



GEORGIA NEWSLETTER

GOD'S SPECIAL TIME

JANUARY 2007

If there is any doubt that your and my ministry has any impact on the lives of others, I would like to share a story with you. Some 15 years ago I met Jack at ASMP while participating in a Kairos weekend. I received a \$100.00 money order in the mail for Kairos with no explanation. It is obvious that he made a sacrifice to make this contribution and that Kairos made a difference to him. Kairos makes a difference and we need to live out our baptism as the co-redeemers of humanity.



Chairman's NOTES

Who is willing to take on this very important ministry? The person who accepts this call would ideally be able to recruit other willing hands in their community to assist with this work. Ron says he spends now several hours a day on Agape alone. Spreading the work among many will make it easier for all involved. As my mother-in-law often says – many hands make light work!

We also need help with the Observer program – at least 15 or 20 people to make this ministry work well. A chairman for this committee is also needed. Please contact Bob Astalos if you can help.

One more plea for help – we need someone to step up and take over the ordering of supplies from John McLeod who has been working with the National Office to keep our weekends supplied.

Our needs on the State level are great and the jobs are big! With 52 weekends a year and more prisons that need to be Christianized, the volunteer opportunities only increase. Many positions on the state level such as agape have become significant part time jobs and are necessary for the ministry. If you have time to give us let us know how you can help.

In this New Year, let us look into our hearts and see if we can find a little more time to give to this ministry. God's blessings on you always and in all ways!

—Jim Mauldin

Congratulations to Rosie and Ron Walling (ASMP) and Wray and Walt Kessel (Coastal SP) for their well-deserved recognition by the State prison system. Honored for their years of volunteer service, Rosie, Ron, Wray and Walt have been active in their respective prisons for many years. Their activities were not part of Kairos, but they were also acknowledged as being part of Kairos.

Both couples have done more than their fair share for Kairos, and after prayer and discernment, have concluded that now is the time to retire from their active ministries.

The Communication committee will take over from the Kessels. They will stay involved, but do not want the full responsibility anymore.

Ron and Rosie have been organizing Agape for years. They handle hundreds if not thousands of letters each month. They are now ready to give that responsibility into someone else's hands.



State Committee Retreat 2006,
Honey Creek Conference Center

SCHEDULES AND INFORMATION

PHILLIPS #5 Don McLeod Bob Bolter Chris Burgett	Jan. 25-28, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader	TORCH Boys Sumter #9 Tim & Jennifer Griggs Steve Durham	Mar. 16-18, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader
LOWNDES #6 Vic Jameson Charlie Merwin Dennis Webrand	Feb 8-11, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader	AUTRY #16 David Grantham Ray Mann Eddie Simmons	Mar. 22-25, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader
ASMP #40 Doug McAfee Ray Clemons Roger Ervin	Feb. 15-18, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader	VALDOSTA #14 Heath Sellars Tyson McLane Ricky Mathis	Mar. 29-Apr 1, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader
PULASKI #23 Karen Chaplin Judy Hastings Terry Lees	Feb. 22-25, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader	LEE #27 Trent Jennings Keith Pinkhard Jack Teasley	Apr. 26-29, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader
ROGERS #16 Bill Hinesley Rich Sioufi Kirk Duffy	Feb. 22-25, 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
METRO #4 Nan Wallace Karen Miller Pushpa Danes	Mar. 8-11, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader		
SCOTT #4 David Griffin Tom Spohn	Mar. 8-11, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader		
CALHOUN #7 Loyd Kirkland Matthew Barnes Conner Collins	Mar. 15-18, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader		
WARE #28 Mike Scott Mark Nickelson Jerry Peterson	Mar. 15-18, 2007 Leader Obs. Leader Adv. Leader		

AGAPE

Agape letters for Kairos weekends should be sent to:

Ron Walling
Kairos of Georgia Agape Chairman
3204 Sterling Ridge Dr.
Augusta, GA 30909
(706) 855-1075
ronwalling@yahoo.com

Please, letters only, no envelopes, folded **once** with the resident's name on the outside; or else general agape for all on the weekend. No tracts or pamphlets, etc. are permitted. Ron Walling, as District

Agape Chairman, will coordinate General Agape with the Council Agape Chairmen.

Ron is retiring. We need a volunteer to take over Agape! How about YOU?

INSTITUTIONAL LIAISONS

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	1:00 PM	Ron Walling	706-855-1075
Autry	4th Fri	6:00 PM	Kirk Beckham	229-226-4774
Calhoun	1st	10:00 AM	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	229-446-8388
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
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	Adv Council Chairperson	Phone Number
Augusta	Harold Gibson	706-486-2412
Autry	Bob Hodges	229-294-0952
Calhoun	Tommy Dale	229-995-2469
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 Maycumber	770-830-8985
Phillips	Hal Benson	770-664-9118
Pulaski	Joyce Bryant	912-264-4564
Rogers	John Ross	912-897-3568
Scott	Mike Newsome	478-474-9006
Valdosta	Vic Jameson	229-249-9441
Ware	Horace Godfrey	912-778-4330
Wilcox	Russell Clark	912-568-7440
K Outside No.	Mary Jane Skidmore	678-947-8567
K Outside So.	Nancy Dallas	229-725-4394
Torch	Marilyn Lewis	770-412-7354

Remember when we used to sleep on hard floors at schools, armories and churches . . . after we finally got to bed about midnight, . . . then up at 5:15?

Many of our communities still do!

As you all know from personal experience, the commitment to Kairos calls us to many kinds of sacrifices and inconveniences.

Given our need to identify new people to join us in the ministry to complement our ever expanding number of prisons served, it is very tempting to begin to take "shortcuts" to make the commitments more palatable. Hence the term "creeping convenience".

Some examples might include:

- (a) Reducing the number of team meetings/hours
- (b) Using smaller teams
- (c) Using fewer clergy
- (d) Sleeping at home
- (e) Tightening up the weekend schedule to get out earlier
- (f) Taking Reunion gatherings lightly

There's no getting around it. Kairos is a high commitment ministry. "All those meetings" are important for incorporating new team members (even if there's only a few) and becoming the Christian Commu-

KAIROS: A HIGH COMMITMENT MINISTRY

(BUT WATCH OUT FOR "CREEPING CONVENIENCE")

By Bob Astalos
State Volunteer Coordinator



nity we need to be when we enter the prison.

Conducting the weekend program

requires leaving our families for yet another weekend, and the monthly reunions regularly tax our family commitments.

Finding just the right people God wants to call into this ministry (I shudder at calling it "recruiting") requires an intentional planning and organizing effort as we share the Kairos story with individuals and groups. It's way too big a job to leave solely to each successive Leader, who receives the community data base (through EZRA), which leads him/her to the experienced veterans. To be finding new people, our Advisory Councils need to be responsible for forming and implementing an action plan that reaches out to new audiences & prospects.

And finding enough of the right clergy is universally challenging. It requires a particularly long range effort, most effectively accomplished by other clergy.

I thank God for your passion and commitment in carrying out this very demanding ministry. Without you, there would be no Kairos! You are the treasure that makes it possible for us to share this gift of God with our incarcerated brothers and sisters.

(And be on your guard to avoid the "creeping convenience" shortcuts.)

WEEKEND•REPORTS

Fred Scott #3 September 14-17, 2007 Thomas Spohn, Leader'

Wonderful time for residents and volunteers. It ran very smoothly and was on time throughout the weekend. Great cooperation between the Scott State Prison staff, outside volunteers, inside volunteers and participants.

Heard at Closing:

"Kairos was profound. We came for food and received so much more."

"The abundance of love is overwhelming. I have seen hearts mended here."

"I have never loved another person in my life like this. Not even in my own family. This has been a gift from God."

"But most of all we found hope and that hope is Jesus Christ."

"The children's agape was a blessing that allowed us to cry."

"I have my hope restored in the Church."

"I have read the word for hours and hours, but have not had love in my heart for over 20 years. Kairos filled a void in my heart."

"Tearing down the wall is a process of letting Jesus in."

"I rededicated myself to God."

"I was running low on compassion until this weekend."

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

A Blessing, a Little News from International, and Personal Thanks

Bless you for your service! Bill Enter told a group of Rectors-to-be on a bright Sunday morning in South Alabama in a beautiful spot beside a pond that reflected back the sky and trees that they should “bless one another. There is power in the Blessing.” I would not presume on the Lord’s favor, but Bill convinced me that morning that blessing my brothers and sisters in His service is important and something I can and should do. So I do that and encourage you to bless others.

An incredible blessing to many of us in Kairos is to see how our Lord has grown this ministry. In the last decade in Georgia, we have grown from five to twenty-five sites. He stretches us and challenges us, and lets us enjoy all of the problems that trying to keep up with the movement of the Spirit brings. And my prayer is that He will put Kairos volunteers in every prison, every YDC, and Kairos Outside in every region of Georgia. How can we ever do that? Where will we get the volunteers? What if they don’t act right? Can Bob Astalos and his colleagues ever train enough lay leaders? Will they understand Ezra? And where will the money come from? But you know the answers as well as I do. Our Lord will do it, if He wants it. And He will bring His love and grace to all those places—if we are faithful.

From Kairos International we see the same picture, the same growth of our Lord’s grace. Kairos #1 in Missouri is scheduled for May 2007. Kairos Outside in Costa Rica is preparing for KO #2. And at the same time, in September Kairos #61 was held at Union C.I. in Florida, where it all started more than 30 years ago. I believe it is true that Union has not missed a monthly reunion in all those years. As the residents remind me, “God is good, all the time.”

Other news from International is slight in my corner right now. The winter conference will be in Orlando, February 1 – 3. Probably the Advisory Council Operating Procedures (yes, another manual) will be adopted with only slight changes by your board at

**LEE # 26
October 26–29, 2007
Jack Teasley, Leader**

The weekend was good. We had no problems just my anxiety to do what God had sent me to do and to do it His way.

What a blessing the weekend was. We had 42 participants and all 42 finished.

At closing we heard that they knew about love but had never felt love the way it was shown.

How did a group do this when they were from so many places and were not in a club or even the same church? This had to be from God. They felt that now they could make better choices because of the weekend.

that meeting. Some of the advisory councils in Georgia are already using that guide, and it has been helpful. Advisory Councils

have a lot of extra work to do behind the scenes. Some of you have seen the new song books, and the musicians’ books are supposed to be out by now (maybe I should say “soon”?) A reminder to music leaders: advisory councils may still purchase the CCLI rights annually, if you choose. We are sure to hear more about the Donor software that is supposed to help us with all our financial business. We all have a way to go learning to use that one.

One other thing from me this time, and that is a personal word of thanks and appreciation. Walt and Wray Kessel will not be at the state committee meeting in January for the first time in my memory. As you know, Walt is our newsletter editor and, and Wray has been archivist and secretary of Kairos of Georgia for several years. They also have been the conscience of Kairos in this state in many ways, serving tirelessly and sacrificially and always out of sight, never leading or even able to serve on a weekend. They are the hands and feet—and voice on the telephone and email—of Jesus. All of us in Kairos in Georgia love them and shall miss them greatly in our gatherings.

We began with a blessing, and it is fitting to end that way: May our Lord Jesus bless you joyfully in His service



Tom Kessel



State Committee Retreat Leader Carol Hammel

PULASKI #22
August 8-11, 2006
Terry Lees, Leader

Kairos #22 was a sweet, joyful weekend! God chose the theme “The Joy of the Lord is Our Strength.” We all experienced God’s loving hand on each life participant and host! It was “God’s Time” and it was all about Him!

God’s team consisted of 39 precious spirit-filled ladies that included 5 new lay team members and 3 new clergy!

Yes, we were short but God confirmed that He would fill in! And, He did just that! Each task was performed by team members demonstrating a servant’s heart and being Jesus’ hands and feet.

However, more job assignment training was the number one request from the team critiques and this will be addressed. I will meet with the Advisory Council and upcoming Leader before the next weekend.

Of the 42 participants, one came and left sick on Thursday night; an alternate took her place on Friday morning and she along with the original 41 participants finished the weekend.

The new warden, who had never experienced Kairos in his career, came by to visit and was touched by the agape on the walls and by the bonding of each table family.

More than half of the participants went up to open mike on Friday and it became very apparent that God was at work! On Saturday night, the forgiveness service was led by the clergy and by the Chaplain, and the Holy Spirit used these

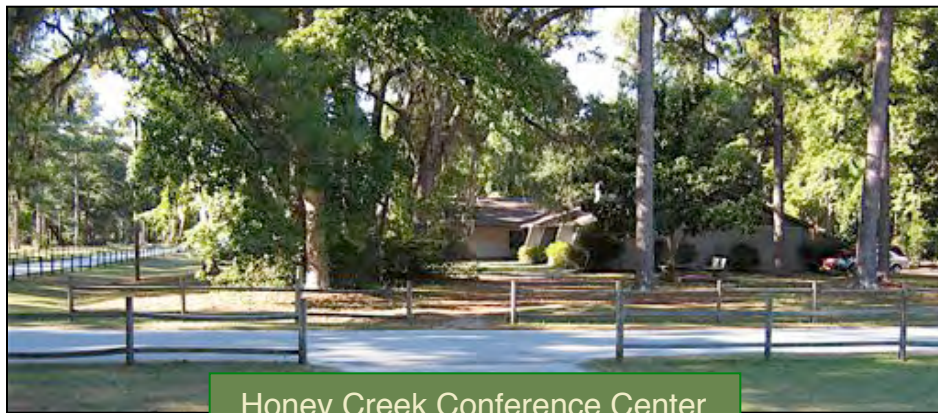
mighty ladies to love the participants thru life changing decisions.

Finally, on Sunday afternoon, each of the 42 participants received her cross while crying happy tears and ended with everyone singing praises before going into Closing.

Heard at Closing:

- We came in drifting and disillusioned, but came out giving everything up to God and knowing Christ’s blood covers all!
- I am 70 years old and very reluctant to change but God certainly changed me this weekend!
- We found living water, a clean spirit, and deliverance!
- This Kairos weekend was the first step and I will continue taking steps to Christ!
- There is no way I can keep this to myself!
- I never felt like this a day of my life ... I am so proud of this freedom I found!
- Not one time did I remember I was in prison all weekend!
- God used a specific talk and testimony to tell my life story and is changing the end of my life story completely!
- Set me free from homosexuality and I know Jesus and me are going to get through!
- Thanks be to God Almighty for the strength I need on my road to recovery!

- I was taught faith through the love that was shown!
- I put it in the bowl and watched it wash away!
- I am slowly taking down my wall of “shiny precious gems”!
- God did not let us down.
- Regained strength, forgiveness, friends and peace.
- Peace of mind, freedom, friendships, purpose & forgiveness.
- Faith in God, but now I really believe.
- Didn’t know people would pray for me and that was awesome.
- Picture of Jesus smiling touched me and I know He’s smiling now.
- I was spiritually weak and I needed encouragement and God gave me his words in scripture.
- I came with empty cup and he healed my body.
- So much love until you could grab it and eat it.
- Felt like I was at a banquet with Christ. The Lord blessed me and I will sing like never before.
- My life has changed. I’m not the same person I was three days ago.
- I have a new walk and a new talk and I’m new and have Jesus in my life.
- My smile was not real and I had burdens on my shoulders and I placed them on the cross with Jesus.



Honey Creek Conference Center