

KARIOS OUTSIDE MIDLAND COMMUNITY NEWS



Your Newsletter - Our Stories (*Listen, Listen, Love, Love*)

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Getting Ready for the Holidays!

There is a flyer attachment, with this newsletter, about the *Kairos Christmas Party* scheduled for December 7.

If you are new, let me share with you some information about our get-together. This party includes the Kairos communities from Wallace Unit in Colorado City, Lynaugh Unit in Ft. Stockton, and Kairos Outside Midland. Dress can be from blue jeans to party dress, so anything goes! This is NOT a 'couples' party.' (but it is for adults – no childcare provided) If you don't think you can afford the cost, please come anyway. There are many generous Kairos folks that can help take care of the expense. We are excited to have as our guest speaker, Cleveland Bell from Miami, Florida.

Cleve is the only surviving member of "The Nine Old Men" who founded Kairos Prison Ministry 43 years ago. He will share the beginnings of Kairos and the struggles and trials they endured for the ministry. Also, we will be handing out Angel Tree packets at the event. If you are not familiar with Angel Tree, it is a program where inmates complete a form asking for toys and/or clothes for their children. These forms are then distributed to Christian communities that will take care of the requests. I know some of you have participated in Angel Tree before and realize what a great program it is.

Thanks.

Julie Cole

CLEVELAND BELL, Guest Speaker
 Cleve is the only surviving member of "The Nine Old Men"
 who founded the Kairos Prison Ministry 43 years ago.
 Suggested Donation for Food & Speaker—\$18 per person

Please RSVP for the Christmas Party by text, email or phone by Dec. 1st to:
 Julie Cole, 432-352-2359, Julie@kotexas.com
 Carl Brown, 432-557-6810, carlb@forl.com
 Dave Percy, 432-528-4221, midpearcy@suddenlink.net

To my Kairos and Kairos Outside families –

I plan to bring this news to our West Texas Christmas party (scheduled for December 7, 2019) and ask for your help again this year. As you may remember, at this time last year, we had 204 Angel Tree children in our communities that didn't have a sponsor. The response was over whelming - our Kairos families covered all these children (a few couldn't be contacted)!!! This is the ninth time that we have been asked at the last moment to help sponsor the children that the normal sponsoring churches and organizations couldn't cover. Each time I have been amazed how our Kairos family has stepped up.

This year the need is more with 326 unsponsored children. We have 4 children in Midland, 224 children in Odessa, 33 children in Andrews, 24 children in Kermit, 6 children in Wink, 21 children in Monahans, 2 children in Wickett, 10 in McCamey, and 2 children in Rankin. I have the names and will send them as soon as possible. These numbers are somewhat discouraging with the lower numbers in Midland (189 last year) but large increase in Odessa (11 last year). Since most of our family are from the Midland area, we really need to reach out to help cover the children in our sister cities.

Some of you may not be familiar with Angel Tree. It is a part of Prison Fellowship and allows the inmate "to give" a Christmas gift to their children. The inmate fills out a Participation Form in mid year through the Chaplain which Angel Tree then distributes to the sponsoring churches. Angel Tree asks the sponsor to buy one gift for each child (toys or clothes for \$20 to \$25) and deliver it to the child with the parent's message. Any further gifts/needs of the family would be a gift from you as Kairos. You will need to contact the caregiver (may take some detective work because they move around) and confirm sizes and wants/needs of the child. This is a great companion ministry to our Kairos ministry which blesses the inmate, care giver, and the children. Be ready to be blessed.

If you feel like you want to sponsor some of these children, please let me know which zip code and how many. If you don't have time to do the buying and delivering but want to help out financially that would be great. We have some family members that may not have the financial resources but make the time to help bless these children. Prayers for giving and receiving angels are needed.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you. Just email me back or text to 432-853-0990 with the number of children in the zip code you would like to help. I will get the information to you via email and/or snail mail .

May God continue to bless you, your family, and our Kairos ministry.

SAVE THE DATE:

- **Nov. 21st**—Advisory Council (AC) Meeting at FUMC in Midland (300 N. Main St., 79701)
- **Dec. 7th**—Kairos Outside Christmas Party at FUMC (address above)

Next Newsletter is in January, 2020

(contact JaeDeen Walden if you have anything you want to include. 432-638-4779)



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ANYONE CAN ATTEND THE AC MEETINGS:

The Advisory Council is a body of volunteers in a local community, who serve in leadership roles for the benefit of the health and direction of the ministry. The roles of the AC are:

1. Ensure spiritual health of the ministry through biblical leadership and prayer.
2. Program compliance to follow the program ministry and policies of Kairos.
3. Recruitment of volunteers, enough to allow the Weekend Leader to select the team according to manual guidelines.
4. Fundraising to provide sufficient funds for the ministry.
5. Team building and leadership development.
6. To ensure a 24-month leadership tack is in place.
7. Reporting of financials, Weekends and results using the tools available.
8. Ensure positive correctional institutional relationships and approvals are in place.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

THANKFUL FOR THE POWER OF PRAYER

To whom God was pleased to make known how great are the riches of His glory of his mystery, which is Christ within and among you. Colossians 1:27

A short simple prayer can be mighty beyond description, but it does not take away the fact the prayer is a grand mystery.

In prison, Chinese Christian Watchman Nee wrote "Prayer is the most wonderful act in the spiritual realm, as well as the most mysterious affair." It joins the hearts of people on earth with God's heart in heaven! We human beings are the only creatures in our known universe who can stand in the natural realm and enter spiritual realm.

Thank you Father that you have entrusted us with the power of prayer! May your people lift words of THANKSGIVING in hope and praise in the season ahead.



Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.mykairos.org

Kairos E-News <enews@mykairos.org>



KO WEEKEND NEWS:

Chloe Suckling—Team Leader KO# 38

It has now been a couple of weeks since Kairos Outside #38. We were blessed to have 20 spectacular ladies be our guests for the weekend. We started out Friday with a game night to help us get to know each other. We had all kinds of games, Jenga and Yahtzee seemed to be the most popular. We enjoyed ourselves so much that our laughter could be heard across the camp!

Our God showed up big time! One of our guests spoke about how the Saturday evening dinner reminded her of what Heaven would look like when we arrive there. That it is what the table will look like that God has prepared for us.

It is always an honor to watch the ladies transform from nervous on Friday evening to being confident and burden free on Sunday afternoon. I feel that our ladies were able to leave their burdens at the foot of the cross. My prayer is that they will leave them there, for good.

I have heard from several of our guests that they are flying high on the mountain top since the weekend. I was recently asked if I felt that I was on that mountain top still - I am. This same friend passed on some wisdom he had received after leading a similar weekend - You make the choice to stay on that mountain top, or to slide back into the valley. I, myself, choose to stay on the mountain top. The view is beautiful from here!

The Lord will fight for you, you need only to be still. Exodus 14:14

Spotlighting Specialness

I met Ms. Gloria Cork on my first

The Table Leader at my table. I
ence. One could sense the strength
meeting, and has continued to be a
quiet strength. An example of this
she got started in Kairos Outside.
member, even though her brother
She just jumped right in with her
expressed by her favorite scripture
lowers, you must forget about your
every day and follow me”

She has continued to be involved
beauty of transition in the ladies
Her favorite positions that she has
giving several different talks.

When asked if there was any out
weekends she replied fairly quickly,
Holy Spirit showed up and showed out in the “Forgiveness Ceremony” at the Chapel. His presence was felt
by everyone there and it was awesome!

What do you want others to know about Kairos?, I asked her. “If anytime they’re in need, or in trouble or
whatever they have a need in—they can contact a community member and we will be there for them!”
She knows what it’s like to lose a family member through incarceration. Her brother went in as a teenager
and was in for most of his life. He got out just a few years before he passed. She never got to experience
having him in her life in an interactive role. The Kairos community has been there for her & she will do the
same for others.



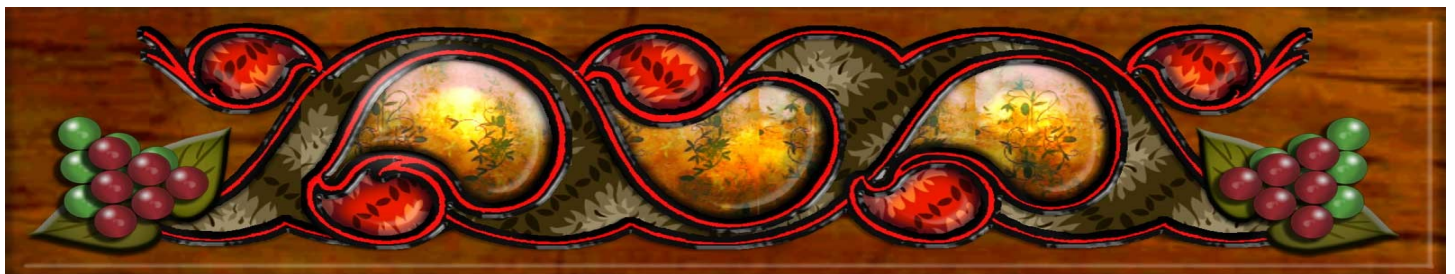
weekend as a “Guest”. She was the

loved her quiet but very real pres-
of her faith. She was then, at my first
solid witness of God’s peace and
special quality she possesses is how
She worked Weekend # 9 as a team
had been incarcerated at the time.
sleeves rolled up! This mentality is
Luke 9:23 “If you want to be my fol-
self. You must take up your cross

through the years because of the
as they go through their weekend.
participated in is “Table Server” and

standing memory from any one of the
yes—Carol Jo’s Weekend (#37). The

Holy Spirit showed up and showed out in the “Forgiveness Ceremony” at the Chapel. His presence was felt
by everyone there and it was awesome!



I’m pleased to introduce our Kairos Com-
past Weekend (#38). JD Tracy is a bright
been impacted by incarceration from every
ated when she was a young child and she
late twenties. Recently, her “almost two”
she is very familiar with all the emotional
other family members, visits in the prison
loosing her two other children (now living

But while some use their problems and
stand for her life and is rebuilding for a
Psychologist when she completes her
people whose parents are incarcerated
(and I’m sure she will be good at)!



Because her parents are KJ & Carrie Stanton, she was raised in and around Kairos for most of her life. But while she knew they were
involved with helping others in many different areas of ministry work, she truly didn’t know what to expect at her weekend. The thing
that made a lasting impression on her during her Weekend was the depth of involvement all of the volunteers went through, to make
each of the ladies feel God’s love. She was deeply touched by the personal effort of each team member to show they were there for
all of them.

When asked what does “Kairos / Kairos Outside” mean to you?, she replied, “It’s a great support system for those struggling with iso-
lation and loneliness”. JD plans on staying involved with Kairos Ministry and wants others to know that Incarceration is a huge prob-
lem in our society, and continues to grow larger. But she sees Kairos as a valuable tool for helping to be part of the solution.

munity to one of our “Newbies” from this
and beautiful young woman whose life has
angle. Both of her parents were incarcer-
herself went to prison when she was in her
year old’s father became incarcerated. So
trauma that comes from being raised by
system, lock-downs, and even the pain of
with their dad) because she was locked up.

pain to give up and give in, JD has taken a
better future. She dreams of becoming a
college education. Reaching out to young
is something she would really like to do.