



2012 • No. 2

## KAIROS OF GEORGIA NEWSLETTER

I'm still on the mountaintop after serving on a woman's Kairos Inside weekend. I have been serving in Kairos over twenty years and it has yet to get old. The miracles God performs on these weekends continue to leave me in awe and wonder. In fact, it seems to me that it is in prison that God reveals himself in the mightiest of ways. It is in prison that I behold his majesty, his glory, and his love in ways that I don't experience anywhere else.

On Kairos #12 at Lee Arrendale, you could almost see him gently holding each participant as they learned of his unconditional love and forgiveness for them. He revealed himself to them in the talks that were presented, in the quiet listening of the volunteers, and in the love that was being poured out through his faithful servants. His love was obvious in the prayer chain and in the agape that hung on the walls. It broke through barriers when they read the love letters that were written to them.

Forgiveness flowed freely throughout the weekend and the participants accepted it without hesitation. They were able to forgive and be forgiven. There was a calm and gentle

spirit that flowed through the room and allowed the residents to drink in all that God was offering them.

### Remembering God

By Beth Maycumber  
Chairman, Kairos of Georgia



On Sunday morning, when the residents entered the gym where we were conducting the weekend, they were all commenting on the rainbow that was shining brightly over the gym as they entered. No one can convince me that it was anything other than God giving those ladies a visible wink and a nod.

I watch in amazement, time and time again, as God transforms the lives of those incarcerated individuals and I can't help but notice my own life being transformed. He continues to shape and mold me, and draw me closer to him every time I go into prison.

Now I must ease back into my everyday life, but I want to remember God as I saw him on that weekend. I want to remember that it is God who is in control, God who created the earth, God who changed my life, God who loves my enemies, God who died on that cross for my sins. I want to take him with me everywhere I go. I want to be a reflection of his love and do everything in remembrance of what he did for me.

# INTERNATIONAL REPORT

Alice Dickerson

International Council Representative #2

Several years ago, I was elected to be a representative to the International Council (IC). When I attended the 2010 Winter Business meeting in Orlando, I attended the Programs Evaluation committee meeting. This Programs Evaluation Committee was made up of Kairos Team members, AKT Trainers, previous AC Chairpersons & previous Kairos State Chairpersons.

As you can see, the group came from different positions in the Kairos Ministry. We discussed why a Programs Evaluation committee would be needed. It was the consensus of the group that a weekend needed to be measured by the manual. We knocked around the idea that we would set up a Path to Excellence.

This path would not only help the Advisory Councils identify the strengths & weakness of a Kairos Weekend, but also would help the next weekend Leader know what went right and /or wrong in order to stay within the guidelines/riverbanks according to the Manual.

This Excellence Initiative also helps the AKT trainers know what needs to be taught to the upcoming leaders. The Excellence Initiative is a great tool to help the next leader have a successful weekend, not only for the Residents, but also to take the stress off the team in preparation for the weekend.

I know completing the Excellence Initiative has been a challenge for some to complete, but if you see it as a tool for future weekends, the job is more meaningful.

Les Keeler from California has developed a computer program to help the State Chairman complete the Excellence Initiative, but he/she would need your input first. This will give KPMI feedback of what works, what needs to be restructured in AKT, and how we can impact the resident's lives in the future. Hopefully, by the end of the year, Kairos Outside will have the same software for their weekends.

Kairos Torch will be having a new manual soon. The Ministry Coordination committee will be sending a draft out to be voted on at the upcoming conference.

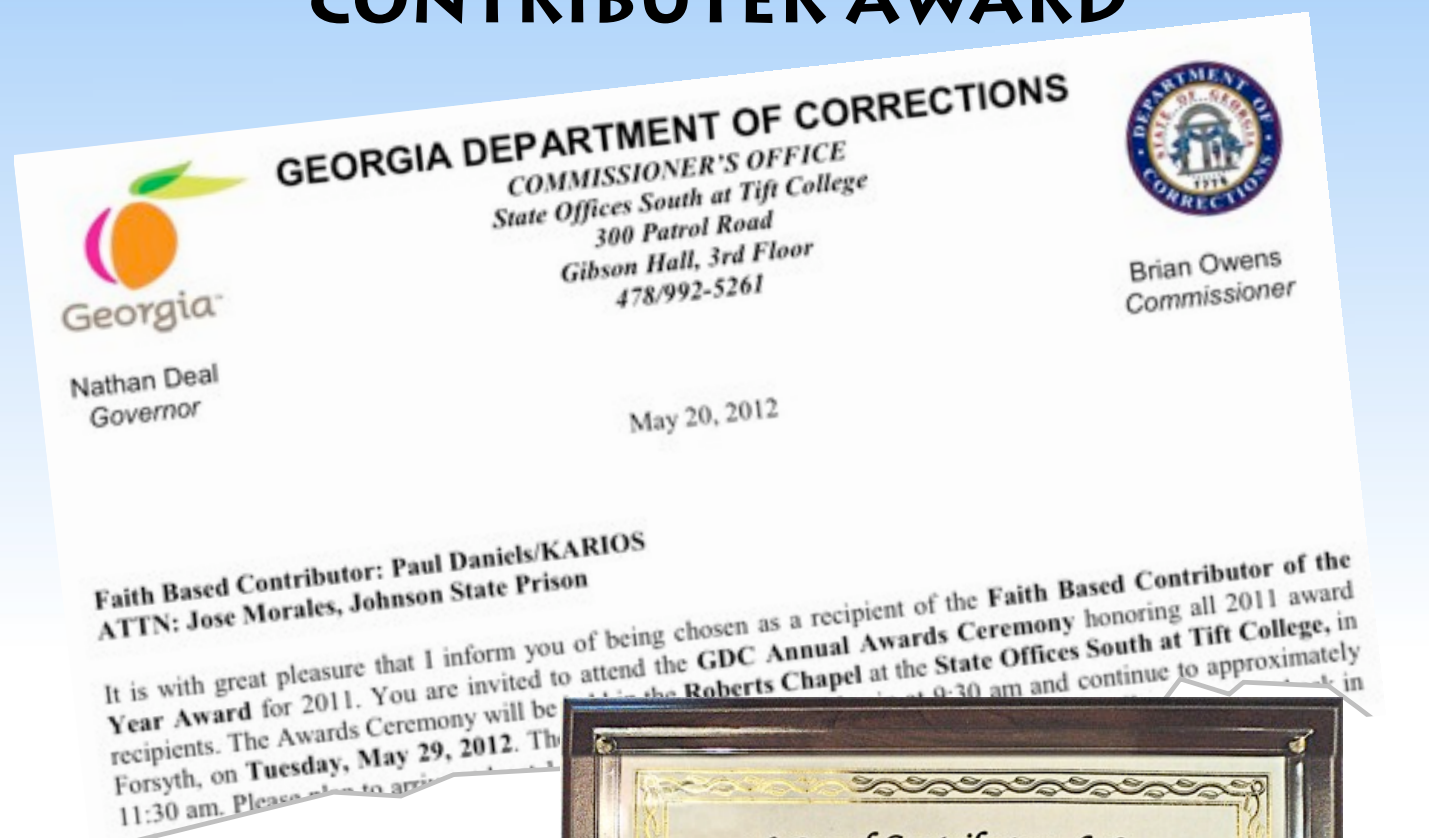
Tom Kemner has been selected by the Board as Interim CEO for KPMI. I believe Tom will be an inspiration to the Kairos Community. I look forward to hearing Tom's vision for our ministry.

"The mission of the Kairos Prison Ministry is to share the transforming love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to impact the hearts and lives of incarcerated men, women and youth, as well as their families, to become loving and productive citizens of their communities."

Now that I have been attending the International Conferences "I see" as an IC representative, it is a very responsible position where we are comparable to Legislatures, making policies for Kairos.

Kairos has been impacting men & women's lives in Georgia for more than twenty five years now. Thank you, to all, for being a faithful servant for Jesus Christ.

# PAUL DANIELS WINS DOC FAITH BASED CONTRIBUTER AWARD



Forsyth - The Department of Corrections named Paul Daniels of Johnson State Prison as Faith Based Contributor of the Year at the Eighth Annual GDC Awards ceremony on Tuesday, May 29, 2012 at State Offices South at Tift College in Forsyth, Georgia.

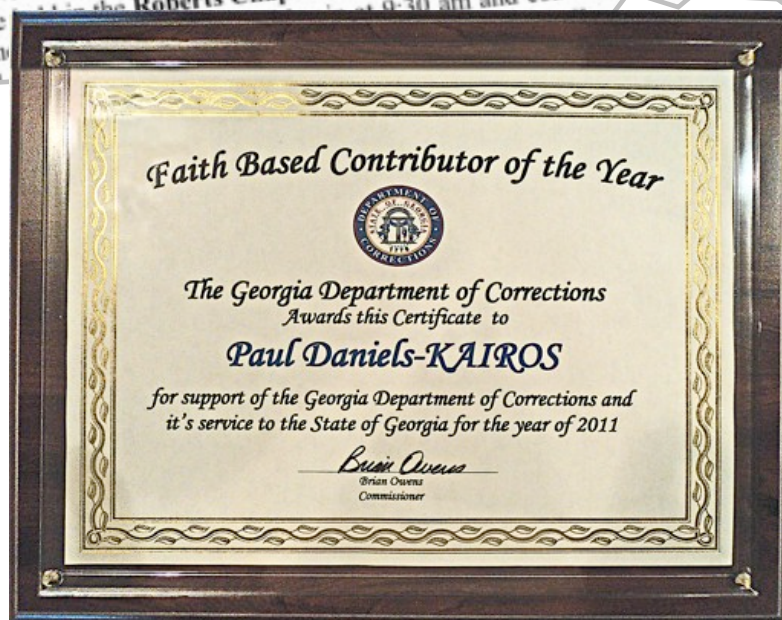
The Department's mission of protecting and serving the public could not be accomplished without the assistance of our employees and community partners. Paul Daniels was nominated by Corrections' staff who to honor him for his contributions.

"The Department is fortunate to have such outstanding volunteers in the State of Georgia," said Commissioner

Brian Owens. "This ceremony is a great opportunity for the Department to thank everyone for dedicating their time," added Owens.

Several key officials were on hand for the ceremony, which was attended by more than 200

guests. Making the award presentation with the Commissioner were Board of Corrections Secretary Rose Williams, Assistant Commissioner Timothy C. Ward and special guest speaker, State Representative Jay Neal.



# A Letter from Prison

Hi Beth,

My pastor's son, Hector Prieto, wrote a letter for the Kairos Newsletter. Here it is:

3/18/2012

The Lord is changing me more and more each day and His blessings are many.

I try to share as much as I can the things that our Father in Heaven has done in my life during this journey of my life, I've been incarcerated over two years.

During my detainment at DeKalb County jail I heard about Kairos, but the truth is like with many other things one has to live it to truly understand.

I ended up at Smith State prison and truly I had not been here quite 30 days when I found out I could still submit my name to participate in Kairos, this prison ministry. Like a week later they called-out all who would be going to attend and a list of alternates. My name ended up with those that may get to attend if someone else could not attend for any reason. But what happened in my case was that someone from my dorm said more likely he would be having a visit that same weekend so he was led to give me his seat, his spot.

It was later on that I understood how many actually had applied and that Kairos was being held for the first time at Smith state prison. I was blessed to be one of the first 42 men to go through the weekend to enjoy all that Kairos offers.

The truth is that it was everything and more than I had heard it would be. It helped me tremendously!

And even now then we meet monthly it's a great retreat, a time to give thanks and a way to fellowship different from anything else we do as a group. Why? It's not easy to say. Do I recommend it? Of course I do!

I do not doubt that Our Almighty God wants the very best for us and He loves us unconditionally.

I thank the Lord Jesus Christ for all that He is doing for me daily and via these words I supplicate to the Lord that every volunteer and every participant of Kairos finds what I could truly say it's God's Special Time.

Time with God, His time – our lives in Christ, without Him we're nothing.

PS. May God bless you!

Hector Prieto

Family of Mark

Smith State Prison

Kairos # 1

Love you my sister,

Helga Ramirez

May the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob be with you always.

# Kairos Prison Ministry changed my life

By Kit Cummings



I have served in ministry in different capacities for over twenty years. In that time, I have had many ups and downs. After serving full time for almost fifteen years, I went through a true wilderness experience. Because of a faulty foundation and some mistakes that were all mine, I found myself right in the middle of a spiritual burnout and I struggled mightily for several years.

As I made my way back to God, I made him a promise: If He ever saw fit to allow me to preach the word again, I would go to the harassed and helpless; to those that few others wanted to minister to. ("Matt 25 Ministry" is what I called it.) That was a sincere prayer, but I soon forgot about it and got on with my life.

A couple of years later God would use a series of seemingly random events, and a cast of unlikely characters to set things up so that I could make good on that promise.

I was speaking at a corporate event and I mentioned that I would love to work in prisons one day (something that wasn't in my notes; out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks!) and afterward someone came up and handed me a business card that would change my life. On it was the name of a faithful Kairos volunteer named Brad Feiman — and the rest is history. I have been serving now for several years.

I had no idea when I made that promise to God that it was I who would be transformed by these amazing men who most of the world has forgotten about. I've grown so close to these "Men in White" many of whom will remain my true friends until the day I die.

They have taught me so much about courage, hope, perseverance, and the meaning of grace. I can't imagine what I would do without this great work, and I can't even recall what ministry was like without them.

One experience stands out that God allowed me

to witness on a Kairos weekend. I was serving as table clergy, and one of the inmates asked if we could go to the chapel area and talk. He had talked to one of the other brothers and then they brought him to me.

He began to explain that he needed to share something with me that he had never told anyone about. I asked what his motivation was, and he responded that though he did want to clear his conscience and develop a relationship with God, that he really wanted to give a family some much needed peace.

You see, he had been carrying a terrible secret and a heavy burden for many years. He is currently serving a double life sentence with no possibility of parole and he had no other reason to be honest about this, other than the burden God had laid on his heart.

He explained that he had seen the victim's picture on a deck of playing cards, which the prison uses in hopes that inmates will help solve cold cases (which rarely if ever happens). He hadn't been able to shake it for weeks as he prepared for his Kairos weekend.

As the third day progressed, he couldn't hold it in any longer. So he came clean and said that he wanted to solve a seventeen year old murder cold case. We began the necessary legal steps and somewhere out there a family will have their prayers answered and hopefully be able to bring closure and healing to a tragic and terrible crime. All of this was made possible because of the amazing, life changing, transforming Kairos Ministry.

This is only one of many miracles that I have witnessed behind those walls and razor wire, and I count myself SO blessed to be a part of the Kairos Family. I will continue to go as long as they will allow me to. May God continue to bless this wonderful ministry, as broken men go and serve the "least of these."

# WEEKEND REPORTS

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## **Bobby Thomas**

### **Leader of Hancock #38**

The Lord has allowed us to successfully complete yet another weekend (#38) at Hancock State Prison!

On Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 40 crosses were offered and accepted by our participants with each man stating "I am counting on Christ"! These men returned to the compound with the message of Jesus' love for them in their hearts coupled with new found hope and courage for the days ahead!

The outside team poured into these men with more passion than anyone could imagine. Seeds were sown! Uncommon, extraordinary Love was demonstrated through the spoken word, music, agape and food!

We were blessed to witness growth in the participants through their testimonies at the closing ceremony!

Yes, the outside team left the parking lot Sunday afternoon physically spent...but overflowing in the Spirit and inspired by the work only HE can do in the lives of men, in just 3.5 days!

Once again, the Lord accomplished what He needed to with the servants He brought to the weekend. Gentlemen, what a great witness you are to the Hancock SP community, representatives of your faith in Jesus Christ and dedicated vessels for His service! Philippians 1:3-6: "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for you, I always pray with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus".

## **Helga Rameriz**

### **Leader of Lee Arrendale #12**

When I sent out the invitation to the community for Kairos Inside Weekend #12 at Lee Arrendale State Prison, in Alto, GA, I mentioned that Kairos #12 was in great company: There were 12 patriarchs from Seth to Noah, and 12 from Shem to Jacob, 12 sons of Israel, 12 Tribes of Israel, 12 Judges, 12 Apostles, and 12 Foundations in the heavenly Jerusalem, 12 Gates, 12 Pearls, and 12 Angels.

The anointing of 12 individuals is specially recorded in the Old Testament. Of these five were priests (Aaron and his four sons) and seven were Kings. 12 legions of angels mark the perfection of angelic powers (Matthew 26:53) 12 years of age was Jesus when he first appears in public (Luke 2:42) and utters his first recorded words.

Allow me to assure you that Kairos #12 was in great company, the presence of the Holy Spirit, the love of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and the glory of the Father was present with us.

Doors were opened to receive God's love and His forgiveness; doors were also opened to forgive one self.

There was peace and acceptance of others and self. There were a lot of tears and joy when the participants realized that people all over the world were praying for them. There were tears when they realized they were worth dying for, and that God loves them dearly.

There were tears in realizing that the answer was not to commit suicide, but to choose life with the help of Jesus. There were tears in knowing that it was fine to share a secret that had haunted you most of your life, and that it was perfectly fine to

trust again. There were new friendships built, a new Christian family was formed, and realization that we are not alone in the struggle of life. God was with us in Kairos #12

Some of the closing comments from the participants:

“I found unconditional love, sisters in Christ, spirituality, humbleness, patience, peace, unity, a desire to better oneself, and a desire to learn more.”

“I came in with hurt, guilt, anger, and hatred. I always wanted my way, and had a wall to protect myself. I found that there is a God that loves me, and I don’t have to be mean; I also found that there’s love in Jesus. I found that there was prayer, inspiration, and it was better than church.”

“The condition I came in was: stubborn, lack of knowledge of God, and lack of spiritual understanding. I found that it’s alright to cry, and now I have clarity in my ministry with God. I also found love, acceptance, and a smile.”

“I came in a condition of confusion, and I was an emotional wreck. I was unwanted, did not trust God or others. I was battling between Islam or Christianity; I found my spirituality in Christ.”

“I took back passion, empathy, new friendships, open hearts, strength in our new walk, the love of Jesus, trust, understanding, worthiness, a new me, hope, renewal, a real smile, peace, and a sense of direction.”

“I came in not trusting others, unwanted, and unloved. I found that I am worthy in the eyes of God. I came in as Diego, and I finally found my true self-Velvet. Look at me, I am Velvet.”

“I have no hatred, and only a little bit of anger. I now have the ability to read the Bible while being comfortable doing it. Praise God! Praise God!”

“I found love, God, forgiveness, trust, and God’s protection.”

“I came in resentful, hurt, and unforgiving. I found the peace of God, love, and the power to forgive”.

### **Robert Brown** **Leader of GSP #21**

God is still in control. He, God, is still moving behind prison walls touching hearts. Participants came to Kairos with chains around their hearts but left with hearts of flesh.

We had prayed to host 42 participants, but the Lord only gave us 24. The Lord reminded us of the story of Gideon and how he used a small army to defeat thousands. Our team was small, but God did a mighty work with that small team of men.

Kairos #21 at GSP was definitely a time of seed planting. The Word tells us there is a season for everything: a time to plant, a time to water, and a time to harvest.

We are excited to see what fruit Kairos #21 will bear in the months and years to come.

With great anticipation we look forward to Kairos #22 at GSP.

### **Eddie Brown** **Leader of Hays #26**

Nobody Can Do It Like God Can! We had 42 inside participants! One gang leader decided to join our Christian community. Another individual found Christ. A certain inside participant could not find forgiveness in his heart until he attended the Kairos weekend — he had experienced 25 years of rage/ anger. One participant stated no one had shown him the love he felt at Kairos for over 18 years — he has spent the last 18 years incarcerated.





# The Anchor Holds

By Johnnie

“The Anchor Holds” was the theme for the Kairos Outside of Georgia #11 Weekend many years ago when I was blessed to be a Leader. I chose the theme because of the storms in my life at that time and because God had shown me He was the Anchor that would hold me steady and strong through it all. It was a rocky and scary journey for me, full of heartbreaks, shocks, disappointments, and endless tears.

My husband of 24 years had recently made some choices that resulted in incarceration and taking him away from me for a long time. For all the years we had been together, since I was 17 years old, he had been my Anchor and my life circled around him. I was a Christian and a strong and independent person. Yet everything I did, and everything I was, hinged on the trust I placed in my husband, and on my love for him, and on our life together.

When my world turned upside down and I found myself alone, ashamed, embarrassed, and broken God sent me an extension of Him — another Anchor — that would wrap arms around me, touch me, love me, listen to me, dry my tears, and pray with me. That Anchor was Kairos Outside Prison Ministry. My Kairos Sisters.

I learned about the ministry from a friend and co-worker about a year after my husband was incarcerated. I know that it was a “God thing” and a precious gift to me. My friend didn’t know a lot about the ministry at the time but God had spoken through her, to share the information with me. It was also a “God thing” that I listened, felt the Spirit move me, obeyed and sent in a guest reservation form to attend a Weekend. Kairos Time!

Many years have gone by since I was first introduced to Kairos. My stories are many: disappointments in the prison system, disappointments in attorneys, weekly visitations to my husband at the prison with a broken heart at having to say goodbye each time, my daughter’s graduation from college and wedding, my son relocating to another state, the birth of three beautiful granddaughters, my husband’s release from prison and the death of family members. All these chapters of my life were too sad, too lonely, too beautiful, too special to handle alone. My Kairos Sisters were always there for me sharing the times with me. They cried with me, laughed with me, celebrated with me, prayed for me and encouraged me every step of the way.

The ministry is full of beautiful ladies and men with hearts so full of love that you know it has to be the love of God flowing through them. It’s not humanly possible to love and accept strangers the way they do without it being because of God. Many of the ladies and men give up countless hours to serve in the ministry. They spend hours and hours in preparation of the Weekends to be ready to welcome new sisters. They give sacrificially of their money to cover the expenses of the Weekends and Reunions. Some have loved ones incarcerated and have experienced all that goes with it. Some simply have servants’ hearts, going where God calls them, willing to serve and love the way He wants us all to do. Serving together on the Weekend brings us all together accepting and loving one another as a family with one common goal - - Sharing God’s Love!

[Continued]

I know that to whom much is given, much is expected. I have received so very much from this special ministry. It is my honor and privilege to be a part of it, and to continue serving in it. I wish that every lady who has a loved one incarcerated could experience a Kairos Weekend. The special bond and

the special love available to them is the best thing this side of Heaven. It will change your life.

Yes, God is our Anchor, and He Holds Us through all the storms and through all the blessings of Life! I thank Him for loving me and for giving me Kairos!

## *From Inside to Outside*

— *A Journey* —

*By Vanessa Velez-Cruz*

I know from first hand experience how KAIROS can make an impact in someone's life. I am one of those who fell in love with this ministry when I attended Kairos #10 at Pulaski State Prison. I was incarcerated for nine years after making very bad choices. Those choices sent me to prison. I had to deal with prison and the feelings of guilt, shame, unworthiness, remorse, hopelessness, and just being the worst person in the whole world. I was rejected by my "so called friends" and even my own church. There was a point that I thought I had nothing to live for and I wanted to find a way to end my life. One day I heard about KAIROS, but I also heard that you had to be on the Chaplain's list for two or three years before you could attend. I also heard that KAIROS was somewhat similar to Cursillo. Since I am Catholic and I had attended Cursillo in Puerto

Rico, I wanted to go immediately. I wrote the Chaplain every week until one day I got the letter. IT WAS IN GOD'S TIME! I only waited 6 months. I don't know if it was because the Chaplain got tired of me but God decided that it was my time. I was feeling miserable and dirty, but I knew deep in my heart that in the midst of all that darkness, there should be some light somewhere.

I was blessed to attend KAIROS#10. God sent a group of angels my way so I could experience his mercy and unconditional love. The love those ladies showed me was amazing. At that time, we could write the team members and I corresponded with many of them who became spiritual mentors and helped me to be a better person. I held onto God's love after realizing the amazing power of his unconditional love. I went from feeling unworthy to

experiencing the precious gift of being God's child.

Inside I was the Inmate Coordinator for 7 years. I loved it. But I wanted my family to experience what I had experienced. My mother, who was 85 years old at a time, attended Kairos Outside South Florida. She enjoyed the weekend and felt loved and supported by others who shared similar experiences. It was a blessing to her. The Kairos ladies called her, visited her and made her feel that she was not alone.

After my release, I went to live in Macon. Well, the only thing I knew about Macon was the Cherry Blossom Festival. We know God does not make mistakes and He had a plan for me. I thought I did not know anyone in Macon but how wrong I was. Seventeen of the Kairos ladies whom I had met at Pulaski lived in Macon, Warner Robins and Danville.

WOW! Another blessing from God. They knew my story, they have known me for almost 10 years. They invited me to their homes, introduced me to their families and friends and are my support group.

One day I was at Sheila Canady's house and she asked me why I did not work Kairos Outside. I said: WHO ME? She said: YES, YOU! I told her, that I was on parole and maybe that was an obstacle. She told me she was going to make a phone call and let me know. Sheila Canady and Susan Wright encouraged me to serve God through Kairos Outside. I prayed to the Lord asking Him to open the door so I can share my story and give Him the glory. He answered my prayer and I started serving Him on KO #23. It was like going through the weekend again. I met other team members, made very good friends and I have a bigger KAIROS family now. God has allowed me the privilege of being

the leader for KAIROS #30 next November. While working Kairos Outside, my sentence was commuted, and I regained my rights in the eyes of society. Today, I have my volunteer badge from the Department of Corrections. I go around to different prisons sharing what God has done in my life and bringing a little bit of hope to those ones who are incarcerated. I also want to let them know that their female relatives can attend Kairos Outside.

As we know, the families and friends "do time" with their loved ones. They feel lonely and Kairos Outside is there to help them and to demonstrate God's love and grace through Christian support. It is also available for former incarcerated women who did not have the opportunity to attend the inside weekend. You have to be there to see their faces when they feel God's amazing love. We are not here to fix them, our goal is to serve with a servant's heart

and our priority: THE GUESTS. During the weekend our lives become entwined with team members and guests. LISTEN LISTEN, LOVE LOVE is a priority for each team member. We are there to provide a safe place, to share each other's journeys giving our guests an opportunity for a relationship with God. As part of KAIROS we must constantly re-evaluate THAT WE ARE WHO WE SAY WE ARE.

I cannot stop thanking God for the blessing of being part of this ministry. I cannot change where I have been but I can definitely change where I am going. I have accepted full responsibility for my actions and made the firm determination to live an honest life striving each day to be the best person I can be, not to please people but because it is what God wants me to do. It is a privilege to serve God and others through KAIROS prison ministry.

#### WANT TO HELP FINANCIALLY?

Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc is a 501c(3) non-profit tax-exempt organization. Contributions may be deductible on your tax return. Please check with your accountant. It takes between \$3,000-\$5,000 to put on a Kairos weekend in a prison. It takes around \$10,000-\$12,000 to start Kairos at a new prison.

Your gift will go to minister to men and women who need to know the love of Christ. Please contact Bill Dixon, Treasurer if you would like more information or to make a donation.

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## LET YOUR HATER BE YOUR MOTIVATOR!

By Rev Beverly Upperman

As I read the first chapter of Nehemiah, verses

7–9 really spoke to me, and prompted the title of this article. From the MESSAGE translation, scripture says “When Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites heard that the repairs of the walls of Jerusalem were going so well—that the breaks in the wall were being fixed—they were absolutely furious. They put their heads together and decided to fight against Jerusalem and create as much trouble as they could. We countered with prayer to our God and set a round-the-clock guard against them.”

As the king’s cupbearer, Nehemiah has obtained favor in addressing an issue that was burdening his heart. He already had favor, not from the king, but from God! And don’t you know that when you have favor from God, it can be seen, and I guarantee you, there will always be “haters”! The “haters” will show themselves! You do know what a hater is, don’t you? A hater is someone that says bad things about you. A hater is someone who does bad things to you. A hater is someone who disagrees with some good thing you want to do. A hater is someone who works against you. A hater is someone who does not support you in your goals and plans. But most of all, a hater is 1) someone who wants to be who you are, 2) someone who wants to be where you are, and 3) someone who wants to go where you are going! But my challenge for you is “LET YOUR HATERS BE YOUR MOTIVATORS!”

**If a hater is someone who wants to be who you are,** then you must know who you are! So the

question is, WHO AM I??? Glad you asked! As a child of God, you are:

*First, not last*

*Above, not beneath*

*The head, not the tail*

*A believer, not a doubter*

*More than a conqueror*

*A royal priesthood*

*A holy nation*

*A peculiar people*

*God’s chosen vessel*

*A precious jewel*

*Fearfully and wonderfully made*

*A Designer’s original*

*The righteousness of God in Jesus*

*A world overcomer*

*His workmanship recreated in Christ Jesus*

*Redeemed!*

Do you know that?!?

**If a hater is someone who wants to be where you are,** we must know where we are! So, WHERE ARE WE? I’m glad you asked! You are where God has you, and the haters hate it! They can’t be here and they don’t want you to be here. The bible says in Ephesians chapter 2, verse 6 that God, because of the great love He has for us, has “raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.” Now that’s the place to be! But you must not let the haters convince you that you need to be somewhere else! Nehemiah’s haters wanted him to leave off from building and go back to where he came from. Daniel’s haters wanted him to leave his place of prayer. Shadrach, Meshach, and

Abednego's haters wanted them out of their positions and away from the God they loved. But all of them LET THEIR HATER BE THEIR MOTIVATOR to stay where they were! How about you? Will you do the same? The next time a hater tries to convince you to go somewhere you know you don't need to be, or know you don't belong, let it motivate you to dig your heels in right where you are! AMEN!

***If a hater is someone who wants to go where you are going,*** we must know where we're going! WHERE ARE WE GOING? I'm glad you asked! One songwriter puts it like this: *I'm going up yonder to be with my Lord!* And it's just that simple! If Jesus is our Lord and Savior, our destiny has been defined. Scripture confirms this in John 14:2-3. "There is plenty of room for you in my Father's home...I'm on my way to get a room ready for you...and if I'm on

my way to get your room ready, I'll come back and get you so you can live where I live." (MESSAGE) HALLELUJAH!

There's one last thing I want to make sure we know. Our #1 hater is Satan, the Devil. He hates us because of who we are. He hates us because of where we are. He hates us because of where we are going! But Jesus has taken care of the devil. He allowed Himself to be whipped, mocked and scorned so we could know who we are. He allowed Himself to be nailed in His hands and feet so we could be secure in where we are. And He died on the cross and rose again so we could be secure in knowing where we are going. He did all this so that we would have no problems when the haters come! And trust me, they will come. But the lesson is this — LET YOUR HATER BE YOUR MOTIVATOR!

#### GEORGIA STATE COMMITTEE

Position	Name
<b>Chairman</b>	Beth Maycumber
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	Mike Nix
<b>Int'l Council Rep #1</b>	Lee Turner
<b>Int'l Council Rep #2</b>	Alice Dickerson
<b>Secretary</b>	Micah Kimler
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Leonard Cole
<b>Treasurer</b>	W.S. (Bill) Dixon Jr.
<b>Agape</b>	Don Zagorski
<b>Outreach and Recruiting</b>	Mike Jones
<b>Advisory Council Coordinator</b>	Walter Straham
<b>Clergy Recruiting/Training</b>	Rev Beverly Upperman
<b>Fundraising Coordinators</b>	Cheryl Cole
<b>New Starts</b>	Jim Miller
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Walt Kessel
<b>Newsletter Coordinator</b>	LaJauna Ellis
<b>Historian</b>	Karen Miller
<b>Website Development</b>	Lee Turner
<b>Torch Coordinators</b>	Open

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