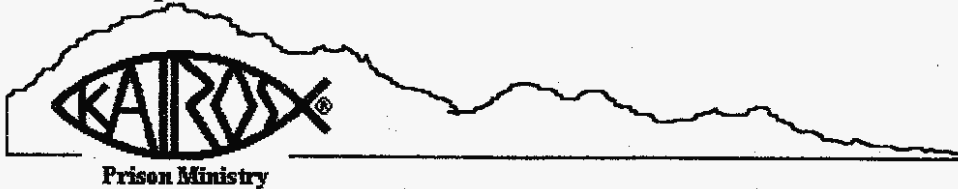


*"God's Special Time"*



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**KAIROS of COLORADO, Inc.**

P. O. Box 25004

Colorado Springs, CO 80936-5004

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

***"GOD'S SPECIAL TIME"***

Volume 14 #3

Christmas 1996

***"I was in prison and you came to me." Matthew 25:36***

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING    SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING    SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING    SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING    SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

***AND BE THANKFUL***

During Kairos team formation we read John 15:16-17 and hear Jesus saying to his disciples:

**"You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."**

Profound, absolutely profound! Somehow, we HAVE all been chosen into this particular way of bearing fruit, the fruit of being the Lord's hands and feet for his purposes among the incarcerated -- and also among ourselves. What are his purposes? Saint Paul would say "to proclaim Christ crucified" (1 Corinthians 1:23). And on a more personal level, he was telling people who had become believers as a result of his proclaiming Christ crucified:

**"As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful." (Colossians 3:12-15)**

We, too, are believers. The crucified Christ lives in OUR hearts just as he did in the hearts of the Colossians. So we, too, are to do what Paul asked them to do -- to forgive each other, to clothe ourselves with love, to let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts -- AND be thankful. Praise you, Lord God, for making this happen in our community today! Yes, we ARE thankful, very thankful.

ALL QUOTES FROM NRSV    SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING    SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING    SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING    BY JIM STRUB

## KAIROS of COLORADO

We are Christians reaching out to inmates in Colorado prisons with the Good News of God's love, forgiveness, and new life, which are available to all who repent of their sin and submit to Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.

We are entirely volunteer. There is no paid staff. We depend on God to meet expenses through donations by our team members, churches, and friends like yourselves.

Please use our pre-addressed envelope for donations and other inquiries, or write to the address on this newsletter.

*Thank you for your prayers and support!*

Printing: Church of St Michael the Archangel (Episcopal) Colo Spgs

### FROM FREMONT #28 CLOSING ---

When I signed up, I felt like I bought a ticket for an airplane ride without knowing the destination.

I found that I'm on the right road, but it's bigger and longer than I expected. I found how to forgive myself and others.

I want to be as Christ-like as I can be. I don't want to be nothing no more.

Yes, I'm taking this cross and this badge with me -- things I can see. But what I'm really taking back with me is your love in my heart.

You made me feel like more than just an inmate. I hope I can bring this way of life to my children in the years to come.

When Paul was in prison, an earthquake got him out. We didn't need an earthquake here.

I was told to get with the program -- they meant the DOC program. But what I found was the Jesus program.

God has done a lot for me in the last seven years -- jail, baptism, Jesus as Savior, now as Lord. Growing step by step. I came to Fremont, went to Kairos reunion two weeks ago. I signed up for Kairos. I am a person of no feelings, never had any friends, never got any mail till yesterday, couldn't read it there at the table, took it home, read it -- the Lord told me he had a heart of flesh, not of stone. Ya hit bottom and become the dregs of society -- but now I can go on.

This weekend has been a real spiritual blessing for me -- a second chance at life. It was hard for me to come here, to get the strength to come through that door. It hurts to leave, but I definitely take Jesus Christ with me, and I'll do my best to take him on the streets. You don't see love like this in here. I thought I was alone, but I'm not. I got so much out of this weekend. It's Jesus Christ that spoke to me. I can speak to a crowd like you now, I couldn't do that last night.

God doesn't need to be defended, just proclaimed.

## COLORADO DISTRICT BOARD

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Editors: Jim and Peggy Strub

### FROM TERRITORIAL #22 CLOSING ---

I read one letter and my eyes welled up. I put it down so I wouldn't cry, but one of the outside Kairos men saw me. He came over and said: "It's OK, I'll sit here and cry along with you" -- which he did.

We found we're forgiven. We learned when we put those papers in the bucket to burn, we got rid of our burden there. We found that half way obedience and surrender isn't enough. It's got to be all the way.

We learned that the Devil's #1 tool isn't an active sinner, but an inactive Christian.

I'm taking understanding that I am somebody and that God loves me, the support of new Christian brothers and a family that only God could put together.

I came lost, hurt, depressed. I found love, good friends, brothers in Christ, powerful words, and my way back to God. I'm taking brothers in Christ, strength, hope, and I got back my faith. I'm taking God with me.

I found Christian harmony from all denominations -- that amazed me here. I learned how to listen with Christian love.

I thought that when I sinned, I was lost from God. I found that when you repent, you can be back with God.

I may seem hard, but I'm soft like cotton candy inside.

I came bland, hungry, isolated, lonely, away from the Chapel. I found love, concern, realness here, listening with love, not judgement.

I thought the long hours would be too much for me, but I found it's not enough. I found how to forgive for the first time, to burn those names. Now I feel saved. I've had a few letters, but all those at once -- I'm about to cry.

I learned that when Satan comes knocking at your door, just say, "Hey, Jesus, you go get that."

# WE NEED YOU

Yes, you! -- all of you who receive this newsletter. You know that the prison population keeps growing and growing. Did you also know that the number of Kairos team members keeps getting smaller and smaller?

The inmates know. As the months go by, they see fewer and fewer of us. "Where is so-and so? I haven't seen him lately. I miss him!" Or, "Why hasn't so-and-so been coming in lately? I haven't seen her in a long time." Implied in both of these: "Don't they care any more?" We could add: "Have they forgotten Matthew 25:36?"

Remember the blessing you received when you witnessed the Holy Spirit moving on those hearts that had become so cold and hard. Remember how you felt when you saw those tears of repentance streaming down those lonely faces. Remember the embraces of those we shared our lives with as they shared theirs with us. Don't you miss it? Or if you've never experienced it, aren't you curious?

One of our team members has a card taped to his desk as a reminder of a very important truth. It says, "The deepest need within the heart of every person is to feel appreciated." Your sacrificial giving of your self to the inmates is rewarded with a very special feeling of heartfelt appreciation. Jesus said that those who have been forgiven of much are more grateful than those who have been forgiven of little. You need to get back into that flow of gratitude.

Yes, we know there are a lot of demands on your time. We know there are a lot of places for ministry. But, do you know how many people have any burden at all for our brothers and sisters locked away in our state prisons? Very few. And, if YOU are one who has left this ministry, then that's "very few" minus one more.

We need you back. The inmates need you back. We already find ourselves reducing the number of candidates on the weekends because not enough former team members are answering the call to serve again. Some of the recent men's weekends have been seriously understaffed. One weekend had no ordained clergy!

Please pray about giving some of your time and your self to our brothers and sisters in green. If the "team donation" is a problem, please, please remember that we always have ways to cover that for you. All you have to do is mention your need to the team Rector and it will be taken care of -- in confidence. There are as many ways to do this as there are people. God provides!

If the YOU who is reading this happens to be someone who has yet to experience the blessing of serving on a Kairos team, then this appeal is for you, too. Pray about it! Yes, pray -- P-R-A-Y. If God is calling you, then doesn't your spirit tell you to answer?

This newsletter contains a TEAM APPLICATION form -- a new form. It is a means for letting us know your response to God's calling. You may copy it. Share it with someone who might not be getting this newsletter. We pray that our Post Office Box will "runneth over" with applications for us to forward to the appropriate Coordinators.

Meanwhile, get ready to be blessed!

## KAIROS KALENDAR

	Spring 1997	Fall 1997
Fremont	#29 --- March 13-16	#30 --- Sep 18-21
Women's	#27 --- April 17-20	#28 --- Oct 16-19
Delta	#11 --- April 24-27	#12 --- Oct 23-26
Territorial	#23 --- May 15-18	#24 --- Nov 20-23

Please keep all Kairos weekends in your prayers and note dates on your calendar. We always need pray-ers, Closing guests, and team members. "Christ is counting on you!"

### Outside weekend information:

Walk to Emmaus, Registrar Jim Lollar, 303-659-6108  
Catholic Cursillo, Denver: Gerri Quintana, 303-469-9667  
Catholic Cursillo, Colo. Spgs.: Dan Furzi, 719-392-8404  
Episcopal Cursillo: Marge Humphrey, 303-973-5448

## WE THANK GOD FOR YOU!

Kairos ministry depends on God and the prayers and gifts of you, His people. **WE THANK GOD FOR YOU!**

We pray God will move you to send a special gift at this giving time of year. **WE THANK GOD FOR YOU!**

## DOC CLEARANCE & TRAINING

As of January 1, 1997, only those volunteers who submitted the new 1996 DOC application form, received clearance, and completed DOC's 8-hour training course will be retained in DOC files. All other previously approved volunteer names will be purged. Then those volunteers, just like new ones, will need to complete the 3-step process before serving in a prison. All cleared volunteers will be reviewed annually.

# KAIROS OF COLORADO

## APPLICATION TO SERVE ON A KAIROS TEAM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ FEMALE: \_\_\_ MALE: \_\_\_

IF MALE, WHICH PRISON DO YOU WANT TO WORK IN? FREMONT: \_\_\_ TERRITORIAL: \_\_\_  
DELTA (western slope) \_\_\_

IF ORDAINED CLERGY, BY WHICH AFFILIATION? \_\_\_\_\_

IF A MUSICIAN, WHAT INSTRUMENT DO YOU PLAY? \_\_\_\_\_

I ATTENDED CURSILLO / EMMAUS / KOINONIA / OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_  
# \_\_\_\_\_ AT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

MY FOURTH DAY ACTIVITIES ARE: CHURCH: \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

MY TEAM EXPERIENCE IS: (not required) \_\_\_\_\_

I understand the importance of keeping our promises to those residents who will attend the Kairos Weekend. I obligate myself to attend monthly reunions in the prison with the Kairos residents for a period of **one year**.

I will make it my personal priority to attend all team meetings, to form community with the team, and to carry out whatever tasks the team leadership may ask of me, knowing that this service is for the glory of God.

I understand that the team leadership will ask me to complete a Colorado Department of Corrections Volunteer Application and that, after DOC approval/clearance, I must attend DOC Volunteer Training in the prison.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: KAIROS OF COLORADO, P. O. BOX 25004, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80936-5004  
On envelope please write: TEAM APPLICATION FOR \_\_\_\_\_ (name of prison)

*Jesus said, "I was in prison and you came to me." Matthew 25:36*