

# COLORADO KAIROS HISTORY

**1982** God led Bill Potter and the St Francis Episcopal Cursillo Ultreya group in Colorado Springs to pray about starting a prison ministry in Colorado. DOC pointed Bill toward CWCF, which put Bill in touch with a CWCF lay volunteer named Bill Fay, who had been praying since January for someone with the organizational skills to launch a "Cursillo" program in the Colorado prisons. The two Bills connected. Bill Potter already knew about Kairos, so he then connected with Kairos National in Florida and observed a Kairos there. With a group of Front Range Catholic and Episcopal Cursillo and Koinonia communities, he organized a Kairos Secretariat with:

Lay Director: Bill Potter  
 Asst Lay Director: Sandy Browning  
 Spiritual Director: Vic Urban  
 In other positions: Louise and Sam Abeyta, Diane and Paul Bishop, Ralph Browning, Joan Potter, Muriel Urban

**November 18-21: WOMEN'S KAIROS #1**

Rectora: Sandy Browning  
 Co-coordinators (later: Facility Liaison): Bill Fay and Bill Potter (later: Sandy Browning, Lorraine Harding, Gerry Lam, Marj Rust, Gerri Quintana, Jean Yancheck, Ann Weida, Jonnie McConaghy)

**1983 February:** Began publishing "God's Special Time" – newsletter for members of the Colorado Kairos community. Editor and publisher: Bill Potter (later: (Feb 1987) Peggy and Jim Strub, (2005) Jim Strub, (Dec 2014) Pat Mills)

**April 14-17: FREMONT KAIROS #1**

Rector: Bill Fay  
 Coordinator (later: Facility Liaison): Bill Potter (later: Bob Goss, Dave Jones, Bob Reilman, Eric Goldy, Ed Quintana, Jim Waters, Dick Evans, Terry Kruse, Jim Strub, Jim Waters, Tom Guidera)

**1985** June 14: Incorporated a board of directors as "Kairos of Colorado, Inc" with purpose of raising and managing the funds for Kairos in Colorado. The original seven directors were:

President: John Barney  
 Vice President: Nick Schaefer  
 Recording Secretary: Bill Potter  
 Treasurer: Jim Strub  
 At Large: The Reverend Scott Frantz, Sandy Browning, and Phil Marsh  
 Director of the Corporation: Bill Potter

**1986 April 24-27: TERRITORIAL KAIROS #1**

Rector: Phil Marsh  
 Coordinator (later: Facility Liaison): Bill Potter (later: Bob Sears, John Keiser, Gene Wilkowski, Art Vigil, Norm Fritzer, Dave McGee, Chuck Weida, Gary Kulbitski, Chuck Weida, Bill Durfee, Jim Carter, Bill Durfee, Dick Wilson)

October 22: Merged the functions of the Colorado Secretariat into the Board of Directors of "Kairos of Colorado, Inc." (later: State Committee of the Colorado Chapter of KPMI)  
**President (later: Chair):** Nick Schaefer (later: Moses Archuleta, Donna Bolte, Art Wise, Dave Buckingham, Joseph Mares, Sam Abeyta, Dave Tillack, Ken Grosse, Bruce Carlson, Steve Gabriel, Bob Reilman, Mary Sogan, Jeff Holley, Randy Borden, Kevin Borden, Randy Weldon, Tim Brady, Lee Schaffer)  
**Representative to National:** Bill Potter (later: Sandy Browning, Dave Jones, Mary Sogan, Art Wise, Joseph Mares, Steve Gabriel, Mary Sogan, Jeff Holley, Wayne Park, Glenda Condon)

**1987** January 4: Began Ultreyas at Skyline CE. Coordinator: Jim Strub.

July 11-12: Kairos Weekend for CTCF Special Management Group (HIV/AIDS): Rector: Bob Sears

August 6-8: Colorado Kairos hosted International Kairos Summer Conference at Falcon Inn, Monument CO, Administrator: Ralph Browning.

November 7-8: Skyline 2-day Retreat. Retreat Leader: Jim Strub

**1988** July 28: dedicated new CWCF Chapel Building provided by the "Kairos Prison Chapel Fund," chaired by Peggy Strub.

**1989** January 7-8: Skyline 2-day Retreat. Retreat Leader: Bob St Clair

October 26-29 Colorado Walk to Emmaus #1, Templd Hills Retreat Center, Woodland Park. Core team from Oklahoma, with team fleshed out with many Colorado Kairos team members.

December 17: Began Ultreyas at Arkansas Valley CF (Ordway). Coordinator: Dave Jones (later: Bob Shields)

**1991** February 26: Skyline program terminated due to October 1990 population restructuring.

April 27-28: Arkansas Valley 2-day Retreat. Retreat Leader: Jim Strub

**1992 January 30 - February 2: DELTA KAIROS #1**

Rector: Andrew Kaminski  
 Coordinator (later: Facility Liaison): Andrew Kaminski (later: Danny Ramirez, Darrell Corlett, Bill Bennett, Allen Molendyk, Bill Bennett)

**1993** January 12: Colorado District Board initiated formation of facility Advisory Councils.

February 21: Began Ultreyas at Limon CF. Interim Coordinator: Jim Saunders  
 March 16: Abandoned Arkansas Valley program (lack of outside team members)

**1994** February 10: Abandoned Limon program (no coordinator, no resident chaplain)

**1996** July 17-21: Colorado Kairos hosted International Kairos Summer Conference at Snow Mountain Ranch, Granby CO. Administrator: Mary Sogan.

**2001** March 18: Began Monthly Reunions at Denver Women's CF. Coordinator: Mary Sogan

**May 3-6: STERLING (NORTH) KAIROS #1**

Rector: Wayne Park  
 Coordinator (later: Facility Liaison): Wayne Park (later: Andrew Sisneros, Tom Sonntag, Terry Bessler, Randy Borden, Mark Cook, Bernie Devault, Paul Benevides)

**2002 June 6-9: STERLING SOUTH KAIROS #1**

Rector: Ron Fullmer

**September 28: 20th Anniversary Celebration.** About 100 Kairos people, including former inmates, gathered in Frisco to celebrate 20 years of God's blessing of this ministry in Colorado.

**December 5-8: DENVER WOMEN'S KAIROS #1**

Rectora: Jean Mares  
 Coordinator (later: Facility Liaison): Gabriella Ramirez (later: Jean Mares, Teddy DeBerry, Liz Castillo)

**2003** February: "Kairos of Colorado, Inc" became a State Chapter of "Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc." (KPMI), as part of a Kairos-wide reorganization providing more standardization and financial accountability.

**July 17-20: LIMON KAIROS #1**

Rector: Jim Richardson  
 Coordinator (later: Facility Liaison): Dick Evans (later: Jim Fitzpatrick, Dick Evans)

**2004** October 17: Began Monthly Reunions at Brush Women's CF, Facility Liaison: Jan Loesch

**2005 March 3-6: STERLING EAST KAIROS #1**

Leader: Mike Braden

**June 2-5: BRUSH KAIROS #1**

Leader: Mary Lou Hernandez  
 Facility Liaison: Jan Loesch (later: Chris Bauer, Karen Salzman)

July 1: Effective date of a six-month suspension of Kairos at Fremont. There had been a security violation on 11-12 June. As a result of this and other violations occurring at Kairos prisons, the state organization undertook a major review of security and issued more stringent security guidelines for use in all our Colorado facilities. (Later: in early 2007 the State Committee formally established a position of Security Coordinator, and appointed Jean Yancheck to that position.)

**August 4-7: RIFLE KAIROS #1**

Leader: Skaught Graham  
 Facility Liaison: Roger Quarry (later: Scott Graham, Tyne Bush)

November: Sterling administration requested each of the three Kairos programs to cut back from two 4-day weekends per year to one, due to administrative overload caused by hosting six Sterling weekends per year.

**2006** February 5: Monthly Reunions resumed at Fremont.

June 3-4: 2-day Retreats resumed at Fremont.

November: State Committee established Ad hoc committee for Kairos Outside, a ministry to the female loved ones of the incarcerated. Chair: Jean Mares

**2007** April-May: Cornell Companies, Inc. purchased Brush Women's CF from GRW Inc, changed name to High Plains CF. Kairos Weekend numbering remained intact, so first 4-day as "High Plains" was Kairos #4.

April 13: began monthly "Street Gatherings" in Denver at Grant Avenue UMC (later: Warren UMC), 2nd Fridays. Coordinator: Mary Sogan (later: Glenda Condon)

June 2: established Colorado Kairos Web Site ([www.kairoscolorado.org](http://www.kairoscolorado.org)). Webmaster: Jeff Holley (later: Ryan Cline, Don Bates). In early 2015 Susan Despotopulos redesigned the website and established it at [www.kairoscolorado.org](http://www.kairoscolorado.org).

December: final USPS edition of the Colorado Kairos Newsletter. Subsequent publication by email only.

**2008** February 15-18: first 4-day Kairos at Fremont since suspension (#46, Leader: Bruce Carlson)

August: Program at High Plains (formerly Brush) suspended after security violations during High Plains #5.

**November 14-16: Colorado Kairos Outside #1** (Estes Park). Leader: Jean Mares

November 21: began monthly "Street Gatherings" in Colorado Springs at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 3rd Fridays. Coordinator: Jean Magnuson.

**2009** June 4: Cañon Women's Correctional Facility decommissioned. Inmates moved to either La Vista CF (Pueblo), Denver Women's CF, or High Plains CF (Brush). The CWCF Kairos team turned their attention to establishing Kairos at the La Vista CF in Pueblo.

September 3: began biweekly Kairos mini-reunions at La Vista CF. Facility Liaison: Sara Igyarto

**November 5-8: STERLING WEST KAIROS #26**

Sterling North (actually northwest) had had 13 Weekends, Sterling South (actually southwest) had had 12 – a total of 25 Kairos weekends. At this point they were combined into "West," and thus #26.

**2010** May 6: began Sunday evening Monthly Reunions at La Vista CF.

June 6: Began Monthly Reunions at Hudson CF (an Alaska DOC facility), Facility Liaison: Peter Kufeke

June 30: High Plains CF closes.

**2011** January 8,9: Hudson Retreat #1. Leader: Randy Borden

June 19: Final (at least for now) Fremont Monthly Reunion, after 28 years in that facility. The last 4-day was #28 in February 2010.

**October 20-23: HUDSON KAIROS #1**

Leader: Steve Manzanares  
 Facility Liaison: Peter Kufeke

**2012** March: The formal Kairos Program at Limon was abandoned due to frequent lockdowns and other disruptions associated with Security Levels 4 and 5. The team members continued their ministry as "Ekklesia Prison Ministries" in the context of what the prison circumstances would allow.

**2015 October 1-4: BENT COUNTY KAIROS #1**

Leader: Lee Schaffer  
 Facility Liaison: Russ Gorrell (later: Tom Blair, Karla Gorrell, Russ Gorrell)

**2016 September 29 – October 2: BUENA VISTA KAIROS #1**

Leader: Roger Hilbig  
 Facility Liaison: Kevin Condon (later: Roger Metzinger)

**October 2** – Rifle Kairos program disestablished by KPMI after conclusion of Kairos #23.

**October 20-23: LA VISTA KAIROS #1**

Leader: Ann Weida  
 Facility Liaison: Sara Igyarto (later: Ann Weida, Jean Magnuson)

**2017 November 1** – Delta Kairos program disestablished by the Delta Warden after conclusion of Kairos #52 (October 22). This was due to a growing incompatibility between the KPMI model and the average length of an inmate's stay at the Delta Minimum Facility.

**Note:** As time went on, "Rector/Rectora" changed to "Leader," state "President" changed to "Chairperson," and our local use of "Coordinator" changed to "Facility Liaison."



MEANWHILE, SOME OF US HAVE GONE HOME	
1994	Ray Hausner
1995	Jackie Martinez
1996	Gene Wilkowski
1997	Gordon Sorensen, Don Martinez
1998	The Reverend Dave Jones, Bob Schmidt
1999	Ted Van Horn
2000	Moses Archuleta, Jane Merritt, Darrell Corlett, Ross Foltz
2001	A. J. Luckey, Nick Bedal
2002	Tom Starnes
2003	Ed Junghans, The Reverend Vic Urban, Rudger Burcher, Paul "Chino" Aguirre, Duane Medina
2004	John Barney
2006	The Right Reverend Bill Davidson
2007	Wade Kimsey, Russell Barefield, Elaine Wise
2008	Betty Frantz, José Hernandez, Muriel Urban, Suzanne DeVault
2009	Norm Fritzer, Mary Ann Kellogg, Russ Ramirez, Fran Archuleta, George Martinez
2010	Kent Austin, Art Vigil, Nell Jones
2011	Dave Pickett, Marilyn Tedford
2012	Lorraine Lovato, Jean Mares, Peter Tomaschek, The Reverend George Tewksbury, Peggy Strub
2013	The Reverend Ross Blackstock
2014	The Reverend Philip Scott Frantz, Jr., Sam Abeyta
2015	Frank Merrill, Chuck Weida
2016	Phil Archuleta
2017	Gerry Lam, Gordon Carson, Albert Marinelli, Chuck Perkins