

God's

Special



Time

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

OCTOBER 1989

KAIROS OF COLORADO

NEWSLETTER #25

GOD'S SPECIAL TIME

So much goes into a Kairos Weekend -- so much comes out of one. It's always exciting to see how the Lord brings all that together. First there's praying, then scheduling with the prison, selecting team leaders, assembling the team, forming team community with many meetings, writing talks, planning meals, baking cookies, buying supplies, writing letters -- and more praying.

Finally, the Big Thursday comes and another Weekend starts in a prison somewhere. The team is excited, including the inmate team members who made previous Weekends. New team members are often a bit nervous about what to expect while they're "in prison". The inmate candidates are suspicious, discouraged, curious, hopeful, eager. Gradually barriers dissolve, minds open, hearts respond. And it's GOD'S SPECIAL TIME again.

The three days of the Weekend are intense and relaxed, serious and joyful, heart-breaking and heart-healing. By the time Sunday's Closing comes, many lives are radically changed, as many of you know from the inmates' witnessing.

But the Weekend is just the beginning. The Fourth Day is what counts -- rising to the challenge of "Christ is counting on you", carrying His love and message back into the prison, making a difference there in that environment. Kairos gives the prisoners specific tools for carrying out their challenge.

Kairos doesn't just go in, preach at them, and leave. The Community continues to support the prison Body of Christ with two-day Retreats and monthly Ultreya Reunions. All who respond to God's call to serve on a particular Weekend team pledge to be part of the follow-up support for the following year.

Although the Weekends follow a structured format, each one is different. One way God keeps the Weekends fresh and alive is by steadily supplying new team members. These are persons who have experienced similar Weekends "on the street" (i.e. outside), such as Cursillo, Koinonia, and Walk to Emmaus.

But it's not all giving. Those who serve on teams also receive God's blessings abundantly. We are constantly reminded that one can't outgive God. Team meetings start 6 to 8 weeks before each Weekend. Inside this newsletter you will find 1990 schedules and contact names and numbers. Is God calling YOU to give and receive as a Kairos team member in 1990?

"I heard the Lord call my name. Listen close, you'll hear the same."

SKYLINE KAIROS #1

Kairos #1 for the Skyline Correctional Center is now set for 8-11 February 1990. After months of prayer and consultation, the Kairos of Colorado Board of Directors has unanimously agreed with Skyline's request to have a full, three-day "Kairos weekend", in addition to the monthly Ultreyas and two-day Kairos retreats which have been taking place there since January 1987. The Kairos objective is, and has been, to build up that Body of Christ. There are now many longterm Skyline residents who are active members of the Body of Christ in that facility. A number of them (about 10) have already made their Kairos at another Canon City facility. The Skyline chaplain, his inmate assistant, and other members of the Skyline Kairos community are now recruiting candidates for this upcoming Kairos. The plan is for 24 candidates, an inside team of about 10, and an outside team of about 16, including 4 spiritual directors. Skyline Ultreyas are held first Sundays from 6:30 to 8:30, immediately following the Fremont Ultreyas. If you are interested in serving on this team, please contact Jim Strub, Skyline Coordinator, at 719-634-2821.

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ORDWAY ULTREYAS

Kairos of Colorado is planning to begin monthly Kairos Ultreyas at the Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility (commonly known as "Ordway") as soon as the necessary arrangements can be completed -- probably within the next month or two. There is already a large Body of Christ in that facility, including more than 40 men who have attended a Kairos weekend elsewhere. These men very eagerly await the spiritual revitalization that regular Kairos events will provide for them. There is the question, however, of how much support an Ordway Kairos program will receive from the outside. As it stands at this point, the plan is to hold the monthly Ultreyas at about 5:30pm on a Sunday other than the first Sunday. This will facilitate getting the Denver and "northern" people home at a reasonable hour, and it will avoid conflict with existing Ultreya schedules in the other facilities. Ideally, the main support for a Kairos program at Ordway will come from the Cursillo/Koinonia/Emmaus community in Southern Colorado, especially from the Arkansas Valley itself. But, wherever you live, if you are interested in participating, please contact Fr Dave Jones, 303-442-8479, 3875 Lee Hill Dr, Boulder, CO 80302, as soon as the Lord leads you.

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LISTEN CLOSE! Is the Lord calling YOU to serve on the team for any of the following Weekends? Please don't be shy about volunteering. **LISTEN CLOSE!**

PRISON	1990 WEEKENDS	CONTACT
Skyline	8-11 February	Jim Strub, 719-634-2821
Fremont	8-11 March	Bob Goss, 719-684-2226
Women's	Mid-April	Lorraine Harding, 303-730-8202
Territorial	Mid-May	John Keiser, 719-574-7317 or Al Rodriguez, 303-789-4159
Fremont	13-16 September	Bob Goss
Women's	Mid-October	Lorraine Harding
Territorial	Mid-November	John Keiser or Al Rodriguez

ANNUAL MEETING --- ELECTIONS

In January the Kairos Board of Directors is scheduled to hold its Annual Meeting, including election of new members. Board members are elected for 3 year terms on a rotating basis. This year the Board will need to fill 3 or 4 vacancies. The Board elects new members at large; then the new Board decides who will fill the various functional positions you see listed on the outside cover page of this newsletter.

The Facility Coordinator positions are handled differently, due to the nature of that job. They are appointed by the President, confirmed by the Board, and reviewed annually. Former Territorial Coordinator Bob Sears vacated that position last July when he became a DOC officer at Centennial. John Keiser (Properties Director) is Acting Coordinator until an appointment is made.

This ministry would die quickly without an active and hard-working Board. It is responsible for such things as maintaining relations with our national headquarters, working with the administrations of several prisons, planning for and meeting financial obligations, filling vacancies between annual elections, scheduling Weekends, Retreats, and Ultreyas. All these things and more are necessary for the Kairos ministry to be effective in Colorado.

The Nominating Committee for the January 1990 Elections is now seeking volunteers and recommendations for membership on the Board. We need persons who:

- o Are actively participating in the Kairos ministry
- o Can serve for three years on the Board
- o Will attend Board meetings faithfully as notified
- o Will actively fill a functional position as needed

The Board encourages the entire Kairos community to be prayerfully involved. So don't be shy about volunteering for this vital part of the ministry. Please contact Nominating Committee Chairman Ed Junghans at 303-466-9224 or at 13651 Stuart, Broomfield, CO 80020.

"I heard the Lord call my name. Listen close, you'll hear the same."

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KAIROS LAPEL PINS

Perhaps you have noticed some Kairos volunteers wearing very attractive red or blue cloisonne lapel pins with the Kairos trademark design in gold. Wearing the lapel pin is a good way of bearing witness for our ministry, sometimes prompting people to ask what Kairos means. That opens the door for telling about the ministry, the Christian life Kairos is all about, and maybe some personal witness. The pins are also a thoughtful GIFT.

Treasurer Jim Waters has ordered 50 of these custom-made lapel pins: 25 red and 25 blue. Some are already reserved by prepayment, so send your request soon.

I request _____ KAIROS LAPEL PIN/S. To cover all costs at \$5 each, enclosed is my check for \$ _____, payable to Kairos of Colorado, Inc.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____
PHONE: (____) _____

COLOR: I prefer RED _____ BLUE _____, but will accept either color.

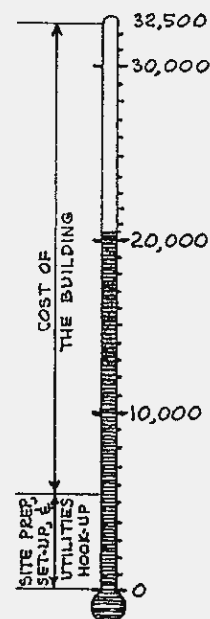
Send to: Jim Waters, 2411 North Nevada, Colorado Springs, CO 80907

JULY '88: COST \$32,500 ----- OCTOBER '89: \$12,000 TO GO

THAT'S NOT MY JOB

This is the story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

Author unknown.



What is a MISSION field? -- Anywhere that people need to hear the GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ, including jails and prisons right here in Colorado.

So, who are the **SOMEBODYS** in this mission field? -- Chaplains and **ANYBODY** and **EVERYBODY** who volunteer. Where do they carry out this missionary work? -- in whatever meeting spaces the jails and prisons provide. Such spaces are often not very conducive to a worshipful atmosphere, since these facilities cannot spend public funds on Chapels. Inadequate space can really hamper the work, even halt some of it (see BACKGROUND, below).

We praise God for the CWCF Chapel which continues to be blessing to all who use it -- inmates, staff, and volunteers. We thank God for **EVERYBODY** who has donated \$20,500 so far to this project. Now the question is: Will you be **SOMEBODY** who gives part of the \$12,000 still needed to pay off the no-interest loan? **ANYBODY** can give something. **NOBODY** should leave it to **EVERYBODY** else. **NOBODY** should miss the blessing God has for **ANYBODY** who gives to help our sisters among "the least of these".

ANYBODY who hears about this need, please pray -- and then help. You are **SOMEBODY** we need. Tell your Pastor, church, and friends.

THIS JOB IS **EVERYBODY'S!**

Make checks payable to: "KAIROS PRISON CHAPEL FUND"

Send to: Peggy Strub, 2821 N Chelton Rd, Colorado Springs, CO 80909

BACKGROUND: In mid-1987, due to extensive remodeling, the major religious programs in CWCF lost use of spaces which were previously available. Kairos Weekends and Prison Fellowship Seminars were put on indefinite "hold". The state cannot provide funds specifically for religious program activity space -- that is, Chapels. Only outside donations can do so.

Kairos volunteers realized that without a specific religious program meeting area, Kairos and some other ministries might never be able to resume their full programs in CWCF. Inspired by the example of a donated modular Chapel building at Shadow Mountain Correctional Facility, this special fund drive was started in March 1988 and an appropriate building was located.

Thanks to \$9,000 in donations and a \$23,500 no-interest loan from St John Chrysostom Charitable Trust Fund, we prepared the site, purchased, moved, and set up the building, with all bills paid. Furnishings were donated and the Chapel was beautifully dedicated to God's work during Kairos #10 in July 1988. Another \$11,500 in donations have reduced the balance needed to \$12,000.

Thanks be to God for His generous people!

REFLECTIONS from WOMEN'S KAIROS #13 CLOSING

As I listened to the women's responses to the three questions Kairos asks near the end of a Weekend, the image of a SPONGE came to mind. As they answered "In what spiritual condition did you arrive at Kairos?" I envisioned a dry, hard sponge, water running off of it at first. As they answered "What did you find here?" I could see a thirsty sponge starting to absorb water and become soft. When they answered "What are you taking away with you?" the sponge was so saturated it couldn't absorb another drop.

Then I found myself relating that sponge to the three-legged stool to which Kairos refers for a balanced Christian life. The three legs are Spirituality, Discovery, and Action. Before we find a personal friendship with God, we are all spiritually like that dry sponge. As we grow closer to God through prayer and worship, and discover more about Him through studying His word, we are thirsty sponges, absorbing His life-giving water. We want to drink in more and more of that water, but can become so saturated that we stop absorbing at all. It's a sad waste to let a sponge just sit there and dry out. A sponge which has been wet and then dries out is often harder than one which was never wet at all.

And that's where the Action leg of our stool comes in. Christian Action is how we make useful what we have absorbed, and at the same time make room to absorb more of God's grace for ourselves and others. A sponge which continually goes through the cycle of being soaked in water, then squeezed out usefully -- soaked, squeezed, soaked, squeezed -- remains thirsty, absorbant, and useful. I soaked up through my prayers and study this morning, and am being squeezed out now by sharing my reflections with you.

A valuable tool for keeping our sponges pliable is the Share and Prayer Group. The questions on the grouping cards keep us mindful of the three-legged stool. They help us keep tabs on how balanced (or unbalanced) our Christian lives are. As we share regularly in our small groups, we grow through our friends' experiences which expand our horizons and our understanding of God. Our grouping builds a bond of supportive friendship which we need for helping heal all the hurts that life throws at us. I thank God for my sharing group sisters who were there praying for me during a very painful episode! "Bearing one another's burdens" is one of the ways God strengthens and heals us and draws us closer to Him. I welcome all the tools God provides to help me live an abundant and eternal life in Him!

REFLECTION: Lord, please keep me thirsty, absorbant, and useful.

Your friend and servant, Peggy Strub

>>> FLASH >>>

WALK TO EMMAUS

<<< FLASH <<<

We are delighted to announce that WALK TO EMMAUS has come to Colorado. An Emmaus Walk is a Cursillo/Kairos-type three-day Weekend which comes from the Upper Room Division of the United Methodist Church and is open to all Christian laity and clergy. Men's Walk #1 is scheduled for 26-29 October at the Tempel Hills retreat center near Colorado Springs. The Women's Walk is scheduled for 2-5 November at the same place.

We realize you may get this newsletter too late to sign up for the first set of Walks, but please keep the participants in your prayers. This newsletter will publish the dates of future Walks. For more information, contact any of the following:

Debby & Ernie Young	303-470-0872	802 Windmill, Highland Ranch, CO 80126
Steve & Ginny Barnett	303-773-8108	5775 El Camino, Englewood, CO 80111
Bill & Ruth Cooper	303-669-8775	4975 N Franklin Av, Loveland, CO 80538
Dick Evans	719-597-3426	1215 Querida, Colorado Springs, CO 80909
Betty Clifford	303-625-0630	736 Buckeye Ct, Rifle, CO 81650

KAIROS needs prayers and SPONSORS -- PLEASE HELP!

\$100 ___ will SPONSOR one inmate/candidate.

\$50 ___ will SPONSOR one Weekend team member.

\$35 ___ will SPONSOR one Retreat team member.

\$ ___ helps SPONSOR meals (\$125 - \$200 each).

\$ ___ PLEDGE per month ___ quarter ___ year ___.

Please print: NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: (____) _____

Send to: KAIROS TREASURER, P.O.Box 25004, Colo Spgs, CO 80936 THANK YOU!!!

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money and keep our address file up-to-date.

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"GOD'S SPECIAL TIME"

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