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**Live simply,  
love generously,  
care deeply,  
speak kindly,  
and leave the  
rest to God.**

*A. Nonymous*

## FROM OUR CHAIR

Greetings Everyone,

It has been quite a year here in Colorado. La Vista has regular monthly reunions going. Hudson after 15 months of reunions had their first Weekend Event in October. Denver Womens, Territorial, Sterling, Rifle, and Delta are going strong. Limon is doing the best they can between lock downs and other disruptions. Fremont had to suspend their program until they can recruit enough volunteers to go back in. All in all it has been a good year.

Kairos Outside now has a wonderful group of volunteers working to reorganize the KO group and hopefully will have a weekend in the fall of 2012. The wives, mothers, daughters and sisters over 21 left behind by incarcerated men so deserve the up-lifting that only a KO weekend can provide.

We have a small group of men working with the Wyoming Department of Corrections at Torrington, Wyoming, to expand KI into the 35<sup>th</sup> state participating. We all need to keep them in our prayers as they walk this walk step by step doing God's work.

I would like to thank everyone who has served with me and helped me grow in my walk as a leader for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ – The head of Kairos. I would like everyone to know just how much I appreciate your hard work for this ministry in this mission field. God has some amazing plans for Kairos and each of us if we just take the time to listen to Him. Thanks to All Who Serve in His Name!

I will close by wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas. Let's celebrate Jesus' Birthday this year Kairos Style. It gets good, better and best by Sunday. The Weekend Event is an invitation to the heart of Kairos – Prayer and Share Grouping – just as Jesus is the invitation to have a life long relationship with God.

You're Exiting State Chair,  
In His Service,  
Randy Borden



## LET HEAVEN AND NATURE SING

Today is December 13 and I just returned from the grocery store where candy Easter eggs are already for sale. Christmas Day is still twelve days away; this is the third week of Advent. But many merchants began the Christmas season the day after Halloween, if not before. Gone will be the decorations in the stores; silent will be the piped-in carols; absent will be the Salvation Army bell ringers; alone and forlorn on the curbs will be some of the naked Christmas trees on December 26. And yet it will be the second day of Christmas. All too often we Christians succumb to the world around us and live by the secular or commercial calendar.

But we are still in Advent, the time of watching and waiting and preparing for Christ's birth. Then we'll have twelve days to celebrate Christmas, from Christmas Day until January 6, which is Epiphany.

Psalms 148 is always the psalm for the Sunday after Christmas in the Revised Common Lectionary. It is a psalm inviting all of creation to sing praises to God for who He is and for what He has done, is doing, and will do. Similarly in "Joy To the World", a favorite carol, heaven and earth are summoned to sing. When we remember Genesis 1, we remember God's very speech created the entire universe and now that entire universe is to join together in praise. Nothing is excluded from this invitation – not earth or sea, not any of the heavenly bodies or any of the heavenly host, not wind or storm, not birds, or animals, or fishes, not rulers or the ruled, not young or old, not men or women. Everyone and everything everywhere, earthly and heavenly, animate and inanimate alike, is included -- without rank or order. The summons is universal. Each one of us is part of the list, not different from the rest, not greater or lesser. We are part of creation and one with creation in our relationship with and to our creator. God's royal majesty is above all of heaven and earth. Because only God is exalted everywhere at all time, only praise that includes all of creation is sufficient. We are asked to praise God because He is our creator, our redeemer, and our sustainer.

What form does this praise take? All of creation is to praise by fulfilling its created purpose. For example, stars are to shine, wind is to blow, and rain is to fall. Because we have been raised up, because we have been delivered, because we are children of God, we are to acknowledge the majesty and power and might of Him, the God of creation. We are near to God; we are made in the image and likeness of Him. We have the voice to voice God's praise for all of creation. This is our place and our purpose as part of the created order. The Westminster Catechism, used in confirmation in some churches, puts it this way: "Man's primary purpose is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever." And so while it is a sign of the times in the world at large to consider Christmas over with on December 26, we in the church live by a different calendar and so we continue to sing right through Epiphany and throughout the year.

The praise is real. It is extravagant. It is unavoidable and must be expressed. Our praise is inspiring to others. It can convince skeptics of God's power and majesty. It educates others that the Lord of Israel is behind all that is. It reminds us, too, of who God is and what He has done and is doing – that God continues to create and sustain us and all creation. And so we continue to sing.

We are made by God and redeemed and sustained by Him. We are partners with all of creation. Our dominion is the stewardship of creation. Saint Francis identified our calling as being brothers and sisters with the sun and the moon and the rest of creation. To fulfill our created purpose, we praise God by, in effect, imitating Him in the care and concern we show for creation.

The birth of Jesus announced to the world two thousand years ago and announced to us today that this baby born in a manger in an inn in Bethlehem is God come to earth to minister to His suffering creation as a suffering servant. It tells the world that God sent His only son to live among us. When we sing of this birth, we are announcing to ourselves and to the world that God is the sovereign ruler of our lives and of all of the created order. We are singing that one of the signs of our times is that we live by a different rule and order and calendar.

But singing is not always easy. For some of us sometimes it can be nearly impossible. Our families have been wracked by illness and death, by unemployment, by addiction or abuse. Our dreams fade and plans fall apart. So how then do we sing? Long years ago John Wesley worried that he had no faith. The advice he was given was to preach faith until he had faith and then to preach faith. Difficult as it is, we are to sing until we feel like singing, until we want to sing and then we are to continue to sing. When we cannot do it by ourselves, when we cannot get the words out, we have our church family to sing for us. ➡

*Joy to the World*

ISAAC WATTS, 1709      G. F. HANDEL, 1742

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As Kairos volunteers we come to this time fully committed to God and to the work He has for us to do. We are to care for the earth and those in it as God does. We do not come to this time fully mature. Like the early Christians to whom Paul wrote, we need to be reminded what it means to be Christian and to be the church. We are growing and becoming the people God would have us be as He is working in us – indeed, changing us. We come searching for answers to discern God’s will for our lives. We come to go into the prison as Jesus commanded in Matthew 25: 35-40.

When we read Psalm 148 and sing carols adoring God and proclaiming to all of creation His mighty acts, it is on behalf of all creation and with all creation. We join with those of the angels singing anthems sweet. We all sing creation’s story and proclaim Messiah’s birth. Heaven and nature sing and rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy – today and every day. There is a song in the air as we tell it on the mountain and everywhere that Jesus Christ is born. We are still in Advent, but we will soon be in the twelve days of Christmas. Christmas will still be with us even though the secular, commercial world has moved on to Valentine’s Day or beyond. God is God. It’s a sign of the times. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Submitted by the Reverend Glenda Condon*



## OUR QUALIFIED CLERGY

(See article on next page)

### **DELTA**

William J. Faller - non-denominational  
Robert Larson - Episcopal  
Tom Seibert - Episcopal  
George Tewksbury - Presbyterian  
Roy Trueblood - Methodist

### **DENVER WOMEN’S**

Tina Anderson - Episcopal  
Kathy Awtrey - Lutheran  
Glenda Condon - Methodist  
Joy Maly - Episcopal

### **HUDSON**

Sathi Bunyan - Episcopal  
Terry Skov - Assembly of God

### **KAIROS OUTSIDE**

(no weekends scheduled)

### **LA VISTA**

Kathy Awtrey - Lutheran

### **RIFLE**

Tony Copeland - non-denominational  
Fr. Jude - Catholic  
George Tewksbury - Presbyterian

### **STERLING**

Phil Brewster - non-denominational  
Ron Dalton - non-denominational  
Bill Kindle - Episcopal  
Bert Morrison - non-denominational  
Mike Pickett - non-denominational  
Seth Richmand - Episcopal  
Terry Skov - Assembly of God  
Elwyn Tedford - Presbyterian

### **TERRITORIAL**

Frankie Allen - Baptist  
Clyde Awtrey - Lutheran  
Lanny Geib - Episcopal  
Dave McGee - Methodist  
Jack Olafson - Wesleyan

**Everyone else is considered a lay person.**

*Submitted by the Reverend Glenda Condon*



# KAIROS CLERGY

Kairos is an ecumenical lay-lead ministry that cannot exist without qualified clergy. That means many things. Clergy need to come from a variety of denominational backgrounds and refrain from practices that are not held in common by all Christians, since the ministry is broadly based on Christian teachings based on Christ's love.

Ideally there will be a qualified clergy at each of the family tables. There must be a minimum of three clergy on week-ends where there will be more than four table families. When there will be four or fewer, two qualified clergy will suffice. In those cases when there is not a qualified clergy for each table family, a third team member will still be assigned to those tables but will never to be considered clergy.

The other option is to have a "clergy table" to minister to and provide spiritual counseling and direction for the team during formation and for the participants during the weekend. When this option is used, it needs the approval of the state committee. Whichever option is used, there should always be three team members sitting with each table family.

When there are not enough clergy for one to be assigned to each table family, lay team members who are spiritually mature, able to work effectively in an ecumenical setting, meet all other team qualifications, and are experienced with the table dynamics of the week-end may be used to fill the third spot. They are still lay people so are not designated as clergy.

The current KPMI manual (the "Red Manual") gives a three-step process for determining who can serve as clergy within the Kairos program. You can find these criteria on page II-25. They are as follows:

## **Any Kairos clergy:**

Should have received formal training from their denomination or church authority (by this we usually mean seminary or Bible College), **or**

Be ordained by their denomination or church authority, or be licensed by their state as clergy, **or**

Be recognized as clergy in good standing by a religious order (such as a community of priests, nuns, monks) ,**or**

Be actively engaged in or retired from ministry by a recognized church authority.

## **And**

Be able to work effectively in an ecumenical or interdenominational setting

## **And**

Qualify under their state law as being covered by the privileged communication statutes. For Colorado, this is the *Colorado Confidential Clergy Communications Privilege Statute*, which reads as follows:

**COLORADO REVISED STATUTES**  
**TITLE 13. Courts and Court Procedure.**  
**Article 90. Witnesses.**  
**Part 1. General Provisions.**

**§ 13-90-107(1)(c). Who may not testify without consent.**

**A clergy member, minister, priest, or rabbi shall not be examined without both his or her consent and also the consent of the person making the confidential communication as to any confidential communication made to him or her in his or her professional capacity in the course of discipline expected by the religious body to which he or she belongs.**

To be designated as "Clergy" one must satisfy all three of these criteria. I realize this will require some adjustment on our parts. Many of us have considered spiritual directors, spiritual advisors (those who have taken Chaplain Jack's course), Stephen Ministers, and others as clergy. But if we are going to remain within the riverbanks, we must adapt to these new definitions.

The names of those who qualify as Clergy by these definitions are listed on the previous page. I made the list from information submitted to me by the Advisory Councils. If there are errors in the list (either those who do not qualify or no longer serve or omissions of those who qualify), please contact me, Glenda Condon, at [ggcondon@gmail.com](mailto:ggcondon@gmail.com).

[We] “will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all people may know of your mighty acts.” *Psalm 145:11-12a (TNIV)*

The women of the DWCF Kairos #16 team experienced God’s might and the glory of His kingdom as we took Kairos to the women at Denver Women’s Correctional Facility. We know God always shows up powerfully at Kairos weekends, but He had a couple of major surprises in store for this one.

We had requested a list of residents’ names ahead of time but none was received, so we were prepared to match up sponsors and sponsorees when we went in on Thursday afternoon. What we were not prepared for was **Surprise #1**: instead of the twenty-four residents we had requested, DWCF had given us thirty. God was, of course, faithful. With only nineteen team members, we were pretty short-handed, but many of the women on this team had been team leaders in the past, and everyone doubled up on roles. The food providers (King Soopers) generously donated an extra tray for us that night, and a number of other “coincidences” happened, making it possible for things to work out very well. As an extra bonus, God in His goodness provided two extra servants.

**Surprise #2** came Thursday evening when the residents began introducing themselves and giving their living units. In a pretty unique occurrence at DWCF, women from Unit 6, the Special Needs Unit, were permitted to attend Kairos. Unit 6 inmates live segregated from the rest of the prison population, so the weekend was a rare opportunity for them to be with women from other units -- and they did amazingly well!

Only God knows all the changes in the residents’ hearts over the weekend, although we were privileged to hear many stirring testimonies both at open microphone on Saturday and at closing. But we all know the change that took place for Linh, a resident from Vietnam with six children who, though speaking only very broken English, communicated clearly what God had done.

Linh (pronounced Lynn) was a Buddhist by birth and by her own faith profession. She had asked other Buddhists to come visit her, to pray with her. No one responded. She had prayed to Buddha for friends. No answer. She came to Kairos seeking friends, sisters, someone to walk alongside her. She made it clear that she did not come seeking to have her religious beliefs changed.

God had other plans. The love of team members, and the love she received from other inmates throughout the weekend, softened her heart. The more she learned about Jesus, the more she wanted to know.

A team member at Linh’s table recalls: “When I returned to the table, after my talk about Friendship with God, she said ‘I think you give me key to open my heart to Jesus ... I must keep learning.’ She told me on Saturday that she had called all six of her kids on Friday night and told them about ‘the key to open heart to Jesus’ and that she must learn more.”

On Saturday afternoon she asked to meet with one of our clergy, Chaplain Tina, and a team member. After Linh shared her heart with them, Tina asked her if she would like to ask Jesus to be her Lord and Savior. She tearfully and joyfully said yes.

Her table leader continues, “On Saturday she had the one-on-one. She was so funny because she said things like, ‘I don’t have to do 30-day fast no more, right? ... I never alone ever again ... I never feel so much love ... My own mother not show me this kind of love.’”

Linh was so filled with the Holy Spirit that she glowed. I know we throw that term around a little loosely sometimes, but I can’t think of another word to use. Linh’s countenance reflected Jesus for all to see. Her overflowing joy was contagious. At closing, another resident exclaimed that the greatest moment of her life was when Linh accepted Christ! How’s that for a testimony of God’s power made manifest at South Visiting at DWCF?

Lord God, we tell of your glory and speak of your mighty acts. Amen.

*Compiled by Karen Rayer*

## KAIROS OUTSIDE ANNUAL YARD SALE

### PLEASE HELP US RAISE FUNDS

Donate your used items to this important Fund Raiser to help us provide a fabulous weekend for women whose lives have been impacted by incarceration of loved ones. Contact Steve 303-688-2442 for pick up of your donation or drop off location and/or if you can help us set up and/or work the event (Saturday 9 June, times TBD, Bethel Christian Fellowship at 5405 W 1st Ave, Lakewood CO.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## RIFLE #13 CLOSING — 6 NOVEMBER 2011

### From the Table Families:

**St Matthew** – Came emotionally bankrupt and in need of spiritual repair. Found answers and even found answers to questions they didn't know needed answers. Taking new spirit of strength and faith and the knowledge of how to respond rather than react.

**St Mark** – Came searching for a path to the Lord and a way to open their hearts. Found so much fellowship, who Jesus really is, fellowship and unity in a prison environment, forgiveness, and ability to forgive others. Taking a better understanding of Christianity, strength to tear down our walls, new-found love, guidance and support, strength to open up, and strength to face the yard.

**St Luke** – Came weak, confused, hungry, and wondering what is spirituality. Found the love of the Lord, spiritual direction and new brothers. Taking peace, faith, hope, the armor of God, the Lord, and freedom from the past.

**St John** – Came eager, hungry, thirsty, receptive, broken, empty, wanting forgiveness, and wanting to learn and grow. Found unconditional love, grace, forgiveness, fellowship, new community, and that all types of people can have the same feelings. Taking grace, love, freedom from guilt, freedom from the yoke of sin, free from burdens, better attitude, able to forgive others, and strength to give and receive love.

### From open mike:

- A truly amazing weekend, people all over the world praying for us even though we are throwaways. Some would say we are unlovable. I've seen people's walls blown out, I've found fellowship that I never expected in prison.
- I came looking for direction. The love from people around the world unlocked the door.
- I was a closet Christian and never knew fellowship. This weekend was a blessing.
- I thought I had to go find God but I was the one that was lost. I found out how to open the door.
- I've been in the system since 1987. My career was alcohol and drugs. I don't want to leave prison the same as I came in. I have an eleven year old son that I need to be a father to.
- I found out I'm loved and forgiven. I've surrendered to God.
- I could feel the love. It felt uncomfortable and I knew change had taken place. My wall came down.
- I was dormant Christian. This weekend has rekindled the fire.
- We're a bunch of castaways from many different backgrounds, and now we all wear the same green uniform. But we can all be free in Jesus Christ.

*Submitted by Tyne Bush*

## DELTA #40 CLOSING — 9 OCTOBER 2011

- I didn't know where Delta was when I was being sent here. I thought I would be buried here. Instead I was planted.
- Knowledge to teach the Word to our kids.
- With God in your heart, there is always a road map, you will never get lost.
- I am bruised, torn, and old. After last night (forgiveness ceremony) I am new again spiritually.
- I am leaving here in 18 days. I'm leaving with one thing — God's love in my life.
- The guys in green here have hearts too.

*Submitted by Bernie Schneider*

**"When we mistake what we do for the fruit, we are deluded.  
What tells is not what we do, but what is produced by what we do."**

*Oswald Chambers*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

	<u>LEADER</u>	<u>INFO CONTACT</u>
<b>2012</b>		
3rd Sundays, 6:00 pm	LA VISTA WOMEN'S REUNIONS	Sara Igyarto
9-11 February	<b>KPMI WINTER CONFERENCE`</b> Orlando FL (check <a href="http://www.mykairos.org/kalendar.html">www.mykairos.org/kalendar.html</a> for current info)	Jeff Holley
22-25 March	RIFLE #14	Charles Perkins
12-15 April	TERRITORIAL #53	Don Ferguson
19-22 April	DELTA #41	Ron Smith
3-6 May	STERLING EAST #9	John Roehl
18-20 May	<b>ADVANCED KAIROS TRAINING (KI)</b>	Randy Borden
7-10 June	DENVER #17	Karen Rayer
<i>Summer</i>	<b>KPMI SUMMER CONFERENCE</b> St Louis MO (check <a href="http://www.mykairos.org/kalendar.html">www.mykairos.org/kalendar.html</a> for current info)	
11-14 October	TERRITORIAL #54	Phil Peloquin
25-28 October	DELTA #42	Terry Hastings
1-4 November	RIFLE #15	TBD
1-4 November	STERLING WEST #29	George Holling
29 Nov – 2 Dec	DENVER #18	TBD

## STATE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

### NOMINATIONS

For Chair:	Kevin Condon
For Vice Chair:	(this position will need filling if Kevin becomes Chair)
For Secretary:	John Parker
For Treasurer:	Karen Rayer
For Clergy:	The Reverend Bill Kindle

In all the other positions, incumbents have at least one more year of term eligibility. If there are others of you who may be interested in serving in one of these positions, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee (Brian Beattie, RuthMary Lyons, or Jim Strub), ASAP.

Election is scheduled to be held at the 21 January SC meeting at Family in Christ Community Church, Westminster.

Justice is when you get what you deserve.  
 Mercy is when you don't get what you deserve.  
 Grace is when you get what you don't deserve.

*From a prison wall*

## KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL (KPMI)

Kairos Prison Ministry is a lay-led Christian ministry which conducts a highly structured program designed for use in male and female correctional institutions. The Kairos program starts with a weekend event which allows participants to receive Christ's love through the servitude of Christian Kairos volunteers. During this event participants are given the opportunity to experience a spiritual renewal, accepting God's call to a life of Christian witness and service to one another during their stay in the institution, and beyond. Participants are encouraged to establish small, two-to-five-person "Fourth Day" Prayer and Share groups within the institution. The groups meet regularly to share their lives on a deep spiritual level and to pray for one another, other residents, and staff in the institution.

Kairos is currently in 34 states and nine other countries – Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, South Africa, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Peru. The course materials are available in English and Spanish. The ministry includes about 30,000 volunteers worldwide.

### COLORADO CHAPTER – STATE COMMITTEE

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Sterling	Kevin Condon	303-906-4532	kevinpaulcondon@yahoo.com
Territorial	Chuck Weida	719-548-9102	weidacr1@aol.com

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#### EX OFFICIO

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The Colorado Chapter of Kairos Prison Ministry International publishes this newsletter bimonthly. Kairos Prison Ministry International is a 501(c)(3) ministry. Donations are appreciated and tax-deductible – by check to P.O.Box 25004, Colorado Springs CO 80936, or electronically by [clicking here](#).