

# God's

# Special



# Time

"I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU CAME TO ME." *Matthew 25:36*

APRIL 1987

KAIROS OF COLORADO, INC.

NEWSLETTER #16

## THANK YOU NICK !

At the March board meeting Nick Schaefer, upon the advice of his doctor to get rid of some the stress in his life, presented his resignation as President of Kairos of Colorado. We are all sad to see Nick leave, but we know that maintaining his health is more important. On behalf of the board and everybody working in Kairos -- **THANK YOU NICK FOR ALL THE WORK YOU HAVE DONE --** We will be keeping you in our prayers as I am sure that you will be praying for us.

Moses Archuleta was promoted (?) from Chief-of-Operations to President, and I ask you all to lift him up in your prayers as he takes over the reins of Kairos of Colorado.

On the back of this newsletter is a list of the directors of Kairos of Colorado and their areas of responsibility. If you have any questions about any of these areas or suggestions to help the directors be sure to contact the appropriate director. *Especially important to remember is that any contact with the prison facilities must go through the coordinator for that facility.* The facilities know the coordinators and are used to working with them, and the coordinators know all the regulations and rules that we have to abide with. Remember, the prison has to run by fairly rigid guidelines and we have to follow those guidelines. On occasion, remarks have been made to officers that contradicted prison policy or were taken as questioning that officer's authority, even though that was not the intent of the remark. To help prevent these problems from happening again we all need to remember to ask the facility coordinator first.

WOMEN'S FACILITY COORDINATOR is Sandy Browning.  
FREMONT FACILITY COORDINATOR is Bill Potter.  
TERRITORIAL FACILITY COORDINATOR is Bob Sears.

## SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING:

During a team meeting, a weekend, or some other such affair, Maurice Lloyd mentioned the poem *ABOU BEN ADHEM*. I then began to quote lines from it. He was somewhat amazed at a) I knew of the poem and b) I quoted some of the lines. When I was in elementary school (that's grade school to the now age) we had to memorize the poem. Then recently as I read over the poem again, I find there is a message in there for us. The author, Leigh Hunt's poem follows:

### ABOU BEN ADHEM

*ABOU BEN ADHEM --- may his tribe increase ---  
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,  
And saw within the moonlight in his room,  
Making it rich and like a lily in bloom,  
An angel writing in a book of gold.  
Exceeding peace had made BEN ADHEM bold,  
And to the presence in the room he said:  
"What writest thou?" The vision raised its head,  
And with a look made all of sweet accord,  
Answered: "The names of those who love the Lord."  
"And is mine one?" said ABOU. "Nay not so,"  
Replied the angel. ABOU spoke more low,  
But cheerily still; and said: "I pray thee, then,  
Write me as one that loves his fellow-men."  
The angel wrote, and vanished. The next night  
It came again with a great wakening light,  
And shewed the names whom love of God has blessed,  
And lo! BEN ADHEM'S name led all the rest.*

As I read the poem, something happened between visits of the angel. ABOU'S name did not even grace the first list. Then ABOU says: "Write me as one that loves his fellow-men." The next night the angel came "And shewed the names whom love of God had blessed,..." Now whose name is at the top of the list? None other than ABOU.

What does it mean to love our fellow-men or women? **KAIROS HAS THE ANSWER.** It means providing water for the thirsty, clothes for the naked, food for the hungry and visiting those who are in prison. We will never know the total effect of our ministry. We do know the hearts have been touched of those to whom we ministered.

May God richly bless you in 1987 as you serve Him. May your name be listed with ABOU'S, as those "whom love of God had blessed." Also may you be one who brings the blessing to the men and women of Cañon.

God loves you and so do I. Vic Urban, Spiritual Director

## CWCI RETREAT WEEKEND HAS BEEN CANCELLED!

CWCI is going through an asbestos cleanup and the rooms normally used for Kairos events have been taken over for use by the facility. This also means that the Ultreyas may have to be cancelled. Sandy is working with the administration to see if an alternate plan for Ultreyas can be worked out. The present construction schedule would also mean cancelling of the fall Kairos weekend. I suggest that we all join together in prayer for a rapid completion of this cleanup program so that the Lord's work can continue in this facility.

### NEEDED

#### PRAYERS

Territorial #3 is May 14-17. Please remember to lift up Sam Abeyta and his team in your prayers, now as they are forming their community as well as on the weekend. Also pray for the candidates that God is calling to be on that weekend. Bob Sears has been meeting with the inmate cha-chas who will be working that weekend and they need our prayers as well. Remember Bob in your prayers as he serves as para-chaplain each Tuesday at Territorial, especially for good weather. Keep Bill Potter in your prayers as he completes his Pastoral Care Training in the Forensic Ward at Pueblo.

### NEEDED

#### ITEMS

Your church or group may be interested in the special outreach project of donating any of the following items to our prisons.

1. New sealed cassette tapes (Christian).
2. Greeting cards.
3. Puzzles.
4. Books, any appropriate subject (new or used).

These items may be given to Bill, Bob, or Sandy and they will be given to the chaplain who will make them available in the prison libraries.

### NEEDED

#### PEOPLE

We are in need of someone to take over the duties of Property Director. The main requirement is for someone who has the space to store the Kairos Weekend supplies between weekends and keep an inventory list of those supplies for the rector(a)s of the upcoming weekends. This person would not have to be an active team member and this is an opportunity for someone who wants to help the Kairos ministry but may not feel called to serve inside. It has also been suggested that we could get a small trailer to help transport these items on the weekends. Anybody willing to take over this position can contact Ralph or Sandy Browning for more information on the details, or contact Moses Archuleta.

### NEEDED

#### PALANCA

Territorial #3 is coming up on May 14-17. Send any Palanca to Sue Martinez. Sue has also mentioned that we should remember there is something going on somewhere every weekend and even if we don't know for sure what is happening if we lift our prayers the Lord knows what is going on. This includes not only Kairos weekends but also Cursillo and Koinonia weekends as well. It has also been suggested that we could use part of our time at the monthly reunion in Denver for a Palanca Party. Someone want to bring markers and placemats next month?

## THANKS

Thank you Louise and Sam and Muriel and Vic for a very fun and successful Kairos Workshop. For those of you who were not able to attend this first workshop, remember to set aside August 22, and plan to attend the second workshop. Our goal is that by 1988 everyone must have attended a workshop weekend before serving on a team. The workshops presented are very informative not only for people new to Kairos but also for those of us who have worked several teams. The morning session is set aside for general information, including more information about DOC policy then a potluck lunch and the afternoon sessions are divided into workshops for table leaders, palanca, kitchen and rector(a). Hope to see more of you on August 22.

## CLOSING PROCEDURES

The following is a reminder of the general rules to follow and to pass on to those we invite to closings.

- Relatives of inmates or people on a visitors list may NOT come to a closing in that facility. Other facilities are OK.
- Any ex-inmates of ANY institution must get clearance through the coordinator prior to the closing.
- Proper dress, conservative and in good taste, for men and women.
- At men's closings jewelry is limited to wedding band and one cross.
- No alcohol on your breath.
- Picture ID and at Fremont also Kairos ID.
- Purses, billfolds, money and any items other than IDs and the driver's keys must be locked in the cars. Drivers will be shown where to put their keys during the closing.
- No gum at the men's closings and closed packs of cigarettes, and please no smoking during the closing activities.
- When the bell rings at the end of closing please help to get the candidates back to their area as quick as we can, then all guests leave and last the team leaves.
- Most important to remember and to pass on to others is that we can not promise to send any gifts or items other than letters to the inmates, nor can we take any messages out to other people. If we all follow these rules we will continue to be welcomed by the staff of each facility.

## CONFERENCE

The Third International Kairos Conference will be held at the Falcon Inn, in Monument, August 6, 7 & 8. As hosts for this conference we will need to have volunteers to help with all the activities. Primarily, we need someone to head up a conference committee to coordinate all these activities. The main program for the conference will be provided by the National Board. Some of the areas that we need help in is picking up people at the airport and taking them to the Falcon Inn, who is providing us with a van for that purpose, helping with registration, setting up local tours for children who may be coming as we expect some people coming to the conference will take the opportunity to make it a Colorado vacation. If you are interested in helping with this project contact Sandy Browning or Moses Archuleta. Also if you are planning to attend the conference please fill out the enclosed registration, even if you will be commuting to the Falcon Inn, as we need to have a count for meals. Send the form to Kairos of Colorado, PO Box 25004, Colorado Springs, Co. 80936 as soon as possible. There is a \$45.00 registration fee and meals will be approximately \$15.00 per day. We are already receiving registrations from out of state. How about yours ?

## SPONSORS NEEDED ?

Yes. Many team members are working almost every weekend and also on the retreat weekends and this can put a financial burden on those team members. There are also others who would like to work more often, but are not able to for the same reason. One solution that has been suggested is for team members to find a sponsor or group of sponsors to help. Our goal is to have each weekend, including retreat weekends be self-supporting. Some of us have a church that is willing to support us through their outreach or similar ministry funds, but this can become a burden when several team members belong to the same church. I know of one church that had nine team members at one time and I am sure that there are others that have that many or more. We also put a strain on church funds when we ask them to also donate a meal for a weekend. One alternative is to find individuals or a group of individuals who will sponsor you for the weekend or sponsor a meal. There are many people who believe in our ministry in the prisons, but they may not be willing to go inside themselves. By sponsoring a team member or a meal these people can become an active part of Kairos. Look around you and see if you can find some of these people who want to become a part of God's ministry in prison. Maybe even suggest that they could make a monthly pledge to sponsor you or another team member through the year. Please pray about this, and special prayers about the retreat weekends coming up soon.

The fees are \$50.00 for a Kairos weekend and \$35.00 for a retreat weekend.

## RETREATS

Fremont retreat weekend is tentively scheduled for May 30 - 31.  
Women's retreat weekend is June 27 - 28.

## ULTREYAS

Remember the commitment that we made to attend the Ultreyas each month. At the last Territorial Ultreya the only team member present was the Facility Coordinator!! Needless to say, the administration at Territorial is very upset with the Kairos program and our apparent lack of commitment. The board is also concerned about this problem and will be making changes to correct it.

Women's Ultreya is the first Sunday starting at 4:30 P.M.  
Territorial Ultreya is the first Sunday starting at 6:00 P.M.  
Fremont Ultreya is the first Sunday starting at 6:30 P.M.  
Skyline Ultreya is the first Sunday starting at 3:00 P.M.

Reminder - these are the starting times inside the facilities. Remember to arrive earlier to get from the parking areas to the meeting areas.

## DENVER REUNION

Last Friday of the month at St. Pauls, 10th & Garrison, 7:00 P.M.

## BOARD MEETING

The next board meeting is June 3, 1987 at 7:00 P.M. at First Presbyterian Church in Littleton. Anybody who wishes may attend.

MOVING? - Please tell us!

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and Al/Polly Rodriguez

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TRAINING DIR: Louise/Sam  
Abeyta and Muriel Urban

CWCF DIR: Sandy Browning  
FCF DIR: Bill Potter

CTCF DIR: Bob Sears  
DISTRICT REP: Sandy Browning

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