



2011 • #2

KAIROS OF GEORGIA NEWSLETTER

Kairos EDUCATION for Volunteers

By Lee Turner, International Council Representative
and Chairman, Communications Improvement Committee



As a result of our most recent Communications Improvement Survey, we discovered that many volunteers had ideas and comments about a lack of services that in fact were available. This is our first attempt at providing some clarity on those things that you asked for that already exist.

Teleconference capability would be helpful – KPMI already has the capability to offer teleconferencing. All you need to do is call or e-mail Ann Kreller (ann@kpmi.org or 800-298-2730) at the KPMI and request the teleconference. She will set it up and send the teleconference chairperson the dial-in information.

Websites – Many volunteers complained about the lack of Advisory Council websites. The technology continues to get easier and the costs continue to go down. Bring it up at your next Advisory Council meeting. In Georgia, it is free as an add-on site to the Kairos of Georgia website.

1-800 Number for KPMI – Several volunteers complained about the lack of a 1-800 number for KPMI. It is not published on the website, but it is

available: 1-800-298-2730 (this is the number on many of the promotional videos).

KPMI Newsletter Delivery Changes – Many volunteers requested that the newsletter come to them either specifically via e-mail or a link to the website version or delivered by US Mail. To have the Newsletter delivered via e-mail or a link to the website version, just go to the www.mykairos.org, click on Newsroom in the left hand column, then click on God's Special Time, and the current as well as past newsletters are there. For the Georgia Newsletter, go to the www.kairosgeorgia.org website, and click on **Newsletters**. To have the KPMI Newsletter delivered by US Mail, contact Janet Santiago at KPMI and she will add you to the database (800-298-2730). Likewise, if you no longer want the newsletter in the mail and want to save the postage, call Janet as well. For the Georgia Newsletter, Carol Crankshaw maintains that list and you can e-mail her to be added or deleted. (carolcrank@comcast.net)

Minutes of Meetings Posted on Websites – Not all volunteers can attend every meeting of a governing Kairos body. Assuming your Advisory Council has an active website, suggest that minutes be posted to the website for all volunteers to review. It is a great place to maintain a permanent backup of those kinds of documents without risk of losing them in the event the Secretary's computer decides to die. Kairos of Georgia Meeting Minutes are posted on the Forms and Downloads page.

Official Logos, DVDs and Professional Brochures for us to print and use to pass out or to setup at ministerial booths, for presentations – Use the Supply Ordering Form on the mykairos.org website (click on Kairos Supplies) and you can order DVDs and brochures. The materials are free, but they would appreciate a donation to cover shipping and printing costs. The official Kairos logos can be obtained for your use on websites and letterhead from the KPMI office. Just e-mail or call them.

EZRA for use by other Advisory Council positions – There is no reason that every elected person on an Advisory Council cannot have a copy of EZRA. According to the latest license agreement, we are not limited by how many copies of EZRA that an Advisory Council can make, but that a single copy of EZRA can only be used for one weekend. Make copies of the CD for everybody and then send them a BACKUP of the most current data. Then any Advisory Council leaders who need the database of their community have it. You can contact Mike Springer (springguy@juno.com) if you have any questions about EZRA and the license agreement.

Financial Accountability – “I think in the interest of financial transparency KPMI should publish at least annually, an accounting of income and expenses and make it available to every ad council.” The Financial documents detailing income and expenses is provided to your International Council representatives at the Summer and Winter

conferences. Ask them for it. Your IC Representative represents the interest of your state and should be held accountable to pass along the information received at conferences.

List of Kairos Outside e-mail addresses in one convenient place rather than having to search each state / international site – I am sure that Jo Chapman has that information, you just need to ask her.

Online Videos – YouTube has many if not all the videos produced for and about Kairos. The Kairos of Georgia website has a single page with as many of the videos as we can find. You certainly can embed the videos on your own Advisory Council website.

KPMI Websites – “Promoting the KPMI website to ALL volunteers. My guess is that few people know that KPMI now has 3 separate websites aimed at 3 different groups. People should know that.” Ask and you shall receive.

<http://www.kpmifoundation.org> – the website for the Kairos Foundation. The KPMI Foundation operates as a separate entity in support of the functionality and mission of Kairos Prison Ministry International. The Foundation takes on various projects and maintains a continuous attitude of seeking out financial support for the endeavors of the 30,000 plus volunteers of the ministry.

<http://www.kairosprisonministry.org> – This is the website that we hope that the non-Kairos public visits to learn more about the Kairos Prison Ministry and includes information about the ministry, the Board of Directors, quick links to various State Kairos websites, quick links for donating to Kairos, information about the various Kairos programs and testimonials about the effectiveness of Kairos.

<http://www.mykairos.org> – This is the website for resources and information for current volunteers and leaders already involved in the ministry and includes publications, downloads, and many of the resources that volunteers need in this ministry.

REPORT FROM CENTRAL SP

Central State Prison completed its Kairos weekend #6 April 7–10. It was an outstanding weekend with 30 participants, most of whom expressed renewed and/or deeper commitments in their faith. We witnessed the powerful work of Christ in the lives of these men. One Kairos team member expressed his thoughts by saying, “After being involved in Christian ministry for nearly 30 years, Kairos has to be the most fulfilling ministry I have ever been in. To be able to witness the work of the Holy Spirit as he moves upon the hearts of men, is something every Christian should experience.”

Victor Torres, the leader for this weekend did an outstanding job of leading the group as he ushered us into the presence of the Lord. When asked what the most challenging thing he faced as leader of Kairos #6 at Central State Prison was, he responded, “The clock!” When seeing men enjoying themselves in the Lord, it can sometimes be difficult to interrupt them, but knowing what God had in store for them made it a bit easier to stick to the schedule.

“Without question, the joy in the faces of the men as I could see restoration and transformation” is what Victor found to be the most rewarding. His decision to become the leader of this walk was based simply on obedience to God. As a committed member of the Kairos team, he is willing to do *whatever* God calls him to do. If he could redo this weekend, he would not change a thing. It was wonderful!

The Central State Kairos team is looking forward to weekend #7, to be held in October under the leadership of Ivey Jackson. The team is very excited to see the lives of the residents at Central State Prison changed, but are very quick to acknowledge that they are a very insignificant part of this ministry. Without the financial help and prayers of fellow Christians around the world, and without the power of the Holy Spirit, the ministry would be totally ineffective.

The Central State Kairos team would like to say thank you to all its friends who make it possible for them to be able to do this important and necessary ministry.

A mini-Report from the last State Committee meeting

DOC Chaplain Danny Horne started the meeting off on a very positive note. He supports Kairos 100% and wants to work closely with us to resolve any problems we may have. As a result, twelve people volunteered to serve on a committee to come up with ideas and solutions to badge training and paperwork problems.

Roger Jones presented the new excellence initiative, which replaces the observer program. This is a tool to help advisory councils, the state committees and KPML to measure where we are and what we need to do to improve as a ministry. A copy can be found on the website.

John Lowery spoke to us about new ways to help Kairos of Georgia raise money. He also formed a committee to work on website donations.

Lisa Calhoun reported on a new start up Torch in Atlanta at Metro RYDC. Their first weekend has been scheduled for November 4th – 6th.

Jim Miller spoke about the six prisons that are requesting Kairos. The team and advisory council from D. Ray James are going to move to Smith SP and will begin reunions this month.

Chairman Beth spoke about a presentation guide that makes it easy for anyone to present the Kairos story to large or small groups. It is available on the website.

When God Opens the Door

By Beth Maycumber
Chairman, Kairos of Georgia

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.

Kairos Prison Ministry was launched in Georgia in 1986 at Stone Mountain Prison and God has been opening prison doors here ever since. Twenty five years later Kairos is active in twenty five prisons throughout the state. As you can see by the map on the next page, we have had requests for Kairos from chaplains and wardens in five more institutions.

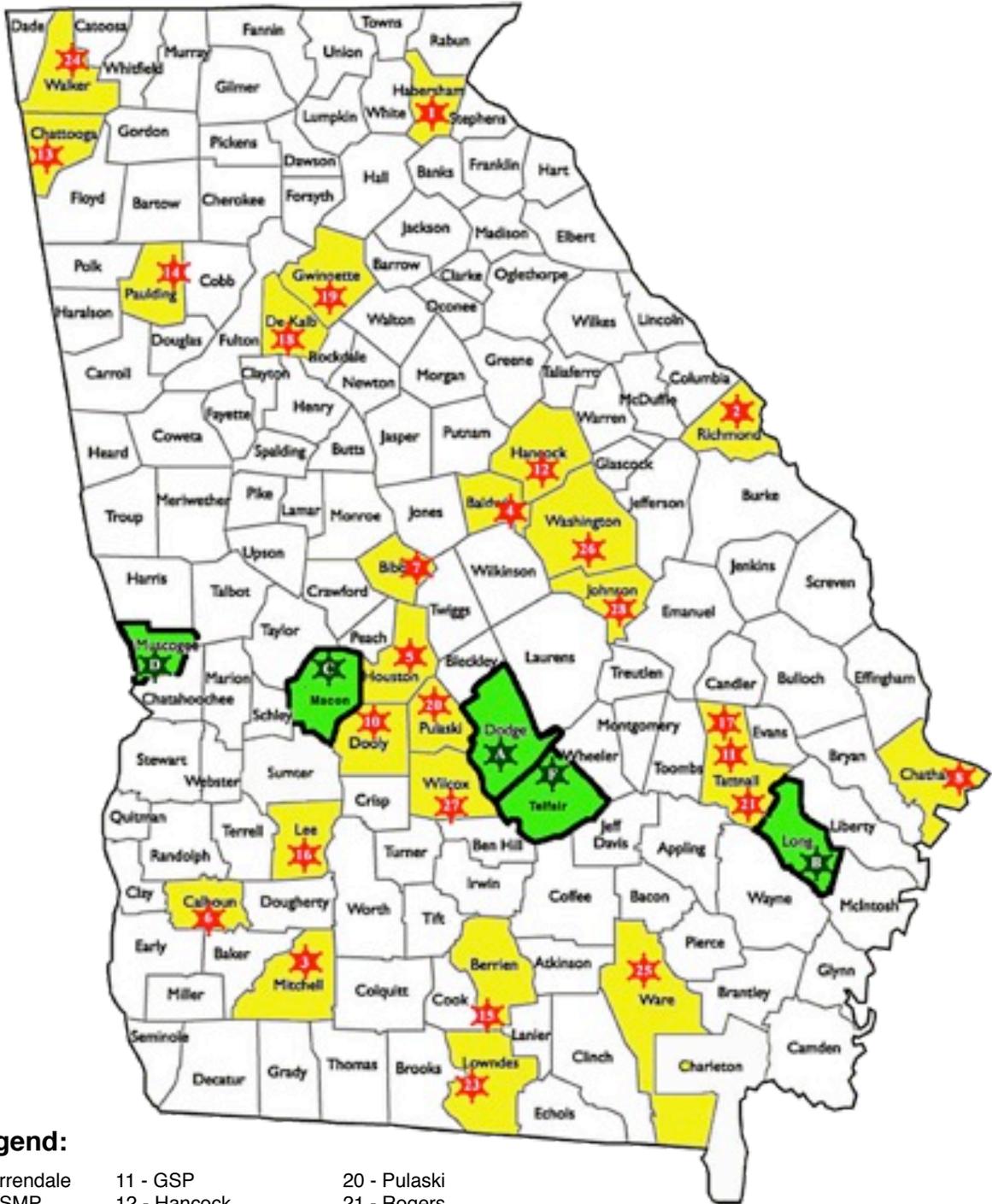
Also in those twenty five years two Kairos Outside communities were formed. Kairos Outside is a weekend for women that have loved ones incarcerated. Interest has been expressed to start a third KO community in Georgia.

This year Kairos Torch will be launched at Metro RYDC in Atlanta, GA. An agreement has been signed with this institution and a date of November 4th has been set for the first Torch weekend there. Torch is a mentoring program for youth offenders twenty five years old and younger and has been a very successful program in many states. There is interest in starting Torch in several other youth detention centers in Georgia.

When God opened the doors and thousands of Kairos volunteers stepped through, hundreds of thousands of incarcerated men, women and their loved ones had their lives touched by God.

Kairos Of Georgia Ministry Reference Map

Locations are general. Please refer to the Georgia Department of Corrections website for institution address.



Legend:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 - Arrendale | 21 - Rogers |
| 2 - ASMP | 22 - Valdosta/Valdosta Annex |
| 3 - Autry | 23 - Walker |
| 4 - Baldwin | 24 - Ware |
| 5 - Burruss | 25 - Washington |
| 6 - Calhoun | 26 - Wilcox |
| 7 - Central | |
| 8 - Coastal | |
| 10 - Dooly | |
| 11 - Arrendale | 20 - Pulaski |
| 12 - Hancock | |
| 13 - Hays/Hays Annex | |
| 14 - KO North Georgia | |
| 15 - KO South Georgia | |
| 16 - Lee | |
| 17 - Smith | |
| 18 - Metro YDC | |
| 19 - Phillips | |

Kairos Requested at:
 A - Dodge
 B - Long
 C - Macon
 D - Rutledge
 F - Telfair

HE IS IN CONTROL

Helga Ramirez

As human beings we like to think and believe that we are in control of things that happen in our lives. But the fact is there are many things that are beyond our control. You and I cannot control everything that happens. The good news is that God is still in control of this world.

1 Chronicles 29:11 "Everything in the heavens and the earth is Yours, O Lord. We adore You as being in control of everything."

God allowed Metro State Prison to close, and I am sure with a purpose and a plan. We're not going through just random acts of events that happen in life. There is a grand design. There is a purpose. There is a plan. And God is in control of history. God is in control of his-story.

Therefore we need to walk in faith that whatever happens in our lives God can and will use it for our eternal good.

We made great plans for Kairos #12 at Metro State Prison, but the Lord will do what he has decided.

Proverbs 19:21 "Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."

Meanwhile we: **PRAY HARD, WORK HARD and TRUST GOD**

It doesn't matter if you're swinging a hammer, or crunching numbers on a keyboard, or working long days and long hours creating the weekend schedule in EZRA; since one cannot download the previous schedule into Ezra because of the new Red Manual. It doesn't matter if you worked long and hard getting the hotel setup, making hundreds of copies for the team meeting books, the observing and leader's books, the kitchen book,

the chapel guide, the name tags, the name labels for the team books, the letters, the directions to the church, answering hundreds of emails, long hours praying who God wanted where, and finally putting together God's team of 59 terrific ladies.

The good news is that the labor in our day doesn't define us; rather, it's *how* we labor through our day that defines us. When we, through our prayer and study, strive to be of the character that Christ gave us through example (1st Peter 2:21), no matter the circumstance (Philippians 1:27), we define ourselves as living proof of God's rest for a weary world. Now, instead of depleting our physical, emotional, and spiritual reserves, we deposit in ourselves strength, perseverance, faith, hope, and love, all from God's promises. Again, the key is not to let hard work define us; rather, through the sweat of our brow, we should paint our own portrait, which is nothing less than a masterpiece of God's work in our lives.

It was with great sadness that I received the news of Kairos #12 at Metro State Prison being cancelled due to the prison closing, but I knew that God has a plan and all that work was not in vain. I later found out that all the material that was prepared will be used at a Kairos #1 in the fall for one of the men's prison in Georgia.

The Lord had called me to serve Him as the leader for Kairos #12 at Metro State Prison in the spring of 2011.

Now the Lord has called me to serve Him as the leader for Kairos #12 at Lee Arrandale State Prison in the spring of 2012.

He is in control, and His plans do not change.

KAIROS VS EMMAUS

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

The credit (or blame) for this goes to Lee Turner

Kairos	Emmaus
It's called a "weekend"	It's called a "Walk"
Participants or Residents	Pilgrims
Clergy at the Participants table	Clergy at a separate table
Agape limited by institutions	Agape looks like a garage sale
Only letters from the team	Letters from family and friends
Participants do not pay	Everybody pays
Metal detectors at the doors	No strip searches
Forgiveness Ceremony	Dying Moments
No Serenade	Candlelight
Weekend Leader (Rector is so 80's)	Lay Director
Purpose: Establish strong Christian communities among the population of correctional institutions.	Purpose: A spiritual renewal program to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders.
No Skits	Skits
No Communion	Daily Communion
No film	"THE" Film
Team leaves in the evening	Team stays the entire weekend with Pilgrims
Everybody gets a Manual	The Manual is just for the Leadership
No playing the "Name Game"	Open season on people that can't remember how to introduce themselves
Positive affirmation during poster parties, no matter what	Brutal criticism (from the back table) for poor artwork on posters
Criminal Background Checks and as many as 11 DOC forms	1 Page Application
Burn the Forgiveness List	Bonfire!
Zoom-zooms and Wham-whams	Candy Jars
Theme is Listen, Listen...Love, Love.	Theme is God's Grace
Participants need no background in Christianity	Pilgrims are expected to have a basic knowledge of who Christ is.
Not directed by a specific church,(KPMI, Inc.)	A Ministry of The United Methodist Church
No particular theme song	De Colores
count	no count
Leader gets his reward in Heaven	Leader gets the brass cross at Closing
Only Participants wear cross at closing	Most community members wear cross at closing



Atlanta Torch at Metro Youth Detention Center

Torch is an introductory two-day program for youth ages 24 and under who live in juvenile detention or correctional facilities. The weekend is a combined effort of an ecumenical, Torch Team to introduce young men and women to Christian concepts as a means of making better choices for their lives. The initial weekend is followed with an established mentoring program that involves one on one mentoring sessions for up to six months.

The Torch program is designed to encourage the participants to remove their masks and develop a mature means of making better choices thus building their self-esteem. Making better choices will give the participant a hope for a life not affiliated with gangs and crime.

There will be an introductory meeting for anyone interested in serving on a Torch Team Saturday, June 11, 2011 from 11:00AM to 1:00PM at Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 888 Zion Circle, Marietta, GA 30075. We still need a few good men. If you are interested in attending this meeting, and learning how you can help change the direction of a troubled youth, please contact Lajauna at lajauna@bellsouth.net

Newsletter Editorial offices: 5 Althea Pky, Savannah, GA 31405. email: kairos.news@comcast.net Walt Kessel, Editor. Newsletter Coordinator, Lajuana Ellis. Kairos of Georgia is a chapter of Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. a non-profit organization located at 140 N. Orlando Ave., Suite 180, Winter Park, FL 32789-3860.

TO:

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*Amen, I say to you, whatever you
did for one of these least brothers
of mine, you did for me.
Matthew 25:40*

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Carol Crankshaw
102 Ashley Marsh Drive
Brunswick, GA 31523