

Fall 2016



Message from Julie

Well, can you believe the holiday season is already upon us and 2017 is right around the corner? What a year this has been for Kairos Outside Midland. We welcome the 34 guests that just completed KO Weekend #32 under the able leadership of Adriana Kocak. We all were glad for the opportunity to be together again at our "American Country" Family Reunion where over 85 people shared their stories.

In summarizing the year, Kairos Outside Midland has enjoyed four wonderful reunions and active SWAP groups in Andrews, Big Spring, Midland, and Odessa. This could not have been done without the dedication of many people who clearly love this ministry. We were all busy with outreach and fund raising which seemed to overlap each other. KO Midland served meals at a team meeting for the Lynaugh Unit in Ft. Stockton, Daniel Unit in Snyder, and Wallace Unit in Colorado City. We had our first garage sale (very successful), and held KO Spirit Nights at Pizza Hut, Chick Fil A, and Grub Burger. We have visited many churches, talked with pastors, and left KO information packets.

Thanks go to each member of the Kairos Outside Midland Advisory Council who has been so diligent in growing the ministry of Kairos Outside. As I look back over all that we've accomplished, I sincerely believe that our greatest asset is each other – the 53 guests that we welcomed into the KO Midland community this year and the love, encouragement, and support we can share.

Each one of you is invited to the Kairos West Texas Area Christmas Party on December 9th – please see the invitation in this newsletter. This includes Kairos volunteers from KO Midland, Daniel, Lynaugh, and Wallace.

I wish each one of you a Blessed Holiday Season.

Julie Cole
Kairos of Midland Advisory Council Chair
Julie@kotexas.com

Advisory Council

Julie Cole, Chair

Jeanette Maroney, Vice Chair

Scott Van Pelt, State Representative

Barbara Hicks, Secretary

Carol Jo Scott, Financial Secretary

Brandy Reed, Treasurer

Facility Coordinator, Vicky Frazier

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Brenda Kelly

Fundraising/Sponsorship Coordinator,
Charlotte Dalton

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Continuing Ministry Coordinator,
Celestina Lunda

Continuing Ministry Assistant,
Eufemial Esquivel

Data Coordinator, Cal Yonts

Communications Coordinator,
Susanne Yonts

Historian, Tracey Embry

Music Coordinator, Connie Alexander

Kairos Outside #32 was truly a special weekend that could not have happened without the inspiration, presence and work of the Holy Spirit. It also could not have happened without the work and dedication of the team God put together for such a time as this and the guests willingness to attend and participate.

We saw amazing transformations from ugly ducklings to swans, our theme for the weekend. We are grateful to our 34 guests for permitting us to share the short weekend with them and we thank them for sharing their heartaches, sorrows, fears and tears as well as joy, happiness and laughter.

Although the weekend is over, our guests journey with Kairos Outside has just begun and we look forward to serving with them on future weekends. I encourage our guests to attend support groups and reunions so we can all stay connected in the vine rooted in Him who makes all things new and gives us peace and freedom beyond all understanding.

To the team members that answered my call for help, I was continuously humbled by your love, support, willingness to serve, dedication and generosity. You showered both me and the guests with your blessings, prayers and made this dream a reality. You helped me to understand what it means to be part of the Body of Christ.

With love,

Adriana Kocak
Kairos Outside #32 Leader

Where the spirit of the Lord is there is freedom!

Keep Connected!

In order to better communicate with you, we need to have your most current information.

If you have moved, changed phone numbers or email address, please let us know.

Email susanne@cals.cc. Thank you!

Dear Kairos Outside family,

I will be leading the next Kairos Outside weekend taking place March 31 – April 2, 2017. I speak from experience when I say that you will receive so many blessings by being a team member or referring a guest.

I need great people like you on my team! The weekend will be at Camp Butman in Merkle, Texas. There will be four team meetings and I ask that you be committed to attending all four. The team meetings dates are February 4, 18, March 4, 18, 2017 and will be at Crestview Baptist Church in Midland.

My scripture for the weekend is Psalms 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God". My theme is stained glass and candles. When God spoke to me about this, He helped me see that there is so much brokenness in this world and He is able to take the broken pieces of our lives and make those pieces into something beautiful. He is the light through difficult times.

Please be in prayer for the upcoming weekend. If you would like to serve or refer a guest, please let me know. My email is homesweethomesold@gmail.com. My phone number is 432-352-7298.

May God continue to bless each of you.

Charlotte Dalton
Kairos Outside #33 Leader

We wish many blessing for you this holiday season

Happy Thanksgiving!

Merry Christmas!

Happy New Year!

From Kairos Outside of Midland

Year End Tax Donation

Each year, Kairos Outside of Midland holds two weekend retreats. Guests are never charged any fees to attend. All meals and housing are provided as well as other expenses like transportation, programming supplies, or babysitting assistance. It costs approximately \$10,000 to hold one of these weekends with all of the work done by volunteers and expenses covered by donations.

You can help by making a special gift. Please take a few minutes TODAY to remember these women who are suffering the heartbreak of incarceration through no fault of their own. If you feel that God is asking you to support us financially, please make your tax-deductible check payable to Kairos Outside of Midland and mail it to:

Kairos Outside of Midland
P. O. Box 52987
Midland, TX 79710

Make your gift by December 31 for an additional tax-deductible donation for the year!



Kairos Outside

Midland, Texas

YOU ARE INVITED

A SUPPORT GROUP
IS THE MEETING OF FRIENDS
ON A REGULAR BASIS TO SHARE THE
GROWTH IN THEIR LIVES AND THEIR
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. THEY SHARE
THEIR LOVE, ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THEMSELVES
AND PRAY FOR EACH OTHER.
BASICALLY, THE PURPOSE OF A
MEETING OF A SUPPORT GROUP IS TO S.W.A.P.
YOUR STORIES!

Come and Join Today!

*RELIEVE THE TROUBLE IN MY HEART
AND BRING ME OUT OF MY DISTRESS*

PSALM 25:17

S.W.A.P. SUPPORT GROUP COORDINATOR
CELESTINA LUNDA
432.288.7642

MIDLAND, TEXAS

Facilitator: Charlotte Dalton
Location: Keller Williams
Conference Room
4410 N. Midkiff Rd
Every Thursday Evening 7:15-8:15 p.m.
432.352.7298

ODESSA, TEXAS

Facilitator: Jeanette Maroney
Location: Chick Fil A
(Purchase Not Required)
3805 E. 42nd Street
Every Monday Evening 5:45 -7 p.m.
432.664.1084

BIG SPRING, TEXAS

Facilitator: Carol Jo Scott
Location: Denny's Cafe
(Purchase Not Required)
Every Monday Evening 6:30-7:30 p.m.
432.296.3874

ANDREWS, TEXAS

Facilitator: Johni Rollwitz
Location: Chamber of Commerce
700 West Broadway
Every Thursday Noon 12-1 p.m.
(Bring Your Sack Lunch)
432.523.2480

Would you like to share
your Kairos Outside
story in an
upcoming newsletter?

We'd love to hear it!

Send an email to
susanne@cals.cc

With God All Things are Possible

Submitted by Gloria

First, let me say with God all things are possible

When I first came to Kairos Outside, I was torn, lost and afraid of losing my self to this world. I was in a bad place but putting on a brave face for my family and others. We didn't know anything else but prison way of life since someone was always locked up.

I never got a chance to be a guest, but I guess that's what God intended. I worked Kairos Outside for the first time in 2005. I didn't eally knowing anything or anyone and I was afraid I wouldn't be accepted. But let me tell you the love I encountered was so overwhelming that it took my breath away. Kairos is the greatest thing that a person can do to build self esteem, courage and to really embrace the presence and power of God.

That's why I love being a part of this great ministry. Let's keep moving forward to the great things God has in store for those great ladies that he will send our way & continue to serve and bless them as we have been blessed.

Thanks so much for being my sisters I love you all.

Gloria

I Felt So Alone

Submitted by Guadalupe

How has Kairos Ouside changed my life.

Before Kairos Outside, I felt I had no life. I felt alone. I was always walking the walk of shame. Feeling that I was a failure as a mother. My Kairos Outside weekend changed all that in three glorious days. I learned that I was not alone in my walk. They taught me how to love myself again. To respect myself has a mother, daughter, aunt and as a wife.

Kairos showed me what sisterly love is. Changed my way of thinking. Showed me how to love everyone even the people who hurt me so deeply in the past. Kairos changed my life for the better. Kairos showed me I have a calling to help others who are in the same situation as me. I've learned that I shouldn't be so hard on myself. I'm a much better person. I seek God's grace, his guidance, his words and his presence. Kairos changed me to where now I look forward to the future serving my Heavenly Father. I no longer walk the walk of shame, I now walk the walk of life. Kairos will never know how much they have changed me. I'm a better Christian.

Thank you Kairos Outside for making me feel I'm worth so much!

Guadalupe

Which Way Do I Go?

Submitted by Jennifer

April 24, 2014 was the first time I went to bed without my husband because just a few short hours before I had said goodbye to him in the back of a police car.

Weeks before I prayed and asked God to tell me which way I needed to go with my marriage. Do I keep fighting like I promised in my vows or do I give up because I kind of felt like my husband had already? When the police kicked in my door I thought that was God telling me to give up then I was given the opportunity to see my husband for a second before he was taken away. When I saw him, God actually spoke to my heart and it skipped a beat just like the day I married Jason. Over the next few months I felt like something was missing besides my husband. I tried everything and I decided it was a relationship with God I was missing. Long story short I tried a few churches and ended up back at the church my husband and I were married in. I now have a good relationship with God which helped get my relationship with my husband to the place it is now even with him on the inside.

For two and a half years I tried to find someone who knew what I was going through and a friend mentioned she had gone on a KO weekend a long time ago. I got online and got in touch with a team member who said they would love to have me at the next weekend.

I went into KO #32 looking for friends who knew what I was going through but I found so much more. By bedtime on Friday I knew I wasn't just there to make friends. Throughout the weekend my heart would get so full I wanted to cry but I kept fighting it back thinking I would look crazy and I didn't know what was causing it. Saturday night in the chapel when we were laying our blocks at the foot of the cross I decided to quit fighting that feeling. I cried and I cried and I prayed and I prayed. I thought I had allowed God into my heart and my life a while ago but I believe at that time in the chapel I truly allowed him to take over my life and lead me along his path not the path I was going on.

That full heart feeling hasn't left me yet, it keeps getting stronger. I thank God every day for putting me in the path to meet the KO volunteers and the guests of KO #32. My life will never be the same and I can thank God every day for that. I gained a huge group of sisters in Christ, a new view of myself, and a renewed and stronger relationship with the Lord. I firmly believe now that even if you think you are on the right path, continue listening because God might have something even better on his path for you.

Jennifer

True Agape Love

Submitted by Evie

I had the extreme pleasure of working Kairos Outside #32. From the first team meeting in Big Spring, I knew God had put me in a place of true "agape" love and meaningful discipleship.

I have attended and worked many Emmaus walks but Kairos Outside is very different. The Holy Spirit spoke to me non-stop during the weekend.

I was a little taken aback when asked to present one of the meditations. God removed all of my fears when I stood in that chapel and shared my story and explained "Accepting God's Forgiveness". You know, it is very healing to share with other broken sisters and watch God reveal himself.

Camp Butman is a very calming and beautiful place. God's fingerprints were everywhere. I loved serving the entire group for the baked potato bar and salad Friday night. I was able to meet and greet a lot of ugly ducklings, ha ha! Seeing that look of wow, you guys did all this for us was amazing. And, it was just the beginning of their journey.

Watching these women experience the talks and mediations and growing into swans was profound. I truly believe I got every bit as much from this experience as they did. I would like to think that I stepped outside my comfort zone and with a lot of help from my fellow teammates, I did okay being God's hands and feet.

I do sincerely hope that I am asked again to do whatever task may be needed. I would encourage any of the new swans to answer the call of their Savior and love on others the way you were loved on. Showing others the love of Christ through your actions is so rewarding.

Your sister in Christ,

Evie



West Texas Area Kairos Christmas Party

Friday, December 9, 2016 6:30 - 9:30 P.M.

First United Methodist Church

*300 N. Main Midland
(enter through double glass doors by drive-thru)*

*Catered Meal
Suggested Donation - \$15 per person*

Angel Tree Project

*Bring a guest that has never
worked Kairos and THEIR
meal is FREE!!!*

*Worship music by
Men of Praise*

*Dr. Tim Walker
Senior Pastor, FUMC*

Please RSVP by text, email, or phone by December 5th to

Dan Nicholas 432-269-6988 theseedoutreach@aol.com

OR

Julie Cole 432-352-2359 julie@kotexas.com

Angel Tree Ministries - How You Can Help

To my Kairos and Kairos Outside families –

I plan to bring this news to our West Texas Christmas party (scheduled for December 9, 2016) and ask for your help again this year. As you may remember last year, we had 106 Angel Tree children in our communities that didn't have a sponsor. The response was over whelming, our Kairos families covered all those children (a few couldn't be contacted)!!! This is the sixth 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 (2016), the need is more with 223 unsponsored children at this time. To help you get an earlier start this year, I have the names available for the 146 children in Midland, 20 children in Odessa, 23 children in Monahans, 4 children in Pecos, 4 children in Kermit, 25 children in Andrews, and 1 child in Stanton to send you.

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. 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, as soon as possible. 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 have the time to bless others. Prayers for giving and receiving angels are needed.

I'm looking forward to hearing from you. Just email me at htate82842@aol.com or text to 432-853-0990 with the number of children in the zip code you would like to sponsor. I will get the contact information to you via email.

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

Harry Tate



Hidden Christmas Treasures Garage Sale

Saturday, December 3, 2016

8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

The Hub

4201 W. Illinois

Midland, Texas 79701

**Breakfast Burritos, Hot Chocolate, Christmas
Sweaters, Christmas Garland, Ornaments,
Trees, and all kinds of goodies to choose
from concerning Christmas!**

Come shop till you drop!

**Benefiting Kairos Outside, a non profit ministry
helping women impacted by incarceration**

Get Involved!

Team Volunteer--Working a team requires members meet for 36 hours to prepare for a Kairos Outside Weekend. Members share their special talents – musical, spiritual, social – with Guests and each other. The process begins with a volunteer application, which is submitted to the council and leaders of upcoming Weekends. Leaders begin choosing their team many months in advance, so becoming a Team Volunteer can take a long time because of all the planning involved.

Angel Volunteer--“Angels” are special volunteers who work behind the scenes during a weekend. They help prepare Guest quarters, set up tables and chairs, clean, cook, run errands, set up luminaries and pray during the weekend. We also need help with guest transportation during weekends.

Prayer Partners--In Kairos Outside, we depend on God to make things happen, so we recruit volunteers to pray for us from start to finish.

Agape--Agape is a sacrificial “love” that takes many forms. It could be prayer or working as an angel. Or it could be making little gifts such as bookmarks or food, for our Guests on the weekend.

Financial support--Kairos Outside of Midland is a volunteer organization that depends entirely on donations. We have two weekend retreats per year at an average cost of \$10,000 per weekend. Donations of any size are always appreciated. Remember, your donation is tax-deductible.

Upcoming Events

Hidden Christmas Treasure Garage Sale--December 3, 2016
West Texas Kairos Area Christmas Party--December 9, 2016
Advisory Council Meeting--January 19, 2017

For more information about events, please contact us at susanne@cals.cc

Purpose of Kairos Outside
To demonstrate God’s grace and love through Christian support for women who have loved ones who are or who have been incarcerated.