



# GEORGIA NEWSLETTER

GOD'S SPECIAL TIME

APRIL 2007

## ANNOUNCING: THE GEORGIA KAIROS "OBSERVER PROGRAM"

By Bob Astalos, State Volunteer Coordinator

As time goes by, it's very easy for our communities to inadvertently drift away from the authorized program. Often it's because we began some activity that is so much fun for certain team members, or for the team or for the community, that we make it part of the program.

The goal of the Observer Program is to encourage our communities to move back to the program authorized by the International Board of Directors, if they have drifted outside the "river banks".

We expect to eventually have a State Observer monitoring every weekend conducted in Georgia.

Observers are not there to criticize, or to tell anyone what to do. They will have NO AUTHORITY. They are to be supporters and encouragers.

Their role is to help our communities recognize when they have slipped out of the riverbanks and to encourage them to move back into the authorized program.

The Leader is still in charge of the weekend, and the Advising and Observing Leaders still have their responsibilities to fulfill.

Observers will fulfill their role by observing how all aspects of the weekend are conducted, and sending a letter back to the community observed (as well as the Observer Program Committee and the State Chair) explaining their observations & rec-



ommendations. The Advisory Council will be asked to seriously consider ways to implement any recommended changes for their next weekend.

Observers are NOT available to be assigned to any other task during the weekend.

### HOW IT WILL WORK

We have a big state and will need a number of Observers. Ideally we would have one representing each Advisory Council. To apply to be an Observer, send an e-mail to Bob Astalos at [teamcom@mindspring.com](mailto:teamcom@mindspring.com), providing your name, address, contact information, and the following:

1. Have you attended an AKT (Advanced Kairos Training)? When/ Where?
2. Have you ever been a member of the State

Chapter Committee and /or your Advisory Council. When/Where?

3. Have you been a weekend Leader/Rector? When /Where?
4. Extensive experience serving on weekend teams and in the continuing ministry will be important. How many teams have you been on...When/Where? And how many years have you been active in the Kairos ministry?

If you do not use e-mail, please mail your application notes to Bob at 990 Oakland Ave., Conyers, GA., 30012

Since we do not know everyone in our ministries, those who would like to participate as Observers will need to ask their Advisory Council Chair to send us a note describing their suitability for this task.

Observers will be assigned to a Kairos community that is far enough away that they will not have served on teams there, and will have no emotional ties to the community being observed. Hopefully no one will have to drive more than 2 hours to get to their assigned weekend.

Observer expenses will be reimbursed by the State Committee. Their overnight accommodations and weekend meals, which should be the same as for the team, will be the responsibility of the community being observed.

The community being observed will be

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## SCHEDULES AND INFORMATION

RIVERS #2 Gordon Cook Mike Nix Chris Parker	Apr. 12-15, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader	PHILLIPS #7 Bill Hardison Chris Shiver Bob Bolter	Oct. 18-21, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader
HAYS #16 Austin Robinson  Kelvin Thompson	Apr. 26-29, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader	LEE #28 Keith Pinkhard  Trent Jennings	Oct. 25-28, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader
KAIROS OUTSIDE NORTH #19 Shirley Barrett Diane Womble, Cynthia Sturm Joan Robb	April 27-29, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader	CALHOUN #8 Matthew Barnes  Lloyd Kirkland	Nov. 8-11, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader
D. RAY JAMES #10 Hal Langevin Fred Richard Byron Johns	May 3-6, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader		
GSP #16 Richard Roberson  Jerry Oldham	May 17-20, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader		
HANCOCK #28 Doug Shenker Butch Evans Lee Hill	May 17-20, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader		
ASMP #41 Ray Clemons Gene LeFort Doug McAfee	Aug. 16-19, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader		
PULASKI #24 Judy Hastings Susan McCutchen Karen Chaplin	Aug. 23-26, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader		
METRO #5 Karen Miller Della Riemersma Nan Wallace	Sept. 6-9, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader		

### Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. Statement of Faith

The people of Kairos are called by God to share the love of Christ with those impacted by incarceration. Kairos encourages believers from a variety of Christian traditions to be volunteers in this Christ-filled ministry.

Kairos programs offer to prison residents, their families, and those who work with them, the opportunity to receive God's forgiveness through faith in Jesus Christ, and to grow in their faith and servanthood in Christian community.

We stand on the common ground of the following elements of faith:

We in Kairos believe:

The Bible is God's authoritative and inspired word for our faith and our lives.

In the Trinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;

In the deity, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ;

Friendship with God is a free gift, for God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

The love of Jesus Christ motivates His followers to provide food for the hungry, drink to the thirsty, welcome to the stranger, clothes for the naked, and visits to the sick and those in prison.

In sharing the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ with all incarcerated individuals, their families and to those who work with them inside and outside the correctional institution.

### MONTHLY REUNIONS

If you wish to attend a monthly reunion please contact the Institutional Liaison for that institution (not the Chaplain or Security) for a clearance form in order to be placed on the list. Names and phone numbers of Institutional Liaisons are listed below.

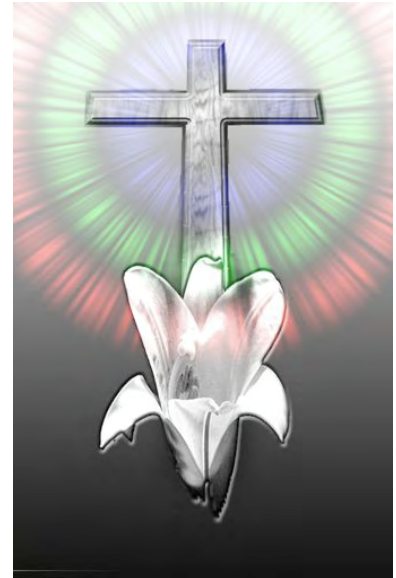
Prison Name	Reunion Dates-Sat	Meeting Time	Institutional Liaison	Phone Number
Augusta	3rd	8:30 AM	Ron Walling	706-855-1075
Autry	4th Fri	6:00PM	Kirk Beckham	229-226-4774
Calhoun			Mark Meagher	229-888-9515
Dooly	4th	9:00 AM	Charles Jones	229-645-3303
GSP	1st	10:00 AM	Rodney West	912-977-0009
Hancock	3rd	8:30 AM	Larry Sullivan	770-599-9112
Hays	1st	8:30 AM	Jim Miller	770-777-0621
D Ray James	4th	8:30AM	Hubert Clark	912-729-2884
Lee	3rd	10:00 AM	Harry Bryant	229-883-0017
Lee Arrendale	2nd	12:00 N	Teresa Osborne	706-486-2412
Lowndes			Tommy McNeal	229-247-2414
Macon				
Men's				
Metro	1st	12:00 N	Anne Armstrong	770-579-9624
Phillips	3rd		Chris Burgett	678-297-9091
Pulaski	4th	12 Noon	Sheila Canady	478-788-5439
Rivers	1st	8:00 AM	Ed Hall	478-452-4524
Rogers	2nd	9:00 AM	Fred Karst	912-728-4153
Scott			Randy Griffin	478-986-9374
Valdosta	1st	8:00 AM	Tommy McNeal	229-247-2414
Ware	2nd	10:00 AM	Jack O'Brien	912-449-3577
Wilcox	2nd	9:30 AM	John Clements	912- 568-7617

### ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIRMEN

Prison Name	Council Chairman	Phone Number
Augusta		
Autry	Bob Hodaes	229-294-0952
Calhoun	David Barnes	229-446-0223
Dooly	Ken Carter	229-273-0957
GSP	Dennis Shasteen	912-876-8623
Hancock	Chris Parker	770-775-6219
Hays	Jim Cheetham	770-739-2939
D Ray James	Harrel Butler	912-778-4449
Lee	Mike Jones	229-924-0120
Lee Arrendale	Dianne Gibson	706-486-2412
Lowndes	Vic Jameson	229-249-9441
Macon		
Men's		
Metro	Beth Mavcumber	770-830-8985
Phillips	Hal Benson	770-664-9118
Pulaski	Joyce Bryant	912-264-4564
Rivers	Gordon Cook	678-423-1069
Rogers	John Ross	912-897-3568
Scott	Mike Newsome	478-474-9006
Valdosta	Vic Jameson	229-249-9441
Ware	Horace Godfrev	912-778-4330
Wilcox	Russell Clark	912-568-7440
K Outside No.	Marv Jane Skidmore	678-947-8567
K Outside So.	Nancy Dallas	229-725-4394
Torch	Marilyn Lewis	770-412-7354



## Chairman's NOTES



Around the world, on the first Sunday after the first full moon which follows the vernal equinox, Christians gather to celebrate with great joy and hope their faith in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. We who are Christian believers come together in our many churches and in our varied ways and there our hearts (and voices!) sing for joy as we proclaim "Alleluia! Christ is Risen!" The one who was dead now lives forever!

Easter brings great joy for us because we believe that those who follow Christ's way of love are also promised eternal life in the glory of God's kingdom. And as we proclaim our Easter faith, we also recommit ourselves to living for others, as Jesus did. In my Catholic tradition, each Easter we are sprinkled with holy water as a reminder of our baptism into the death and life of Jesus. As we renew our baptismal promises, we are promising in reality to continue living a life of love and service. I know that I draw strength in the promise of the life which we are promised – and are indeed, evenly darkly, experiencing right now. My Easter prayer for each of you, men and women in the Kairos ministry, is that you too will

draw strength from God's promises and be renewed in your faith, hope and love.

I can't help but think of the story from Luke's Gospel of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. This Resurrection story reminds me of those of us who minister in the vineyards of Georgia's prisons. After recognizing Jesus in the breaking of the bread, he disappears from their sight, and the two disciples, having just traveled from Jerusalem, are compelled to run back to the city to recount their experience of the Risen Lord.

"Were not our hearts burning within us . . ." was the explanation they offered to their friends. I venture to say that this experience is true for us – and may our hearts continue to burn as we proclaim the Good News of the Christ to our brothers and sisters in prison.

—Jim Mauldin



**AKT is mandatory for all Leaders and is beneficial for all volunteers. It is most helpful for Leaders when attended before team meetings start.**

June 1 - 3, 2007 JACKSONVILLE, FL  
Location: Marywood Retreat Center, Jacksonville, FL  
Contact: Jan Thrower, [plainjan@yahoo.com](mailto:plainjan@yahoo.com), 352-473-7896

June 22 - 24, 2007 WAVERLY, GA  
Location: Honey Creek Episcopal Conference Center.  
Contact: Jan Thrower, [plainjan@yahoo.com](mailto:plainjan@yahoo.com), 352-473-7896

July 13 - 15, 2007 RALEIGH, NC  
Location: Peace College, 15 East Peace Street,  
Raleigh, NC 27604  
Contact: Ted Cashion, [ted.cashion@ncmail.net](mailto:ted.cashion@ncmail.net), 919-859-1709  
or Bob Clinkscales, [clinkscales@inteliport.com](mailto:clinkscales@inteliport.com), 252-426-7720,

Aug. 24-26, 2007 TAMPA, FL  
Contact: Jan Thrower, [plainjan@yahoo.com](mailto:plainjan@yahoo.com), 352-473-7896

### OBSERVER PROGRAM Continued from Pg 1

asked to provide feedback on how they experienced the Observer who was assigned to them. It is important that there be a positive relationship during the observing process.

Paying attention to this gift God has given us that we call "Kairos Inside" is important work for His kingdom. We need your applications. If you are interested in

the possibility of serving as an Observer, please let me hear from you.

Bob Astalos, Coordinator  
Observer Program Committee





## INTERNATIONAL REPORT

### Winter Conference: Growth and Expectations

By Tom Liner

Bless you for your service! There were no real surprises at the Kairos International Board Meeting in Orlando, February 3. But there are three things

I do want to highlight for Advisory

Councils and volunteers. *Advisory Council Operating Procedures*, which many of you are already using, were approved by your board as expected. My request to your Advisory Council, if you are not already using these guidelines, is please make sure your council follows them before you have another weekend. The final draft is available at [www.kairosprisonministry.org](http://www.kairosprisonministry.org) If your council needs help, give me a call at 229-439-2574 or contact me at [tomliner@msn.com](mailto:tomliner@msn.com).

Related to the Operating Procedures is the *Donor* software, which I hope will be sent to your Advisory Council chairperson by the time you read this. I am not particularly skilled with the computer, but I reviewed *Donor* for the first time in Orlando. It appears to be pretty easy once you get used to using it. National needs Advisory Councils to use the program to keep up with fundraising and finances. Councils already are encouraged to make your own deposits in the state account so that you will know exactly how much money you have available, less the \$15 per participant on the weekends that we send to National. Again, I hope the deposit slips are in-hand by the time you read this. The important thing, of course, is that two people always count the money.

And for all that, thank you for your obedience. It seems to me that we really need to work on communication in this state, and so I ask you to simply keep in touch, by whatever means necessary. We are being asked to take care of more detail work in Kairos and, frankly, more paperwork of one kind or another. I am fully confident that you have the servants with these gifts.

Another matter I want to tell you about is *Los Hermanos*, the international stewardship start-up project. Pray about this one, and especially those of you who have Advisory Councils who are good at raising more money than you need for your weekends. The idea here is that you partner with one of the Latin American or Asian countries who are asking for Kairos. Think about it—taking the love of Christ to the incarcerated and their families in a country that has not had Kairos. That is a clear call. *Los Hermanos*, by the way, means “Brothers.”

News from Orlando: John Thompson, Executive Director of Kairos, fell December 21 and broke his back. John was at the meeting in an uncomfortable looking brace, but active and energetic and smiling as usual. Denny Fryman from Indiana is your new Board President. Denny is all energy and all Kairos. Cameron Cooke rotated out of that job, and Cameron is a very special man in my book. As are all of you very special who give so freely of your time, money, effort, and prayer. I thank my God daily for you. Thank you for letting me participate in His, and your, ministry. “Let all things be done decently and in order.”

### Agape Coordinators:

Your Help is needed in order to reduce the time and effort of the K/GA Agape Coordinator. This will free up time allowing pursuit of general agape from the outside Walks, Cursillos, Tres Dias, other States Prisons, Countries, etc.

### Have Kairos Inside Agape Coordinators:

- Produce personal and general agape.
- Put the personal agape in 42 count packs.
- Use paper not poster board for posters which can be mailed as a media (book)pack.
- Make up Agape packages to be mailed to specific Prisons to look like a book.

### Next, for you Adv Council Agape Coordinators:

- Get the Kairos/Prisons events listing from the Kairos Int'l Web Site, print it out and give it to the Kairos Inside Agape Coordinator. I can help you with that.
- Go to the Kairos Int'l Web Site for the Agape Coordinators of each State list and use it to address the Agape packages for USPS mailing.
- Contact the Agape Chair for K/GA or the Chair of the Adv Council to get the Agape Coordinator mailing addresses for Georgia Kairos Prisons.
- Using the above addresses Mail the packages direct at the *book rate* instead of mailing them to the K/GA Agape Chair who must in turn mail it doubling the postage.

The postage can be considered a genuine Kairos expense.

—Ron Walling

# WEEKEND•REPORTS

**ASMP #40.**  
**Feb. 15–18, 2007**  
**Doug McAfee, Leader**

What an awesome time God had this weekend. We had 42 residents, 15 white, 14 black, and 13 Hispanic. What we experienced this weekend was God's children enjoying love and themselves.

I had purchased a transmitter and 6 receivers (as hearing devices used in church). It worked great for translating the talks and the meditations into Spanish. It is the first time the Hispanic residents un-

derstood the talks.

Whether you have been leader or not, you will understand when I say it was the most wonderful weekend with Jesus and the residents that you will ever have. I think most of the team shed a tear or two of happiness when they experienced the Holy Spirit at work. God is good!

**Heard at Closing**

"Thanks for loving me. I have never been loved before."

"When I hate I cannot love Jesus."

"I found happiness and warmth in my

heart."

"Found I'm not as tough as I thought, but my God is tough in love."

"I never have had God in my life until this weekend."

*Translated from a Spanish-speaking participant:*

"God spoke and showed me messages thru others. Testimony later on down the line would change my life. God showed me things that frightened. God has a plan. You can only run so far; He will catch up with you."



**D. RAY JAMES #9**  
**Nov. 2–5, 2006**  
**Byron Johns, Leader**

Kairos #9 started off somewhat unusually in that the team waited over two hours for the 42 participants to arrive while security was investigating an attempted suicide and had the prison in a locked down status. We were reminded that we were in prison and should be praying. We did and eventually we were able to get started, get acquainted and get the program going.

On Friday morning after the Choices talk was given we lost one man because as he put it, "I'm not ready to change". Hopefully and prayerfully he will be ready to

change soon. The rest of the weekend was without unexpected events.

The closing service Sunday evening, which is attended by guests from the outside and the inside Kairos community proved to be a blessing to all. At the closing each Kairos #9 resident was given an opportunity to give an overall assessment of their Kairos weekend experience. Many of them rose to the occasion and talked about the spiritual and physical blessings they received. Some confessed Christ for the first time in their lives and some talked about rededication and about understanding for the first time what a relationship with God through Jesus Christ really means. Everyone confessed change.

Many outside guests were there for the first time. Our hope is that they were able to see the importance of their participation.

Hal Langevin will be the leader of #10 next May. His Observing Leader will be Fred Richard who will be the Leader on #11 next November.

**KAIROS OUTSIDE OF SOUTH GEORGIA #2**  
**Mar. 2–4, 2007**  
**Ginger Gleaton, Leader**

Kairos Outside of South Georgia #2 was held March 2–4, 2007 at Camp Tygart near Valdosta. It was an awesome and powerful weekend. The Lord touched the



hearts of all the ladies on the weekend.

I know that Satan does not want us to hold Kairos Outside weekends. He seemed to be working overtime ahead of Weekend #2. Jesus taught me that He was in control and that I wasn't, thank goodness.

Twelve guests registered but ten completed the weekend. We had forty six team members. Each team member was committed and did a super job. The talks and meditations melted the hearts of the guests. The ladies felt loved and worthy and were able to relax and have fun. What a wonderful weekend we experienced as walls were tom down.

The theme for the weekend was "The Lord was my salvation. He rescued me because He delighted in me." God gave us a special time together with music, tears, laughter, sharing, prayer and fellowship.

**Heard at Closing:**

"I came alone but am leaving with a new family."

"I started not to come. I was filled with doubt and mistrust before I came but now I am overflowing with love and blessings."

"I finally found what I had been searching for."

"I have never been so pampered."

"I was so overwhelmed I even had tears of joy."

"I found the love and support here that I need to be able to learn a new way to cope.

"It was a great weekend. I did not know it was possible to feel so close to God."

"These ladies did not even know me but loved me and accepted me. They listened and did not judge me. They loved me like I had never felt before."

Thank you to everyone who prayed and sent agape.



D. Ray James #9 (left) and Kairos Outside of South Georgia #2 (below)



Kairos Supporters:

This letter was written by a young man who attended the Kairos 16 weekend on Feb 22-24. He fought against the spirit of God all four days — until the last hour when he finally accepted Jesus as Lord. THANK YOU for your prayers, cards and support! It made an eternal difference in this man's life that will now be passed on for generations!

John Ross  
Kairos Advisory Council  
Rogers State Prison

- FEB. 25<sup>th</sup> 2007 -  
THE DAY BEGAN JUST AS THE FIRST DAY OF THE PROGRAM... A VIOLENT AND PAINFUL BATTLE IN MY HEART AND IN MY SPIRIT. A BATTLE I WAS DETERMINED TO WIN. I WAS RAISED THAT MEN DON'T CRY... MEN, DON'T CRUMBLE UNDER PRESSURE... REAL MEN DON'T ACCEPT DEFEAT. ALL MY YEARS I DID WHAT I TOOK TO MAKE SURE THAT IT STOOD TRUE. AND TODAY WASN'T GOING TO BE ANY DIFFERENT. I WAS NOT GOING TO CRUMBLE UNDER PRESSURE, I WAS NOT GOING TO BE DEFEATED! AND I MOST CERTAINLY WAS NOT GOING TO CRY. I HAD TO BE AND WAS GOING TO BE STRONG AND CONTINUE TO BE HARD HEARTED. I ALMOST WON. I HAD THIS THING BEAT. NO SPORT I'VE EVER PLAYED,

DRAINED ME, NOR TOOK THE TOLL ON ME AS THE PERSISTANT WAR DID ON MY SOUL. NO FIGHT EVER LEFT ME BROKE DOWN AND WOUNDED LIKE THIS ONE HAS. IT HAS BEEN THE MOST DRAINING EVENT IN MY LIFE.  
HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR THE ENDLESS PRAYERS OF MANY, AND THE LOVE AND SUPPORT THAT WAS PASSIONATELY GIVEN; I WOULD HAVE WON MY PERSONAL BATTLE, I WOULD STILL BE UNDEFEATED, AND THAT MUCH STRONGER GOING INTO MY NEXT WAR. \*WHOOORAH! (NOTES A BATTLE CRY FROM A VICTORIOUS SOLDIER.)  
INSTEAD, I'M ALIVE TODAY; A SELF-INFLICTED; BURDENED LIFE LAYED TO REST FOR GOOD. I'VE SHED TEARS; NOT OF PAIN AND SUFFERING, BUT TEARS OF JOYFULNESS AND RELIEF.  
I'VE WENT FROM AN ENDLESS BLOODY BATTLE TO A PEACEFUL

BURDENLESS JOURNEY TO SEEK A LIFE OF FULFILLMENT THAT WAS MEANT FOR ME.  
I OWE MY LIFE TO THOSE MEN OF GOD FOR SUPPORTING ME, LOVING ME, AND SHOWING ME A BRIGHTER LIFE... A BRIGHTER ME!  
BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY— I'VE GIVEN MY LIFE TO THE LORD JESUS CHRIST... MY NEW FATHER. I'M NO LONGER A CHILD OF DISFAIR BUT A CHILD THAT'S REPAIRED.  
Now DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA. JUST BECAUSE I GAVE UP CONTROL OVER MY LIFE AND ALLOWED GOD TO COME INTO MY HEART AND TAKE CONTROL, DOESN'T MEAN MY LIFE HAS OR WILL GET ANY EASIER. IT JUST MEANS THAT I NO LONGER HAVE TO FIGHT ALONE. THE LORD WILL SHOW ME THE WAY THROUGH THE

BATTLEFIELD AND FIGHT WITH ME. ALL I MUST DO IS KEEP MY EYES ON HIM.  
AND WHEN THOSE TIMES OF TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS COME; I NOW HAVE A LORD, A KING THAT HAS AN ARMY THAT WILL NOT BE DEFEATED AND WILL OVERCOME EVERYTHING. FOR IT IS ALREADY WRITTEN AND PROVEN.  
NOW; ALL I MUST DO, IS KEEP THE FAITH, TAKE MY PROBLEMS TO HIM IN JESUS' NAME, DECLARE THEM COVERED IN HIS BLOOD AND BELIEVE THEM TO BE TAKEN CARE OF.  
SOUNDS EASIER SAID THEN DONE, BUT TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF IS A DIFFICULT ONE; BUT A ONE THAT CAN BE OVERCOME. IT'S GOING TO TAKE PLENTY OF STRENGTH AND WILLPOWER. BUT NOTHING THAT CAN'T

BE DONE. ALL IT TAKES IS PERSISTANT PRAYER AND DEDICATION; WITH THAT FAITH - AND IN DOING THIS... THE JOURNEY BEGINS!  
\* PLEASE PRAY FOR ME AS I LEARN AND GROW IN MY JOURNEY TO DISCOVERING GOD IN MY DAILY WALK WITH THE LORD.  
THANK YOU!  
WITH LOVE,