

GOD'S SPECIAL TIME

KAIROS TRAINING

What: Advanced Kairos Training (AKT)

When: 20-22 August (Friday evening through Sunday morning)

Where: John Wesley Ranch, Divide, Colorado

A trainer from Kairos National will conduct this training for Kairos team members who are scheduled to be rectors anytime in 2004 or 2005, or who aspire to be rectors eventually, or who just want to go through the training. AKT is mandatory for all Rectors prior to their Weekend, preferably prior to beginning their team formation. The Colorado State Committee offers AKT at least once a year. Other State Committees offer AKT at other times and locations, but that involves additional travel expense. Cost of ours is \$130, of which the State Committee pays \$100 for Colorado team members. **Class size is limited, so register soon!** Contact is Dick Evans (see page 3).

THE DOMINO EFFECT

When we go into a Kairos Weekend, we don't know God's intentions. He sets up situations He wants to set up. He draws anybody He wants to Himself, drugs and gangs notwithstanding. And the drawing in of one man can lead to the drawing in of his whole family. To illustrate, here is a true story that began on a recent Colorado Kairos. The actual names have been changed to:

Victor (Kairos team member)

Juan (Inmate on a Kairos Weekend)

Roberto (Fellow worker with Victor on the outside).

On a Kairos Weekend Victor mentions to Juan that Juan has the same last name as Roberto. Juan says "Hey, small world. Roberto is my brother, one of my seven brothers - and four of them are in prison. Our whole family is either on drugs or alcohol, or they are drug pushers." Turns out that Juan has been in and out of prison all his life -- since age 15. His mom has never visited him or his brothers once in all that time. There is a lot of anger and hate in that family.

Victor tells Juan that he's been talking to Roberto about Jesus. To this news Juan breaks down crying and puts his head on Victor's shoulder and cries a long time -- the tears of encounter with Jesus. When he stops crying, he asks Victor to tell his brother: "I've given my life to God and you should do the same. It's time for the family to start healing."

Juan is one of the leaders of a major street gang. One of the members of the gang gets released from the prison and tells Roberto that Juan has forgotten where he came from. That means that Juan is no longer associating with the gang. Victor goes to the next Kairos reunion and, sure enough, he sees Juan out in the yard running laps by himself with a big smile on his face, and with a gleam in his eyes that tells it all. Juan is not going to the reunions because he doesn't want to mess with the hornet's nest - the gang members who do go to the reunion, but that doesn't mean he hasn't changed. He just doesn't want anything to do with the gangs, so he keeps to himself. The best he can do right now is quietly share the word and his new life in Christ with a few inmates he feels he can trust.

Juan will be getting out of prison later this year. He is fearing for his life. He has to be real careful. A gang doesn't just let you out. Victor knows this because he has been working with gang members on the street for a long time. God planned it that way. He is working through Victor. Roberto is going to church now with Victor - and so is one of Roberto's nephews. Juan's and Roberto's mother is going to visit Juan for the first time ever. Christian action on a Kairos Weekend has started a domino effect in that family. As Juan told his brother, "It's time for the family to start healing."

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

NEWS

- ◆ **Limon Volunteer Award.** On 13 May Lt Butch Ragland of the Limon CF conducted the Limon “Annual Volunteer Ceremony,” at which he cited Dick Evans and our LCF team as the “2004 Volunteer Group of the Year.” We thank God for this team and ask His continuing blessing on Limon Kairos!
- ◆ **Sterling East.** Kairos Weekend #1 for Sterling East units is now in planning stage. Inmates in the North and South units can not intermix, but those in the two lesser-security East units can, so a single Kairos program can serve both units together. Target for Weekend #1 is March 2005. For details of team formation, please contact Wayne Park.
- ◆ **Brush Women’s.** There is now an initiative to start Kairos in the women’s prison at Brush, Colorado. This is a new private prison under DOC contract. The eventual inmate population is to be about 250. Contact is Jan Loesch (see page 3).
- ◆ **Facility Liaison / Coordinator.** At least three of our facilities have now split the traditional “coordinator” function into two jobs – on-site (“Coordinator”) and off-site (“Facility Liaison”). **On-site** does the coordinating and “security” work inside when the team is on site. **Off-site** does all the paper work with DOC Headquarters and with the facility (clearances, schedules, entrance arrangements, etc). This is now the case at Cañon Women's, Fremont, and Territorial. So far, the **Off-site** person is also the Advisory Council representative to the State Committee.
- ◆ **Vice Chairman.** At it’s meeting on 26 May the State Committee designated Bob Reilman as Vice Chairman. This responsibility is in addition to those for Recruiting and Outreach. Thank you, Bob.
- ◆ **John Barney, Mentor.** On 23 April John Barney, one of the founders of Kairos of Colorado, went home to be with the Lord. In 1983 John was on the first two men’s Kairos teams in Colorado – Fremont #1 and #2. In June 1985 he led the initiative to form a Colorado corporation for raising and managing funds for this new ministry – “Kairos of Colorado, Inc.” He served as the first President of its Board of Directors – aka “The Board.” As a Professional Civil Engineer and General Contractor he built many buildings and houses, but what will last much longer are the spiritual lives he helped to rebuild. Through his example and teaching, he brought many to Jesus, to renewed lives. Jesus told his disciples that He had chosen them “to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last” (John 15:16). John knew he was chosen,

CLOSING GEMS

STERLING SOUTH #5:

- ◆ We were like blades of grass (in greens) trying to grow in the concrete (prison walls).
- ◆ Even those not hurting were crying in support of the others (fellowship).
- ◆ God is here for us whether we believe in Him or not.
- ◆ “Prison” isn’t these walls; “prison” is in our hearts.
- ◆ I felt love for the first time in thirty years.

CAÑON WOMEN’S #40:

- ◆ We found the love the Lord was waiting to give us.
- ◆ I came believing in God, but not walking with Him.
- ◆ We topped off our spiritual tanks.
- ◆ They call me “sunflower” now ‘cause I raised my head up from where I was.

DELTA #25:

- ◆ We gained the ability to go out and brag on Jesus.
- ◆ It’s not about me – I finally realized that here. It’s about becoming a servant.
- ◆ I’ve been able to release a lot of guilt, shame and anger and was able to forgive myself.
- ◆ We found unconditional love – something most of us have never experienced.

LIMON #2:

- ◆ We came as Christians needing a spiritual overhaul.
- ◆ We arrived not lost but off track.
- ◆ The love and compassion that came in here to share Jesus Christ – well, it kicked my butt.
- ◆ Kairos is not over; we need to keep it going here inside.

STERLING NORTH #7:

- ◆ I know I can’t thank these Kairos volunteers, but I can thank the people who brought them to Christ.
- ◆ We are the trash of the world, but Christ saved us.
- ◆ I’m getting out soon; Jesus is on my property slip.
- ◆ The love these gentlemen showed me melted the hate.

TERRITORIAL #37:

- ◆ We are taking with us a part of each other’s heart.
- ◆ Our comfort zones were extended.
- ◆ I had a lot of hate in my heart, learned how to get rid of it.
- ◆ Here they’ve stripped us down to a number and a name; in Kairos we have a real identity.

Attend Advanced Kairos Training!

20-22 August at the Ranch

COLORADO CHAPTER OF KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL, INC

STATE COMMITTEE

ELECTED MEMBERS:

Chair	Steve Gabriel	719-282-1924	jsgabriel@pcisys.net
Vice Chair, Recruiting, Outreach	Bob Reilman	719-265-9156	scenic_bye@yahoo.com
Secretary	Carolyn Richardson	719-390-5253	j_c_richardson@netzero.net
Treasurer	Jack Burson	303-499-4865	jack@ecommerce-cpa.com
National Representative	Joseph Mares	303-727-9243	jmares3409@aol.com
Ministry Operations	Joy Maly	303-988-7339	just4joy7@aol.com
Training & Limon ad hoc Chair	Dick Evans	719-597-3426	rdeco@pcisys.com
Spiritual Director	Rev Alan Marquez	303-252-7655	mar4plus@msn.com
Spiritual Director	Dcn Ernie Romero	719-548-9082	epromero@codenet.net

APPOINTED MEMBERS (ADVISORY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES):

Brush Women's (ad hoc Chair)	Jan Loesch	970-842-4497	carepreg@aginformation.com
Cañon Women's	Ann Weida	719-548-9102	weidacr@aol.com
Delta	Bill Bennett	970-626-3855	billbennett@sisna.com
Denver Women's	Gabriella Ramirez	303-455-4392	gabrez1@qwest.net
Fremont	Jim Strub	719-634-2821	pjstrub@juno.com
Sterling (North, South, East)	Wayne Park	970-577-1483	waynepark@aol.com
Territorial	Gary Kulbitski	719-598-8311	leek@amerion.com

SUPPORT CREW

Agape	Wanda Sitler	719-380-7166	jewhsit@msn.com
Supplies	Joy Maly	303-988-7339	just4joy7@aol.com
Data Base and Newsletter	Jim and Peggy Strub	719-634-2821	pjstrub@juno.com
Recruiting Crew	Kairos Community	all area codes	all Christians

Our mission is to bring Christ's love and forgiveness to the incarcerated, and to assist them in building up the body of Christ in each prison. We are volunteers. There is no paid staff. We depend on God to meet expenses through donations from our team members, churches, and friends like yourselves. We encourage you to use our pre-addressed envelope for donations and other inquiries. Please make checks payable to "Kairos Prison Ministry, Inc" or "Kairos."

"God's Special Time" is published quarterly, at the time of the equinoxes and the solstices – a heaven-based schedule. Our volunteer printer is First United Methodist Church in Colorado Springs. Thank you, FUMC!

2004 FALL WEEKENDS & RECTORS

#44	16-19 September	Dave Brown
#6	30 Sep - 3 October	Terry Bessler
#41	14-17 October	Roxene Ballard
#26	21-24 October	Scott Graham
#3	21-24 October	Ron Barton
#8	4 - 7 November	David Peverley
#38	18-21 November	Frank Merrill
#5	2 - 5 December	Christine Sturges

FACILITY

FREMONT
STERLING EAST
STERLING SOUTH
CAÑON WOMEN'S
DELTA
LIMON
STERLING NORTH
TERRITORIAL
DENVER WOMEN'S

2005 SPRING WEEKENDS

#45	17-20 March
#1	March
#7	31 Mar - 3 Apr
#42	14-17 April
#27	14-17 April
#4	
#9	5 - 8 May
#39	19-22 May
#6	2 - 5 June

Make a friend. Be a friend. Introduce your friend to team membership.



KAIROS OF COLORADO

P.O. Box 25004, Colorado Springs CO, 80936-5004

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THREE ENCOUNTERS WITH KAIROS

You can encounter Kairos from three different viewpoints: as prison staff, as inmate, as outside team.

To the prison staff Kairos means an unusually large number of outsiders all at once, lots of equipment, food, scheduling abnormalities – all with the possibility of security risk, passing of contraband, and other irregularities. Some staffers view Kairos team members as well-meaning but maybe a little naive. On the plus side, where Kairos has been in place for a while, staff members view Kairos as a program that brings about a calming atmosphere – not just in the inmates directly involved, but throughout the whole prison! Each time an outside team leaves, something special is left behind – God's love, whether recognized as such, or not.

To the inmates Kairos means there are people out there who care about them, who come in to sing and pray and fellowship with them, to share God's love and Good News with them. This is a very different scene from what they experience day by day. In prison they find themselves viewed as security risks with numbers, maybe with a last name. In Kairos they find themselves

in a trusting environment with no number, and with first names. In prison they have found a world of low self respect, lack of self discipline, lack of "civilized" values, domination by inmate and staff control. In Kairos they find a world of affirmation, gentle order, high moral values. In short, they find that God loves them, people write letters to them, care for them in many affirming ways. They experience the redeeming love of Jesus Christ – right there in the prison!

To the outside team Kairos means a special opportunity to share God's agape love with people who live in cages, to encourage them in their Christian walks, to facilitate their forming Christian community. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the team becomes a cavalry from Calvary, overpowering a hostile environment with the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. In the process, they also find special blessings for themselves right from the throne of God. This was not their initial purpose but it is always an outcome – the team member realizes over and over again that even behind prison walls the victory always belongs to

Salvation is by grace, rewards are by works. (Romans 1:16 and 2:6)