH PAUL BEAR BRYANT, ALABAMA, AFTER HE DIED IN 1982.

Imagine that you had won the following PRIZE in a contest. Each morning your bank would deposit \$86,400 in your private account for your use. However, this prize has rules.

The set of rules:

1. Everything that you didn't spend during each day would be taken away from you.
2. You may not simply transfer money into some other account.
3. You may only spend it.
4. Each morning upon awakening, the bank opens your account with another \$86,400 for that day.
5. The bank can end the game without warning: at any time it can say, "Game over!" It can close the account and you will not receive a new one.

What would you personally do?

You would buy anything and everything you wanted, right? Not only for yourself, but for all the people you love and care for. Even for people you don't know, because you couldn't possibly spend it all on yourself, right? You would try to spend every penny, and use it all, because you knew it would be replenished in the morning.

ACTUALLY, this GAME is Real Shocked???? YES!

Each of us is already a winner of this PRIZE. We just can't seem to see it. The PRIZE is TIME.

1. Each morning we awaken to receive 86,400 seconds as a gift of life.
2. And when we go to sleep at night, any remaining time is NOT credited to us.
3. What we haven't used up that day is forever lost.
4. Yesterday is gone forever.
5. Each morning the account is refilled, but the bank (GOD) can dissolve your account at any time WITHOUT WARNING.
6. SO, what will YOU do with your 86,400 seconds?

Those seconds are worth so much more than the same amount in dollars. Think about it and remember to enjoy every second of your life, because time races by so much quicker than you think.

So take care of yourself, be happy, love deeply and enjoy life! Here's wishing you a wonderful and beautiful day. Start "spending."

DON'T COMPLAIN ABOUT GROWING OLD. SOME PEOPLE DON'T GET THE PRIVILEGE.

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org



KAIROS of TEXAS STATE OFFICERS

Chair - Jim Irwin
Past Chair - Bill Salser
Vice Chair - Steve Newton
Secretary - Cissy Kabat
Financial Secretary - Bill Salser
Treasurer - Robert Robinson
International Rep - Thomas Becker
International Rep - Julie Cole
International Rep - Mike Stumbaugh
International Rep. - David Ross
International Rep at large - Buck Rogers
KO Chair - Marcia Wiseman
KO Vice Chair - Carole Venhaus
KO State Secretary - Brenda Richardson
KO International Rep - Marjorie Whitner
KPMI Board of Directors - Inetta Reddell
KPMI Foundation Chair - Mike Springer
TDCJ Dir. of Chap. Opr - Vance Drum
TDCJ Asst. Dir. Chap. Opr. - Michael Rutledge
TDCJ Dir. of Vol. Svcs. - Stacie Woods
Torch - Chapter Chair - Buck Rodgers

Committee Chairs:

AC Coordination Chair - Ray Sims
Agape - Jaime Gonzales
Advisory Council - Bill Salser
Clergy Coord. - Buck Rodgers
Communication Chair - Roger Harbert
 Newsletter Coord. - Bettye Keefer
 Website Coord. - Bettye Keefer/Bill Darnall
Registrar - Julie Cole
Compliance and Training - Jim Lodovic
Financial Sub-Comm. Chair - Bob Cole
Food Control - Glenda Robinson
Fund Raising/Sponsorship - Tom Venhaus
Logistics & Support Chair - Thomas Becker
Music Committee - Scott Van Pelt
New Starts Committee - Steve Newton
Outreach Chair - Kenny Hensley
Program Committee - Debbie Van Pelt
State Training (AKT) - Mike Stumbaugh
Trailer Coord - Scott Van Pelt



In Loving Memory

During the Kairos Prison Ministry Summer Conference July 28 - Aug. 1, 2015 at Ft. Worth TX there will be a memorial service for all those Kairos volunteers who have gone to be with God in the past year. We are now gathering those names so they can be remembered. If you know of anyone please send the info to bettye.keefer@yahoo.com along with their next-of-kin so that I can send them a card.

Thanks, Bettye

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org





Be sure to visit our website at www.kairossoftexas.org. Our webmaster, Bill Darnall, has done an amazing job of putting this all together. The schedule and location for State Board meetings for 2015 are included here. We have a calendar showing when all the weekends will be held. Check your weekend - we depend on you to keep them updated.

On that same website you will find the current state officers, state meetings and minutes, map of state meetings, committees, and when the weekends are to be held. 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.

A Day With God (continued from page 5)

to Segovia for a “One Day with God” camp. The Kairos community had many volunteers there to help. We got to see the anticipation and excitement of the little girl Jezzell ‘getting to see her daddy.’ The drive home was smiles and excitement. We later heard from the grandma that her son, the father, said that it was the ‘best day of his life.’ He’s walking with Christ.

Forgiven Ministries never contacts the prison to ask to come. The call always comes from the Warden to Forgiven Ministries. They also wait for a request to come back. It’s never assumed. The warden does hear about the program and call. I believe there are 10-12 prisons that Forgiven Ministries serves in Texas. Connolly was the first prison to host “One Day with God” and the warden, at the time, is now in top management in Huntsville with TDCJ. “One Day with God” is encouraged due to impact of the entire prison. Inmates must behave to be selected to have their children come in.

For the gates of a prison to be open and children, safety pins, T-Shirts for inmates, and 110 volunteers to be allowed in for an entire day in the yard, must demonstrate the Power of Almighty God to all who see it unfold. To volunteer, visit the website www.forgivenministry.org/1daywithgod.org and see the schedule of future camps. Complete the application and send it in to Forgiven Ministries. During the training on Friday before the camp, women can help serve the men during the teaching and putting together the frames, letters, blessings, etc. We get to be in the prison and serve all day!

When we did Torres “One Day with God” camp in March 2014, I got the privilege to put the wrist bands on each child. I was down on one knee and looked deep into the children’s eyes. They were excited, scared, nervous, and every emotion that they could feel. I felt Jesus Christ standing next to me. Children and prisoners are very close to the heart of Christ. Come help. You will be blessed.

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org

