



2011 • No. 3

KAIROS OF GEORGIA NEWSLETTER

Kairos Summer Conference 2011 Manchester, NH

By Beth Maycumber

Kairos of Georgia was well represented at the Summer Conference in New Hampshire this year, the first week of August. We had representation from our two IC reps, Lee Turner and Alice Dickerson; the State Chair (that's me); Kairos Inside, Mike Nix; Kairos Outside, Joyce McElroy; and Torch, Lisa Calhoun. We were able to cover almost every workshop and committee meeting that was offered. We will each have a full report to present to the State Committee, but until then we have outlined the highlights of our trip in this newsletter.

For me, it is the wonder of seeing hundreds of volunteers who give of their time, money and talents to serve God in Kairos. First there are the twelve people on staff at the Kairos International office who work diligently to see that the needs of the 20,000+ volunteers worldwide are fulfilled.

Then there are the representatives on the International Council. These volunteers represent the State Chapter Committee of their respective states at the KPMI, Inc., International Council meetings. They then present full oral and written reports of all deliberations of the International Council back to the state committee. As volunteers on the IC, they also serve on various subcommittees

that review policies and procedures of the ministry and make recommendations for improvement to the International Board of Directors. These are the people you need to see if you have ideas for improving what we do or how we do it.

The International Board of Directors, also volunteers, are charged with making and changing policy. They meet weekly by phone conference and then in person at summer and winter conference. This is the body of governance for our ministry.

So that you can have a glimpse of things to come, I would like to share a few of the new and exciting things that have come from the workings of these servants:

- ✓ The Kairos 40 Days of Peace Initiative
- ✓ A partnership between Kairos and the YMCA
- ✓ An aftercare program for Kairos graduates
- ✓ A new and improved prayer and share format

These are just a few of many projects that are being developed at KPMI, Inc., a ministry evidently being run by God. Just look around and you will see Him serving on the Board, the International Council, the State Committee, the Advisory Council, and in prisons throughout the world. May God continue to bless our Kairos and everyone involved!

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Summer Conference 2011



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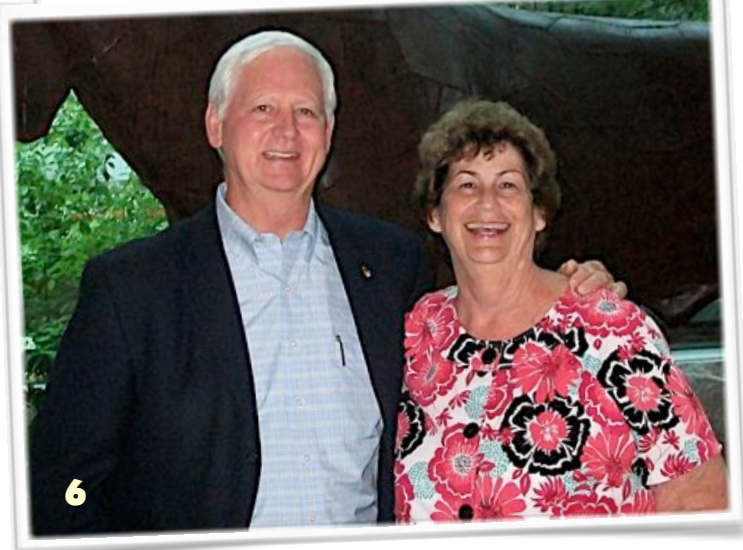
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Left to Right: (1) Jim Miller, Jim Hankins, Ed Keefer, & Chuck Chahanovich; (2) Beth Maycumber, Joyce McElroy, Lee Turner, Alice Dickerson; (3) Lisa Calhoun, Beth Maycumber, Joyce McElroy, Alice Dickerson, Unknown; (4) Joyce Brophy, Lee Turner; (5) Beth Maycumber, Alice Dickerson, Lisa Calhoun (6) Mike Nix, Beth Maycumber.

The Future is Bright

By Lee Turner
International Council Rep for Georgia

I have never been more encouraged about the future of this ministry than I was at the 2011 Summer Conference in Manchester, NH. There were several very tangible things that caused me to feel this way and I hope to share that same encouragement with you. First of all, the Kairos Foundation, our fundraising arm of the ministry is slowly getting organized and prepared to begin the monumental task of raising money for the ministry and relieving the grass roots volunteers of some of that work. In order to do that, we must be able to prove that as a ministry, we are being good stewards of the financial resources. Although not completely concluded, Brett Beemer, the CFO of KPMI told us that we HAVE received an unqualified audit. This means we can file the necessary tax returns that large donors expect. This is huge for the ministry.

I also saw a climate change in the way we look at the various levels of the ministry. There has always been an underlying “them and us” relationship between the grass roots and the upper levels of the ministry (you know, that group of folks we call KPMI). Ed Keefer, Chairman of the Board of Directors said it best, and I saw several examples that supported his assertion that WE are KPMI. It is the Board that makes policy, not the staff in Orlando, it is the International Council that sets procedures, not the staff in Orlando. In a meeting to begin the process of revising the Advisory Council Operating procedures (ACOP) and the State Chapter Committee Operating Procedures (SCCOP), the

question was asked of those participating, “What level of the ministry do you serve in?” It was amazing to see that we had Board Members serving on Advisory Councils, International Council members serving on Advisory Council and all were actively serving on teams. Who is KPMI? WE ARE!

I was also very encouraged by the growth of the ministry and the eagerness with which other agencies and ministries want to be part of what we are doing. From Kit Cummings and the Hays State Prison Project called The 40 Days of Peace, which going forward, will be called the Kairos 40 Days of Peace; to the YMCA Alliance which may begin to open doors for our Kairos Outside weekends to use YMCA camps; to partnerships with agencies providing aftercare services; to the simple mathematics of growth in the ministry — new states forming State Chapter Committee, new Kairos communities forming and planning for their first weekends. This ministry has a bright future because of dedicated volunteers at ALL levels.

So what did I bring back?

1. An active Advisory Council is not only vital to the success of weekends, but to the ministry as well. From EZRA to Donor, from Recruiting to fundraising, the Advisory Council is a critical component to this ministry as a whole, not just for weekend success, but success as a ministry.

2. If you are reading this, you have the power to make policy changes in this ministry that benefit and strengthen the entire ministry. The “them vs us”

attitude is rapidly disappearing. We are KPML!

3. Those that the State Chapter Committee sent to NH represented our State very well. We are active, compliant, energetic and productive. Be encouraged by that.

So what does the future hold?

1. The State Chapter Committee Chairman's Orientation Guide should be finalized within a week or so. This document and others like it will make it easier to understand our jobs and more likely that more will want to become involved at levels of the ministry other than just serving on weekends. This ministry needs that level of commitment.

2. The Advisory Council Operating Procedures are being revised and there is every indication that

they will be more accurate, more brief and clearer.

3. The State Chapter Committee Operating Procedures are also being revised to reflect a common-sense approach to governance at the State Chapter Committee level.

4. At all levels of the International Committee, volunteers like yourself are working very hard to improve the ministry. This is not the old way of governance that we saw in the past, but leadership from the communities making a difference.

5. Our new motto, adopted by the Board of Directors pretty well sums up the future direction of the ministry, Changing Hearts - Transforming Lives - Impacting the World.

Be blessed as you continue to serve.

3 THOUGHTS

By Alice Dickerson
International Council Rep for Georgia

Do you ever pray for the leader of the weekend, or for your Advisory Council? Pat Rice recommends we ALL pray for the leaders & Advisory Councils. This helps build unity within the councils. She also recommends every council meeting should begin with 1 hour of a Spiritual exercise. This helps build us spiritually & mentally. We are to focus on Jesus Christ to build a Spiritual Council. Her quote is "If Christ would not have wanted us to build the church; he would not have had Peter build the Church. Christ commissioned us all to build each other up." Each one of us should be in a prayer & share group. This will help us bring new members into the teams.

Pat Rice is an Advisory Council trainer with KPML. She also recommends each council

have a weekend retreat for the old Council members to train the new members in their duties. She also states "if we are being obedient to the ministry, we will adhere to the 3 on 1 off rule or 2 on 1 off for KO.

I attended the KO Ezra workshop. I was pleasantly surprised to learn that Ezra has the capability to pass off an Observing Leader #1CD, the OL#1 enters the guest information, and then sends the CD back to the Leader. After the Leader has submitted her report, the Leader copies a disk for the upcoming leader. Mike Springer recommends using one's personal computer and pass the information to the next leader thru a CD or jump drive.

Confidentiality:

I don't know if there is a rule

in KI, but KO has one saying "What you hear here, what you say here, what you see here, when you leave here, let it stay *here*." This is what allows us to be who we are! If the team can not trust you, how can the guest/residents trust you? This should also be carried over to the council meetings. This helps build trust within the council. Anything that is shared is not to be repeated. Each one of us has a story to tell. Let that story be your story, not someone else telling your story. If you were sitting in the chair as a resident, would you want your story told? Old things are gone and new relationships are being built as we minister to those who are thrown into the world of incarceration.

Highlights of Summer Conference

By Mike Nix
Kairos Inside

There are many things I could mention as being highlights but will mention only a couple.

First is the obvious. God is working in the Kairos Ministry throughout the world. It is amazing how common the thread is between the Kairos ministries throughout. Same complaints, same praises, same people, they just talk funny. God is so involved and working in this ministry through people who otherwise could never accomplish the ministry goals without His intervention. It is only natural for me to think "I" am doing all of this great work, and perhaps that is how God motivates me. After all, He created me. He should know the buttons to push. The Summer KPMI Conference was attended by a lot of "I"s doing God's work. Seriously, we all know who will claim the victory at the end. This "I" is very proud and humbled to be just one small instrument in His bag of many instruments at His disposal. May I always be conscious of Him and be guided by Him in all things.

Second, KPMI Conference is an event I wish everyone could attend. To convey the magnitude of

the power of God in this ministry is something beyond my talent with words.

I had the privilege of sharing a room with Mike Springer during the conference. Just on the outside chance you have not heard of Mike Springer, he developed (and continues to) the "Kairos Donor" and the "Ezra" software programs.

Although he was constantly on the move doing what Mike does, I did get to hear the story of how God moved in Mike's life to enable him to provide the Kairos Ministry these valuable tools.

As the Kairos Prison Ministry is blessed and continues to grow, these tools are going to be more important to each local ministry. For those who like numbers, I heard from reliable sources, to purchase this software on the open market it would exceed \$250,000.00 dollars. Mike did not tell me that, he never would. I am telling you because everyone should understand how God is working at putting the Mike Springers in places where He wants them to be. If we do not use these, and other tools developed to make Kairos a better ministry, are we being obedient to God?

I have heard some say the Kairos Leadership is too concerned about the "letter" and not enough about the Spirit. I want to meet the person who is connected well enough to know the difference? I for one have the opinion that the Spirit can take care of Himself. He does not require anything of me, but commands me to follow the directions written in the RED Kairos Program Manual. Beyond that, He does not require any further assistance from me.

Georgia representation at the 2011 Summer Conference



Beth Maycumber, State Chapter Committee Chairperson
Jim Miller, Board of Directors
Lee Turner, International Council Rep
Alice Dickerson, International Council Rep
Mike Nix, Kairos Inside Sub-Committee Rep
Joyce McElroy, Kairos Outside Sub-Committee Rep
Lisa Calhoun, Torch Sub-Committee Rep

Front Row at a Miracle

By Kit Cummings

Two years ago I began to visit a place called Hays State Prison in Northwest Georgia. Hays is a level 5 maximum security prison, and over the last couple of years it has gotten more and more dangerous and the security level has only increased. I began going up once a month with a prison ministry called Kairos, and we now have 10 members of AMCC involved in that ministry. I was asked if I could start a Bible study in the chapel, and then we took it into the Faith and Character Based dorm (before that time, they rarely if ever allowed volunteers to teach inside the dorms because of security concerns). Since then we have met almost every week and that group of men has changed my life.

Seven of those men have set themselves apart. They study their bibles and pray together. They share their faith with other inmates, and they hold each other accountable — they ARE their brother's keepers. They walk like Jesus in a place where that can get you killed. They have a dangerous faith and



they are a unified band of brothers. I've seen them grow, repent, and take stands based on convictions that only come from true faith. Several months ago I started to request a potential baptism date,

and all we could do was pray. This is a place where everything is structured and procedures and policies are rarely changed. The last few wardens would not allow baptisms, but the one who is there now has changed his mind— he is a good man who cares about the inmates, and he and I have developed a good working relationship. I am so excited to report that on June 1st we baptized "The Seven" into Christ!



The chaplain asked me and Gary Burke if we would assist, and after their immersion we had a special service that night where they took their first communion, sang songs and we preached the word! I wish you could have seen their joy, gratitude and tears, as they received the goal of their faith— the salvation of their souls. These men have proven and tested their faith

over the last couple of years that I have known them and now they have been “set free.” I just wish you all could meet them— they are some of my best friends and you would be so proud to call them Brothers (most of them are doing life sentences).

Recently we have started a “Peace Movement” at Hays where men are choosing to live by the principles of Matthew 5: Love your enemies and turn the other cheek. Some said that was impossible there— I say that anything is possible with God. Every Friday we meet at a round table discussion with the most powerful, rival gang members and leaders in the camp, and we discuss and negotiate peace, which is so desperately needed at Hays. The administration has appointed me to lead and mediate that group. Last Friday it was decided that Gary Burke and I will begin teaching in ALL the dorms. God is up to something. This “Prison Peace Initiative” has been adopted by Kairos and is being taken to over 300 prisons across the country! It is

amazing what a small band of brothers, that the world has forgotten, can bring about if they only trust in God.

For now, please pray for “The Seven”: Big Mo, Batman, Small, Duno, Mazetti, Toot and Andre (I have used their nicknames to protect them and others). They live in a very dangerous environment, and they stand out because of their faith. Many men at Hays do not want peace to come there, and sometimes these men can become targets because of their strong convictions. They are so encouraged to know that they now belong to God’s true Church in the “free world” and that they no longer are bound by the worldly rules of the “chain gang.” Maybe one day you’ll meet them on the outside – but we know that you will meet them some day on the other side! Until then, we will meet with our new little “church planting” weekly and God willing, watch them multiply.

To God be ALL the glory for this amazing miracle.

Scratching and Clawing to the 21ST Century

By Lee Turner

Kairos of Georgia is now setup to receive donations electronically. So how does this affect donors as well as volunteers? Well first, this allows us to accept credit card donations as well as PayPal transfers or electronic transfers from your bank account to the Kairos bank account (if you have your PayPal account tied to your bank account). Second, it streamlines the process, especially for those communities that may be struggling with KairosDonor software or staffing a Financial Secretary. Just send them to the Kairos of Georgia website. Click on Donate Now, then click on the PayPal “Donate” button. You can specify that your team contribution or donation be credited to a specific Advisory Council. When you get to the screen that says “Please review your donation,” click on “Add special instructions to the seller” and put the name of the Advisory Council/ Institution that you want to receive credit for the donation...simple as that. Please include your mailing address so that we can comply with the IRS requirements to send a Donation Acknowledgement Letter for your tax return as all donations are tax deductible contributions . If you have any questions, e-mail Lee Turner (lee.turner@kairosgeorgia.org)

Kairos of Georgia Conference & Retreat

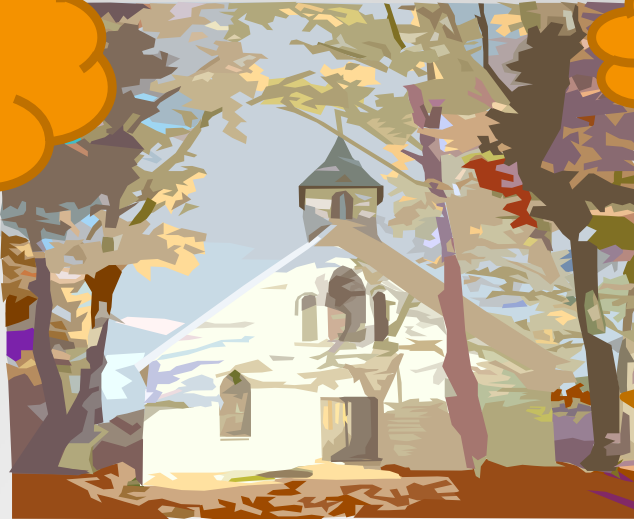
You are cordially invited to attend the first Kairos
of Georgia Conference and Retreat

Workshops

Banquet

Music

Fun



Keynote
Speakers

Door
Prizes

Christian
Fellowship

Friday October 28 beginning at 6:00pm ending Saturday the 29th at noon. Central Georgia Convention Center located at 480 Holiday Circle, Forsyth, GA 31029. Overnight accommodations at the Ramada Inn next door. Bring your spouse. Bring a guest. Invite new and potential volunteers. There will be something for everyone!

For more information and to register go to
kairosofgeorgia.org.



Kairos of Georgia Conference & Retreat
October 28 – 29, 2011
Central Georgia Convention Center
Forsyth, GA

Last Name _____ First Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Telephone _____ Email Address _____
 Roommate _____

Please check 4 workshops you would like to attend:

<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Financial (Donor)	<input type="checkbox"/> Why we do what we do
<input type="checkbox"/> Clergy	<input type="checkbox"/> Ezra	<input type="checkbox"/> Reunions, retreats, prayer&share
<input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising	<input type="checkbox"/> Advisory Councils	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Ministry Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Kairos Outside
<input type="checkbox"/> New Volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/> Riverbanks	<input type="checkbox"/> Torch

Fee includes meals, lodging, conference fees and materials

\$85 per person - double occupancy

\$110 per person - single occupancy

\$40 per person – commuter, includes dinner Friday and conference fees

Payment Information: Payment is due no later than October 10, 2011

Please review the attached IRS Guidelines on the deductibility of this expense. ★

Use Paypal on the kairosgeorgia.org website, and email form to bethemay@bellsouth.net
OR

Send registration form along with a check or money order payable to:

Kairos Prison Ministry International

PO Box 2191,

Villa Rica, GA 30180

Please email bethemay@bellsouth.net for additional information or to register by phone.

678-234-3359

Special

Needs: _____

(Such as handicap accessible room, vegetarian meals, etc.)

★ http://www.kairosgeorgia.org/downloads/2011_Retreat_IRSInfo.pdf

Am I Enough?

by Sister Pat Thompson, RSM

Think of the times you have asked yourself: Am I enough? Am I important? Am I valued? Am I cherished and remembered? Do I matter? Do I measure up? Do I count?

Remember when you wondered if you would be picked for a sports team? Do you remember waiting to be asked to go to a school dance? Remember wondering if anyone cared about what you thought or felt? Remember worrying about a job performance evaluation? Remember worrying about a job interview? Remember how you felt when you moved to new surroundings? Remember ever feeling alone, afraid, upset, discontent, uneasy, uncertain, inadequate, judged, incomplete, and sad?

Getting in touch with these memories and feelings will help any volunteer to be in tune with what our residents feel and think most of the time. Most of us, inside and outside, yearn to be accepted for who we are as we are. I remember so well the first Kairos team formation session I attended years ago. We were asked to share when we feel imprisoned and what keeps us from being free? I am still challenged by that question. Jesus came to set us free. We are meant to be free no matter what our circumstances, and yet, we

often allow ourselves to be anything but free.

The power of Kairos is in our ability to Listen! Listen! Love! Love! Every resident and team member we meet yearns to know that he/she counts, that he/she is important, that he/she does matter. Brennan Manning in his book, *Abba's Child*, writes: "Though God does not condone or sanction evil, He does not withhold His love because there is evil in us." He goes on to write that our core identity is being God's beloved child, and "we give glory to God simply by being ourselves." We must through our listening and loving communicate this to one another. When our brokenness is owned and healed by God's amazing grace, we are free. We need to be anchored in our personal sense of being God's beloved. That, in turn, allows the residents to dare to believe they are enough just for being who they are, God's beloved child. There is absolutely nothing any of us can do to make God turn away from us. That truth must be anchored in us as well as in the residents. Is it?

And, what if God were to ask us if He is enough for us? Would our words and actions say a resounding yes? Reflect on these words. Hear God speaking to you.

Am I enough for You?

I created your soul.

I AM your soul's breath.

I am you as Light,

I you enflesh.

Am I enough . . . am I enough for you?

Am I enough, am I enough for you?

Your soul seared with My Fire,

Your soul's sound My desire.

You and I lost in one embrace,

Two are One inside holy space.

Am I enough for you?

Am I enough . . . am I enough for you?

Am I enough, am I enough for you?

Each breath remember I give My life to you.

Each breath remember Who I AM in you.

Each breath remember our Spirit's flow.

Each breath remember the rapturous flow.

Am I enough for you?

Am I enough . . . am I enough for you?

Am I enough, am I enough for you?

As we remember these feelings and thoughts, as we ask ourselves these questions, as we are with our Kairos sisters and brothers inside and outside our institutions, and as we hear God's questions, may we answer with a resounding "YES" and may our answer shape our words and actions... I am enough! You are enough!

God's peace be with us in all that we say and do, no matter what the circumstances, no matter what the challenges, no matter what the pain or sorrow or joy.

Last Word on the Conference

By Lisa Calhoun
Kairos Torch

There are many things I can write about my first experience at the KPML conference but I will limit my comments to three areas.

God has truly blessed our state with committed, faithful and fun leadership. I was blessed to get to know better Beth Maycumber, Mike Nix, Lee Turner, Alice Dickerson and Joyce McElroy. We had an opportunity to share about the vision for GA Kairos programs and enjoy being in each other's presence. Since I really didn't know them well, I sat with the Georgia Gang at most of the events, when they suggested that we sit with people we didn't know. I did what they requested!

I'm always amazed by how God manifests His miracles through the various Kairos programs. Thursday night's dinner highlighted some the activities at a Kairos Outside weekend. Testimonies were shared by a whole family (husband, wife and two daughters) that had been impacted by the love of the New Hampshire Kairos Inside for husband and Outside team. Each person who shared their testimony said they didn't want to attend, but once there, they felt the power of God's love and miracles happened. I'm glad that God has led me to be a part of this ministry where God's love and presence are manifested in simple things like greetings, letters and cookies.

There were numerous workshops to attend where some focused on specific programs or were open to all programs. I attended the following workshops and have summarized ONE take away from each:

Caring for the soul: As leaders, we must learn to take care of our spiritual lives as we minister to others:

The Male Factor: Males are needed to help both men and women become all that God has called them to be in life

FREE: Released inmates needed aftercare programs to help make a successful transition to the free world because it only takes 6 months to become institutionalized.

Diversity of Worship styles: We all need to learn how to worship our God with different styles of music to be effective in our ministry.

Kairos and the YMCA: The YMCA is a great organization to be affiliated with to do camps, weekends, Torch and Outside programs.

Before, during and after – more than just a weekend: We need to help keep the fire burning in both the volunteers and participants after a weekend, because it's more than the weekend.

These workshops were only a small sample of what was available to conference participants. I have great expectations about the Winter Conference.



At the Kairos Summer Conference:
 Stephanie Gibson speaks of YMCA Alliance with Kairos Outside and Lee Turner & Alice Dickerson goof off.

Newsletter Editorial offices: 5 Althea Pky, Savannah, GA 31405. email: kairos.news@comcast.net Walt Kessel, Editor. Newsletter Coordinator, Lajauna 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.



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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

Carol Crankshaw
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