

# KAIROS

January 2017

[www.kairostatexas.org](http://www.kairostatexas.org)

Issue 30



## Steve Newton Chair KOT END OF YEAR REPORT

Kairos of Texas conducted quarterly State Chapter Committee meetings. In every meeting, either the Director of Chaplaincy of TDCJ, the Assistant Director or a Regional Chaplaincy Director attended one of the meetings and spoke about the importance of the Kairos Prison Ministry to the Administration/Chaplaincy staff at TDCJ. Our spring meeting was fortunate to have Evelyn Lemly attend. She told us that every Tuesday the KPMI staff prays intentionally for every weekend. The weekend list is distributed to the KOT community.

A few of the other accomplishments in 2016:

- Forty-five from Texas attended the Kairos Annual Conference in Orlando
- An inventory of the trailers supporting Kairos was accomplished, as well as a new policy/procedure was implemented on accounting for the funds associated with trailers shared by multiple units.
- KOT negotiated a state-wide agreement on CCLI licenses saving the state about 20% in CCLI expenses
- Wall agape is an important element of every weekend. C.J. Salzman, Chair of the Agape Sub-Committee, reports that almost 13,000 pieces of agape were distributed this year to 100 weekends.
- KOT is the only state with over two Advisory Councils that continually reports a 100% compliance in the Kairos Donor Utilization report. Two states with two Advisory Councils each also report 100%. Texas has **fifty-seven**. Very nice job by all the Ad Council Financial Secretaries. (No brag, just facts.)

The theme kicking off 2016 was to “Flourish, not just survive”. In many respects that goal was accomplished with a new vibrancy and enthusiasm for the ministry. This report will elaborate on those areas that flourished and those areas that were challenged in 2016.

Two new men’s units began a Kairos Inside program in 2016. 2015 and 2016 were good years for new starts, however the number of new start opportunities in the pipeline in early 2017 is disappointing. Of no surprise to anyone, the challenge for new starts is lack of new volunteers willing to step up to starting a new Kairos program. As of the beginning of the year, there are no Kairos Outside nor Torch new start opportunities brewing for 2017. (Kairos Torch Houston has a team working hard to resurrect that program in 2017.)

Admittedly, the weekend statistics from 2015 were “best estimates” because of the troubles retrieving viable data from Excellence Initiative reports. Nevertheless, Kairos Inside made a significant improvement in the number of participants, volunteers and the number of weekends in 2016. Kairos Outside lost ground in participants, volunteers and weekends in 2016. (See specific statistics at the end of report.)

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- The Excellence Initiative reporting system continues to be an issue. It is an overly complicated process that requires many volunteer hours to maintain. The hope is that the new Messenger system will provide better tools soon.

One of the “Flourish, not just survive” stories is the positive progress made by the Hobby Advisory Council. In January 2016, Sharon Lynch made a presentation to the Executive Committee requesting grace. Hobby was on “life-support” and very close to disbanding the team and the program. A year later, with very hard work by the volunteers and Hobby’s chaplain, every position on the Advisory Council has now been filled and weekend leaders have been selected for the next five weekends. God’s finger prints are everywhere.

### Challenges for 2017

- **OUTREACH, OUTREACH, OUTREACH.** Almost every issue an Advisory Council faces will disappear if there were a waiting list of volunteers wanting to serve.
  - ∞ The Outreach Sub-Committee led by Dickson de la Haye are developing some incredible tools to help Advisory Councils develop strong Outreach/Recruiting programs in 2017.
- **New Starts** – approximately ten more medium-maximum security prisons do not have an active Kairos program. The pipeline should be filled with new opportunities.
- **Wall Agape** – The goal in 2017 is that every Advisory Council produces 25 pieces of Wall Agape every month. Meeting this goal means that every weekend would receive 2 or 3 pieces of new wall agape from every Ad Councils. Several AC’s are meeting that goal, but many are not.

- Weekends postponed – ten scheduled weekends were postponed for a variety of reasons. Advisory Councils will be challenged to engage in longer range planning that would mitigate many of the needs for postponement.
- Eliminate the Chart of Account differences between Donor and QuickBooks, thus reducing the high number of manual hours invested in monthly translation.
- Weekend Leaders and Ad Councils be more responsive to submitting the WE Leader’s Report and their Excellence Initiative.
- Kairos Annual Conference – Beat last year’s attendance record (exceed 45).

### Summary

Kairos of Texas is very fortunate to be blessed with the extraordinary volunteer base. Every single volunteer considers their priority to bring Light into a Dark Place. Inmates are hungry for agape love and the volunteers are anxious to deliver love in massive doses. Thanks to all volunteers that stepped up to do extra work by serving on an Advisory Council, leading a Weekend, leading or serving on one of the state sub-committees, serving as an AC’s State Representative traveling to Austin every quarter, serving on the state Executive Committee, and being an International Council Rep. With this base of volunteers and with God’s support, 2017 will be the best year ever for Kairos of Texas.

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Praise the Lord

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## PILGRIM'S PROGRSS - A POEM by Nina

The weight of the world laying like a  
Burden on your shoulder  
Things so chaotic, out of control  
And you're getting so much older.

The world not waiting on anyone and  
Time is passing by.  
You begin to reflect on the baggage  
You carry and ask yourself why?

The people that hurt you are constantly  
in your line of sight.  
You're filled with so much anger,  
yet too weary to fly.

Why, you ask, must you carry this load,  
and all of it on your own?  
Feeling weighed down with guilt from your own  
wrongs, saying they should throw that stone.

But wait, my brother and sister,  
that's not the way it's meant to be  
For God our Father sent His son  
to die for you and me.

And with each stripe He bore,  
was our guilt, sin and shame.  
He wants so deeply to dwell with us,  
and for you to never be the same.

So don't take His death lightly and let go  
of that resentment and forgive.  
Then you'll be nourished with the living water  
and really begin to live.

So lay your burdens down,  
God loves His Son and you no less.  
Now turn your hearts and eyes on Him  
as He continues to do this.

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## VENDING MACHINE BLUES -

by DEBBIE MOORE



### Vending Machine Blues

On the road again  
Two hours  
Such a short time  
It goes so fast  
So much to say  
Tears of joy  
Laughter  
Advice  
Time to share  
Catch up  
Reconnect  
A chance to encourage  
Always grateful  
Talk of family, friends  
More laughter  
What? Time's up?  
Dang that pane (pain?) of glass

*Anyone who has ever had anyone  
incarcerated and can only see them  
through glass will understand this  
very well.*





There has always been a consensus within Kairos that a crucially important goal at any Texas Unit is recruitment success sufficient to, at the very least, replace the current volunteer list

with additional qualified and motivated individuals. Since no organization of any kind can prosper without *refreshing the ranks*, much discussion and thought has properly been given over to this topic. Dickson de la Haye, Outreach Chair for Kairos Of Texas, has introduced a new tool that has the potential to provide a great deal of practical assistance, and certainly to Recruiting-Outreach Coordinators in particular. This new tool may now be found on the Kairos-Texas.org website.

**[kairostexas.org/Recruiting-Outreach.html](http://kairostexas.org/Recruiting-Outreach.html)**

However, before you go take a tour, as we hope you will, please reflect on the fact that this online tool is definitely a work in progress. Actually, you should clearly understand that this new web-page will *always* be a work in progress!

The reason for the emphasis on the ongoing portion here is that the job of recruiting new volunteers is not the responsibility of any one individual, but is a task that demands near unanimous input and effort from all of us. Not the first time you've heard such sentiments, right? Great, we're on the same page then!

Since you can see for yourself the information, links and support documents currently available online, my goal in this article is to lay out the ongoing goals of the web page so that you will have a clear idea of what to expect in future.

Primarily the new Recruiting-Outreach page is to be an organizing tool that will aid in answering three questions that are consistently being asked at any given point:

1. What's working among the other units here in Texas?
2. What's **not** working to avoid wasting precious time?
3. Where to access old & reliable ideas, new worthwhile ideas, and perhaps even a few outside-the-box ideas that just might be worth a try?

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Even a cursory view of the humble beginnings made so far on the website should quickly give you the basic goals of this project going forward. Nonetheless it might prove helpful to flesh out a few of these in hopes of getting your creative juices flowing in order to get your input early on in this new project.

I believe we did agree that YOU are an integral part of this Recruiting-Outreach mission, did we not? We can go back and check, but I'm pretty certain that we did!

**The Four Basic Goals Of The New Recruiting Page**

*I. Quick & easy access to information, forms and support on the recruiting and outreach fronts.*

If nothing else, the new website addition will serve as a one-stop-shop source for all the valuable information currently attainable. The truth is that there is probably more help already posted online than most of us are aware of and the new KOT website page is definitely out to make these more readily available.

*II. Make the job of Recruiting-Outreach Coordinator more accessible.*

Of course, "more accessible" here really means to make the job a lot less frightening! Let's face it, to be responsible for attracting new volunteers to the organization is pretty intimidating. And without any clear source of where to find some tangible help with such an important task can quickly become rather overwhelming. The new website page has been created and is being designed as a security blanket for coordinators to avoid that often unavoidable feeling of "Lord, why me?"

*III. Rethink the R-O Coordinator job description.*

This goal is more to set the record straight than to reinvent the position since the Recruiting-Outreach Coordinator's job is not *and never was* to do all of the recruiting for the unit. It's primary function is to direct others in their efforts to achieve that end. This being the case, the new web page will attempt to stay focused on an understanding that the coordinators should be first and foremost good managers and find ways to best support that proper understanding.

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## Mark Hutchins, table family of Paul



I was extremely stubborn and hard headed. I lived my life for me, I had everything I needed. I loved to take things from people, and I didn't care who you were, anyone could have been a victim. My choices landed me in prison with an 18 year sentence. Of course I was still stubborn and I had to do things my way, the hard way. My family hated me, I lied to them all the time. I wanted more money from my family, so I told them I was a Christian. Then at visitation I had to talk about the Bible and God, and it was very difficult. Especially when my mom would see the Kairos trailer in the parking lot, I'd have to lie about why I hadn't attended a weekend yet. Eventually the lies couldn't be told anymore and I submitted a request to go to Kairos, just so I could tell my mom I knew about Kairos now. At first I hated it, all those weird Christians, they wanted to love me, and I wanted to leave. One by one the talks wore me down, they knocked down walls, and the love kept shining out of those volunteers. The darkness in me was deep. My table leader gave a talk on Saturday... it broke me down, I cried and cried for all those I had hurt. I knew that day, God set aside that day for me, God's special time. I was His and there was nothing Satan could do about it. That was Nov. 17, 2007 - I made parole One year later. God has truly blessed me. I continue my walk with Him daily, and it's a struggle at times. The biggest difference now is, He's in control. I give it to Him. He is my everything!

God is good!

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## Continued from page 4 - David Ford

*IV. Provide a receptacle for input from outside sources.*

Yes, that would indeed be YOU! It's not hard to imagine that all of us volunteers have at least a couple of insights, ideas, suggestions, horror stories even, to offer on the subject of bringing in new volunteers to the Kairos family. Perhaps these come from actual experience, possibly from your workplace, or just some thoughts you think *might* be helpful. These are all welcome. In fact, at the bottom of the new Recruiting-Outreach page you will find a quick way to add your input. Please do so early and often! In fact, today would be an excellent choice for a start date.

### **\* RECRUITING-OUTREACH WORKSHOP \***

**Date: April 8 at KOT Quarterly Meeting in Austin**

**Time: 10:00AM (Meeting begins at 8:30)**

**Who: All Kairos volunteers are welcome and workshop attendees' room & mileage expenses will be reimbursed.**

**Contact: Dickson de la Haye for additional info.**



For those of you that attended the last KOT State Board Meeting, I hope you enjoyed the sandwiches. There's an interesting story of God's blessings that goes along with those meals that Bettye Keefer asked me to share for the newsletter, so here goes . . .

My wife Susan and I are both active in Kairos Outside of Central Texas and Bettye Keefer serves alongside us on the Advisory Council. During our Christmas council get-together, Bettye mentioned that she coordinates the lunch for the Kairos state meeting. I told her she should give me a call and I'd be happy to get her a discount on catering trays for some sandwiches. (I work in the food industry). Almost a month goes by, and I had completely forgotten about my promise to help Bettye with her lunch needs. Well, Bettye hadn't forgotten and a couple days before the state meeting she calls me and says, "Brian, I've been trying to reach you for a couple days, I need those sandwiches for the state meeting" (I'll admit I had a few missed calls from an unknown number!). I asked Bettye how many she needed and she said, "140 sandwiches". And I thought, "yikes! How did I forget this one?". I told Bettye not to worry and I would have her sandwiches ready to go on the morning she needed them.

I thought to myself, "How am I going to get approval for such a large discount in such a short period of time" and just as soon as the thought came to mind, God placed it on my heart to use my discount as an employee and I'll just pay for the sandwiches and make it my donation to the ministry for this year. As a former KI guest, I thought it would be great to have an opportunity to feed all the people who fed me. So, with my plan in mind, I sent a short e-mail to my boss telling him of my plan. He replied back very quickly, "absolutely not!" – I'm paying for it! He said he was honored to be able to serve a meal to folks who do the same to others in the name of God's love. He told me that in his Hindu faith, it was important to share and give back blessings. He supports and loves what this ministry stands for and was thrilled with the opportunity to provide this humble meal.

Although it was my intention to bestow a blessing upon Kairos with this donation, my boss had other ideas. It reminded me of a great piece of advice a prison chaplain once gave me. He said, "never deny someone the opportunity to give you a blessing" and, with that advice in the forefront of my mind, I deferred that blessing opportunity to my boss. But, in the end, it really doesn't matter because all our blessings are from God!



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These tables summarize the number of participants, volunteers and weekends in 2016. A comparison is made with 2015 and please remember that the data for 2015 was considered “best estimates” due to the difficulties extracting information from the Excellence Initiative Reports. Maybe the “goods” are not quite as good and the “not-goods” are not quite so bad.

Kairos of Texas			
Weekend Summary - 2016			
PGM	Participants	Volunteers	Weekends
KI	3,424	4,368	84
KO	346	469	14
KT	23	28	1
Total KOT	3,793	4,865	99

Kairos of Texas			
Weekend Summary - 2015			
PGM	Participants	Volunteers	Weekends
KI	3,000	3,599	75
KO	401	634	19
KT	28	40	2
Total KOT	3,429	4,273	96

Kairos of Texas			
2016 vs 2015 Comparison			
PGM	Participants	Volunteers	Weekends
KI	424 (12%)	769 (18%)	9 (11%)
KO	-55 (-16%)	-165 (-35%)	-5 (-36%)
KT	-5	-12	-1
Total KOT	364	592	3

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### Christian One-Liners

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited-until you try to sit in their pews.

Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisers.

It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

People are *funny*, they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the *back of the church*.

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.

Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.

The phrase that is guaranteed to wake up an audience: "And in conclusion."

What if you woke  
up **TODAY**  
with only the things  
that you  
thanked  
**God** for  
yesterday?



## Why Go to Church?

**If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this!  
If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it.  
If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!**

**A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.**

**He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time, the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all".**

**This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:**

**"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals.**

**But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.**

**Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"**

**When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something!  
Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible & receives the impossible!**

**Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!**

**IF YOU CANNOT SEE GOD IN ALL,  
YOU CANNOT SEE GOD AT ALL !**

**B. I. B. L. E. simply means: Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!**

**LISTEN  
LISTEN**

**LOVE  
LOVE**

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## KAIROS of TEXAS STATE OFFICERS

Chair - Steve Newton  
Past Chair - Jim Irwin  
Vice Chair - Ray Sims  
Secretary - Joy Drady  
Financial Secretary - John Osborne  
Treasurer - Bob Crane  
International Rep - Rhonne Gary  
International Rep - Driskoll Tubbs  
International Rep - Dickson DelaHaye  
International Rep. - Robert Kimmel  
KO Chair - Debbie Van Pelt  
KO Vice Chair - Char Rantz  
KO State Secretary - Michelle Edwards  
TorchChapter Chair - Bill Salser  
KPMI Board of Directors - Buck Rogers  
KPMI Foundation Chair - Mike Springer  
TDCJ Dir. of Chap. Opr - Vance Drum  
TDCJ Asst. Dir. Chap. Opr. - Michael Rutledge  
TDCJ Dir. of Vol. Srvs. - Clint Morris



### Committee Chairs:

AC Coordination Chair - Ray Sims  
Agape - C.J. Salzman  
Audio Video - Roger Harbert  
Clergy Coord. - Rick Hope  
Financial Sub-Comm. Chair - Bob Cole  
Food Control - Don Wineingar  
Fund Raising/Sponsorship - Jim Lodovic  
Music Committee - Scott Van Pelt  
Newsletter Coord - Bettye Keefer  
New Starts Committee - Ray Sims  
Outreach Chair - Dickson de la Haye  
Program Committee - Debbie Van Pelt  
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State Training (AKT) - Mike Stumbaugh  
Trailer Coord - Dan Martin  
Website Coord. - David Ford  
E.I. State Coordinator - Dolores Amador  
Central - Jaime Gonzales  
East - Scott Baker  
North - Driscoll Tubbs  
Panhandle - Robert Kimmel  
West - Melvin Dudley  
South - Jamie Patterson

# BIBLE



## BASIC

## INSTRUCTIONS

## BEFORE

## LEAVING

## EARTH

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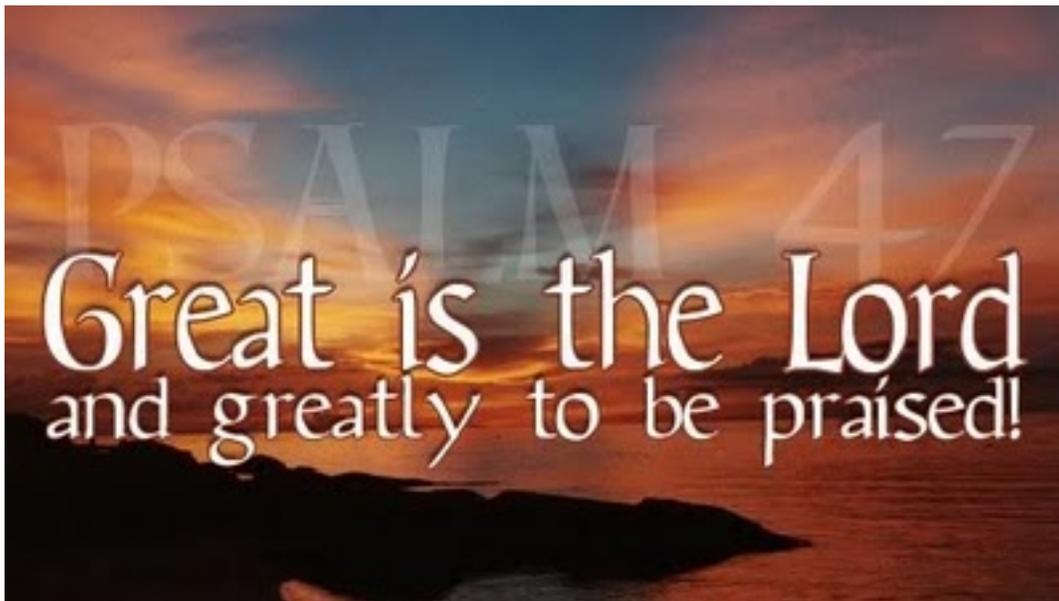


Be sure to visit our website at [www.kairostatexas.org](http://www.kairostatexas.org). We have a new webmaster, David Ford. The schedule and location for State Board meetings for 2017 are included here. We have a calendar showing when all the weekends will be held. Check your weekend - we depend on you 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.



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