



COLORADO



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SACRIFICE SUFFICES

OK, OK, I know it's a stretch - trying to make a play of words and 'S' sounds, but I like it anyway! My kids say I suffer from Father Sense of Humor Disorder (FSHD), so that's my excuse and I'm sticking to it!

Recently, I crashed the Buena Vista (pronounced by Byoona Vista by the locals, or Byoonie, or just BV for short) team meeting at Impact Church up in gorgeous Woodland Park west of Colorado Springs. What a great team meeting, led by Roger Hilbig. I met an exciting team with around 10 first time Kairos volunteers!

During one of the sessions, I heard Ken Rocks from KPMI (who came to Colorado and also was at that team meeting) say that Kairos is a "sacrificial ministry". I thought, "Why is this ministry a sacrifice when I get more out of it than I ever put in? Didn't Jesus sacrifice more for me than I will ever be able to give back?"

Yes, His sacrifice suffices for me! His unconditional love and forgiveness and grace is enough to save me in spite of all I do. It is more than enough to save all of us. It is more than enough to save all of the men and women to whom we bring His good news in the prisons.

Yes, His sacrifice means we can all lay aside our individual agendas and our denominational differences in order to serve in this interdenominational ministry. Leaving our own agendas at the door of every Kairos event is by itself an act of sacrificial love. Instead, we all agree to focus on what we have in common, the transforming love and forgiveness of our lord and savior Jesus Christ. What would happen if we all brought our different denominational views into the prisons? Boy, would we confuse the participants and cause divisiveness!

Yes, we sacrifice some of our time, energy and money to attend team meetings, weekends, and reunions, and to serve on Advisory Councils and State Chapter Committees. But when I meet with the Kairos participants and graduates, my spirit is touched and I always come away with deeper spiritual understandings and love than I came with. When I am blessed to work a Kairos weekend and attend a closing, I get to see the Holy Spirit live and in action, transforming people's lives in the most miraculous ways.

Let me tell you a story about sacrificial love. At the Kairos Annual Conference this year, we heard from a man whose dearly beloved sister was killed by her boyfriend. The brother was wracked by grief and anger, which drove him into despair, drinking, and drugs. He desperately wanted to kill his sister's boyfriend for many years. Even his father, a Methodist pastor, could not find forgiveness in his heart. But through a long series of amazing grace events, this man eventually came back to Jesus, and was asked to join a Kairos team in a prison in Florida. He and his father came to a place where they could feel love for the incarcerated and they both served on Kairos teams for years! That was a sacrifice beyond my ability to comprehend!

FROM THE CHAIR (continued)

Later, we also heard from a big tough guy who had been in prison for many years for committing serious crimes, including taking the life of an innocent person. This man had been angry and caught in the web of alcohol and drugs. Eventually he was put in prison, where he attended a Kairos weekend and his life was transformed. He started serving on Kairos teams from the inside. His sacrifice was no doubt giving up everything he knew in his prior life to serve Jesus.

Then one day, the pastor and his son were asked to join a Kairos team and at the first inside team meeting, they met the inside team members. The killer of the sister/daughter, the tough guy from the second story, was standing there as a member of the inside team. No one knew what was going to happen. They approached each other, gave in to God, hugged, and said they loved each other and forgave each other. The three of them have been serving in Kairos together and speaking to groups all over the country since then, just like the three of them spoke to us.

Yes, there are sacrifices in Kairos. I think they are worth it.

Sacrifice suffices.

May the sacrifice of our Savior continue to transform our hearts and those of the people we serve in the prisons.

Blessings of love, peace, joy, and yes, even sacrifice to all of you!

Randy Weldon,
State Chair, Kairos of Colorado

2016 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

“It works; it really, really works!” These are words we learned at the Friday evening banquet are a quote from one of the Kairos founders.

As your International Council (IC) representative, I attended the 2016 Conference in Orlando in July with some trepidation. Four years ago the hotel in Saint Louis was so cold attendees were coming to meetings wrapped in their bedspreads. But much to my relief, that was not the case this year. On the other hand, the food four years ago was not ‘typical hotel food’ as it was this year. Okay, I know those are not the important parts.

We came from South Africa, Australia, Central America, Alaska, and parts in between for Board of Directors, IC, and State Chair sessions on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday and for workshops for everyone on Friday and Saturday. Days began early with spirit-filled worship, and ended late. A memorial service took place on Thursday after the dinner where we heard the most moving part of the conference. The 40th anniversary of Kairos banquet was on Friday.

There were numerous workshops on a variety of subjects. Topics ranged from starting an advisory council, to managing one, to regaining one’s passion for Kairos, to fundraising and recruiting, and to using EZRA and Kairos tools effectively.

Since I have been assigned to the Excellence Initiative subcommittee, I attended that meeting in which we were going to finalize our presentation for our workshops. BUT, other folks came and we heard how very, very dissatisfied folks from all over are with the Excellence Initiative. It is cumbersome and time consuming to complete. The instructions change. It measures numbers but not the changes wrought. Until the kinks are worked out, a suggestion was that it be shelved, but there was not action to that effect.

In workshops, over meals and during breaks, I learned a very important thing that even with the differences across our program – “It works; it really, really works.”

Submitted by Glenda Condon,
International Council representative

We love a God Who loves us back. *Jeremiah 29:11-14*

DONOR PROGRAM NEEDS YOU

As I learn and have a more clear understanding of the job I need to do for all our Colorado Advisory Councils, I find questions popping up in my mind. I am concerned about our Donations and making sure that they are recorded in the DONOR software program. This is so the people making the wonderful contributions that they do get their year-end letter from the Kairos DONOR program for their tax purposes.

I am also concerned about the donations that come to our Colorado Springs P.O. Box and “Gifts in Kind” that are recorded through Expense Reimbursements (an expense report). I have no way of knowing whether these items have been recorded through the DONOR program or not. In these cases, I need to scan these documents to the person in your Advisory Council who is your expert in DONOR program. I plan to go back to the beginning of 2016 to be able to scan these documents to the appropriate individuals.

What is essential to me is to know who the Donor Expert is for your council. This is where you can help me. Please make sure I have the correct Donor Expert name for each of the following:

Colorado State Chapter : ???

Bent County: Karla Gorrell

Buena Vista: Kevin Condon (#1 Only)

Delta: Pat Murphy

DWCF - Sandy Miller

La Vista: Ann Weida

Rifle: ???

Sterling: ???

Territorial: ???

The best way to contact me is by email at sharliemorel@me.com. I look forward to hearing from each of you.

Submitted by Sharlie Morel,
Kairos of Colorado Financial Secretary

MORE ON THE NEW KAIROS MANUAL

One of the changes in the new Kairos Inside program manual is the addition of a Leadership Track and it is similar to the one found in the Kairos Outside program manual. In the interest of providing ministry excellence to our participants, our team members, and Our Lord, it is now required that a team member serve on at least three Weekends before serving as a Weekend Leader on their 4th Weekend experience. They must have given a minimum of two talks and have spent at least one full Weekend sitting at a family table to gain that experience. The prospective Weekend Leader must serve in at least one of the core team positions—Inside Coordinator, Head Servant, Chapel Coordinator, or Agape Coordinator—in preparation for the Weekend Leader responsibilities.

Also, in an effort to improve ministry excellence, the Observing Leader must attend Advanced Kairos Training (AKT) before serving in that role. That way the Observing Leader will be better prepared for his upcoming responsibilities. They will have access to the Ezra software following the Weekend at which they served as Observing Leader.

Excerpt from Kairos E-News #60

Written by Ken Rocks, KPMI Men’s Ministry Coordinator

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

LISTEN, LISTEN, LOVE, LOVE

We often share this motto in Kairos and though I am unaware of its origin, I have heard it explained as listening and loving the inmates more. Sounds nice, even Christ-like, yet I've wondered if we treat it as simply a catch phrase, not understanding the spiritual power of listening and love.

In August, I participated in a two-week intensive course on Formational Prayer and Healing. I was learning to pray for people and aid them in receiving from God. One morning the professor said, "In ministry, we must learn to listen, listen, and love, love." My ears perked up at hearing the motto stated by someone who knows nothing of Kairos prison ministry. He went on to say, "We must learn to listen to God first and then listen to people in order to hear what God is saying about them. We must learn to love God first and then we are able to love people." Hearing it spoken this way gave my heart a new perspective.

To listen to God, to know His heart, and allow the Holy Spirit to empower me to truly hear what someone else is saying (or not saying), requires discipline and a quiet spirit. To love God and allow the Holy Spirit to teach me to be an expression of God's love toward others is the only way love will be a transforming force in the life of another.

Concerning how we listen, it is said we think about four times faster than the average person usually talks, so consider this: *When an inmate is talking, do I judge the person's appearance or delivery and decide they aren't saying anything worth my full attention? Am I distracted by outside sights and sounds? Do certain words and phrases prejudice me so I cannot listen objectively? Do I allow my mind to wander off, pondering how I'm going to respond? Do I want to hear only the facts and not listen for the ideas or emotional expressions the Holy Spirit wants to uncover? Do I avoid listening to things I feel would be too difficult to understand or that disinterest me? Most importantly, do I ask the Holy Spirit to govern the conversation, to speak to me and guide me during the interaction, so that the inmate knows that I care enough to listen slowly, carefully, with the intention of receiving them, in love?*

Concerning how we love, the Bible is clear: *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."* Mark 12:30-31 NIV

Listen, listen, love, love... think about it.

Submitted by Carolyn Somerville,
Clergy Co-Leader

LIMON REVISITED

In 2003 Kairos of Colorado began a Kairos program at the Limon Correctional Facility, just south of the town of Limon. The general levels of custody (4 and 5) were higher than we were used to, but all concerned were determined to make it work. Even so, over time it became apparent that it really was difficult to get through a four-day without something happening that would either delay or abort the weekend. By 2012, the program had to be abandoned.

Now we are abandoning our program at Rifle — for different reasons, but still, abandoning is abandoning. In Tyne Bush's article elsewhere in this newsletter, you will read that the Rifle team members hope to continue ministering to the inmates at Rifle and are considering options such as teaming with Prison Fellowship.

It is worth noting that, in like manner, the Limon team did not wish to abandon their ministry to the men in Limon. Within six months of the final Limon Kairos (# 13 in February 2012) the team started conducting "Ekklesia" Weekends, in the context of what the prison circumstances will allow. Their 8th Ekklesia weekend is scheduled for this October.

It is also worth noting that the man currently coordinating this effort has been working Kairos weekends since the first men's Weekend in Colorado (Fremont #1, April 1983). His name is Ron Barton — a man who dwells in a physical world of total darkness while he walks strongly in the Light of Christ.

The Limon Ekklesia team can always use more help. Contact Ron at ron.barton@comcast.net or 303-798-2755.

Submitted by Jim Strub

TERRITORIAL 2-Day

9-10 July 2016

This Retreat included the 1½ days for Kairos graduates as well as the Monthly Reunion which they hosted on Sunday afternoon. The new Resident Facilitator had his first Reunion, with the Kairos volunteers as guests. We had prayer, testimonies from the residents, table discussions, and music during the Reunion.

During the Retreat itself, the residents and Kairos Outside volunteers shared a weekend of fellowship, snacks, music and talks by the volunteers on the theme, "Practical Christian Encouragement". The eight talks included "Strive to Live in the Truth", "Seek Christian Fellowship", "Love the Samaritan", and "What Would Jesus Do?" The Retreat was led by Shawn McKenna, a Kairos volunteer who will be the leader for the 4-Day Weekend in October. Since a number of residents were deaf or hearing impaired, the Department of Corrections provided two certified Sign Language Interpreters to assure they "heard" all that was offered.

During the weekend, the prison Chaplain, Matt Overholt, conducted the baptism of fourteen residents who have accepted Christ as Savior recently. A number of these men were from the Kairos community and they came back to the 2-Day Retreat with wet hair and wet clothes in a plastic bag. They were received with JOY! The baptisms are held about quarterly at CTCF and Chaplain Overholt uses a portable baptismal tub that doubles as a table when not used for baptisms. The weekend was devoted to the Kairos Prison Ministry's vision of a community spiritually freed from the effects of imprisonment reaching all impacted by incarceration, through the love, hope, and faith found in Jesus Christ.

Submitted by John Parker, CTCF Kairos volunteer

DELTA 2-Day

30-31 July 2016

As is our custom in Delta Kairos, the Advisory Council (AC) asked the upcoming Servant Leader to lead the two-day follow-up to the previous Kairos three-day weekend. In this case, it was Rob Carney, who will lead Delta #50 – the celebration of 25 continuous years of service to the Lord bringing the unconditional love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to the incarcerated men at the Delta Correctional Center (a.k.a. Delta Christian Campus) through the Kairos Prison Ministry. A few of us on the team have known Rob Carney for years, as he graduated from Delta Kairos #23 in 2003 at Delta Correctional Center (DCC) and remained a mainstay in the Kairos community at DCC until his release in 2006. Rob has been a wonderful addition to our team, as the offenders can really relate to him and he also represents, in an outstanding manner, the fact there is life after prison for anyone who wants to work for and achieve it. I only wish we could recruit more outstanding ex-offenders like Rob to our ministry. The Rev. Bill Potter (known as the father of Kairos in Colorado and long-time Chaplain at DCC) and Andrew Kaminski, Servant Leader (Rector) of Delta Kairos #1 in 1992, will join us for this celebration of 25 years of Kairos at DCC.

Rob chose as the theme for this two-day retreat: Practical Christian Encouragement. The retreat was well attended, with some 84 residents participating. Thirty (30) of the 40 men currently on the Outside Team participated. We observed great discussions of the talk questions with much spiritual depth. Again, as usual, we left DCC each evening asking "Well, just who is blessings whom here?" The presence of the Holy Spirit was evident throughout the weekend, as we saw spiritual growth in many of the resident participants. The panel, composed of six of our Outside Team (3 clergy, 3 laymen) did an outstanding job of responding in Christian love to the anonymous questions posed by the residents. We hold this panel discussion at the end of the retreat on Sunday as a sort of "hook" to encourage the residents to stay for the entire retreat.

Before the actual retreat began on Saturday morning, several of the members of the Delta AC met with some of our Kairos graduate brothers to encourage them to take more "ownership" of their monthly retreats by becoming more active in facilitating (if needed) the randomly selected small prayer and share groups. Tad Coit, a member of our Outside Team, prepared a one-page handout titled: "Leading Kairos Small Group Discussions". This meeting with our Kairos graduates reminded us of the need to meet with them separately more often to exchange thoughts on the Kairos program in DCC. For the most part, the Kairos graduates were receptive to the challenge to facilitate the small groups, but a few pointed out that there are certain situations where the Outside Team must step up to lead/facilitate, as we have credibility that another man in green does not have. We routinely make sure that our graduates are evenly distributed among the randomly selected small groups, as are the Outside Team members.

Submitted by Bill Bennett, Delta Kairos Volunteer

The attendees of Rifle #22 had many of the usual responses to the questions for Kairos closing. The responses to the question of spiritual condition at arrival included angry, confused, anxious, unsure, treading water, fearful, frustrated, eager, lost, and not realizing what they were missing. They reported finding affirmation, confirmation, camaraderie, peace, patience, fellowship, forgiveness, family, God's love, acceptance of self, and people they didn't expect to see there. They took new light, a clear path, a new direction, guidance, an openness and willingness to share, new brothers, and a lighter load without the burdens of the past with them when they left the Weekend.

Individual comments:

- ◆ It is hard to find people in prison who care about others and I did not expect to find a family of caring brothers.
- ◆ The Christian walk is a great experience and a joy. I found brothers that I usually wouldn't associate with and people I didn't expect to be in my life.
- ◆ I am an angry person who has built walls. This weekend helped me tear down my walls, to know who I am, and to be comfortable with who I am.
- ◆ This weekend has been a beautiful experience. I realize that I have spit in Jesus' face, but He still loves me. Jesus rocks!
- ◆ I believe God brought me to the Rifle prison. I have come to see that He gives me what I need when I need it and He gave me this Kairos weekend when I needed it.
- ◆ I was tearing myself apart. I was raised in the church, but I fell away. I was asking myself some important questions about where I want to go and how I want to live. God has done a work in me and has helped me forgive others and to forgive myself. This event has helped me answer the questions I was asking.
- ◆ I was an angry person. I had pushed everyone away and I oozed anger. But I have decided to get on the right path. Kairos has taught me to forgive others and I am learning to forgive myself.
- ◆ This weekend has created a hunger to keep going in Jesus.
- ◆ 19 years ago I rejected Jesus' invitation and I have been locked up for 18 years. I have played around with God, but I never truly accepted Jesus Christ. I am getting out on July 4th, Independence Day, and I am claiming independence from sin.

Submitted by Tyne Bush,
Rifle Kairos volunteer

RIFLE KAIROS SET TO END

Rifle #23, scheduled for Sept. 29 through Oct. 2, will mark the end of an 11-year run of Kairos Weekends at the Rifle Correctional Center (RCC). Over 600 men have participated in the weekends at Rifle. In 2005, the Delta Team accepted the challenge of starting Kairos at Rifle and committed to two years of serving at both prisons. The challenge was substantial to put on four weekends a year plus four retreats and 16 reunions. Rifle #1 was held in August of 2005. The staff agreed to only three tables and 20 closing guests that first weekend. By the second weekend, the staff had agreed to five tables. By the end of the second year, a separate Rifle Team had been formed. Even now, a few of the volunteers from Rifle #1 continue to serve at either Delta or Rifle.

Rifle #23 will be much like all the other weekends. The Wells Cargo trailer will make one final trip to Rifle with the supplies and accouterments. We will once again borrow folding chairs from the Church of the Open Door in Rifle. Once in the gym, we will set up partitions of PVC pipe and black plastic to separate the chapel from the community room and from the cookie room. Sunday afternoon we will dismantle the partitions, load the trailer, and return the chairs to Open Door. Even though purchased by the team at considerable expense, most of the accouterments will have no further usefulness or value.

In spite of the State Committee's decision (at the urging of KPMI) to close Rifle, the team wishes to continue to serve the men in RCC. We have communicated with the Prison Fellowship (PF) Regional Director for CO and NM and found him to be very interested in ministry at RCC. In the coming weeks we will explore with PF ways that we might work together to provide an ongoing ministry at Rifle. We may yet have the opportunity to be part of an international organization whose priority is ministry.

Submitted by Tyne Bush,
Rifle Kairos volunteer

BENT COUNTY #3 3-6 Nov

Our team at Bent County in Las Animas has been working hard to prepare for Kairos Weekend #3. Our team is really beginning to jell as we get to know each other better. The dates are November 3rd through 6th.

When I first got involved with Kairos Prison Ministry, I didn't know what to expect. It almost became an addiction for me. I've learned a lot, cried a lot, and laughed a lot.

What I've learned is that these inmates think that nobody cares. When these inmates walk through that door Thursday afternoon, their faces light up when I say, "I love you". As the Kairos Weekend proceed, I've found that these inmates really change. A few of the guys have no contact with the outside world. They open up talk with the people at the tables.

On August 10th, a reunion was held at Bent County Correctional Facility. I thought that the reunion would go as usual and that 40 to 50 of the inmates would show up. Man, was I ever wrong. By the time all had signed in, there were 127 on the list. Randy Weldon, our State Leader was there and I think he was even amazed at the turnout. These inmates were excited and pumped up about the Kairos program. They loved the hymns and the talks given. Some of the inmates had never been to a Kairos reunion and wanted to know where and how to sign up for the next Kairos Weekend.

Some mentioned how their lives had changed since attending the Kairos Weekend. The friendships they had made since the last weekend was amazing to me. The volunteers that were at this reunion were amazed at the excitement of the inmates attending.

As most of you know, it takes a lot of volunteers to put on one of these Weekends. I ask that you all pray for more people to come forward and volunteer for the Kairos Prison Ministry. We need all the help we can get.

May God bless us all,
Rick Rodriguez, Bent County Kairos volunteer

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

I know your pain,
I understand your anger,
I acknowledge your hurt,
I see your disappointment,
I feel your rage against the world.
Don't ever believe I don't get it.
Like you, I was angry, hurt, disappointed, and
inflicted with pain.
I was imprisoned, beaten, shamed, humiliated, pierced,
denied, and killed by those I love.
For love's sake, I forgave.
By truth, I understood they knew not what
they did.
I understood my death was necessary to save
your souls.
Don't ever believe I don't get it.
I endured every human emotion, despite my divinity.
I was tested and tried.
I, too, questioned the authority of divine will. I
overcame it by faith.
As a human, hurt was ever-present, yet as a Savior
my heart ached for your salvation.
I care for you just as much as I long for you to
love me. Your salvation is your membership into
the divine kingdom of God.
Know you are wanted, accepted, understood, and loved.
I see you for you and want nothing more than
to redeem you.
Consider all that is, the glory of the sunrise,
the wonder of the moon,
the twinkle of the stars,
the grand masterpiece of art in every sunset and
landscape...
All these and so much more are for you.
I call you to be comforted, saved, loved, joyful,
peaceful, and alive.
Do not ever believe I don't get it.
Let me in. I am knocking...

Written by Jessica, a DWCF resident

LA VISTA

The LaVista team seems to be up and running. We have several new team members and several veterans. We are all excited and are so looking forward to this first La Vista weekend in October.

We are grateful for the ladies from Denver who volunteered to be on team. It has shown how important it is to have veterans to mentor the new ladies. The thought of being on Kairos #1 is gratifying. We will begin with a small team and 24 participants.

It is exciting to know the warden and her staff are anxious for Kairos to be part of LaVista. It is evident it had to be in God's time, not ours!

Submitted by Ann Weida, LaVista Kairos volunteer

In May 1987, during Territorial Kairos #3, a special group of inmates elsewhere in the prison prayed fervently for God's blessing on the Weekend. God indeed blessed all those involved in that Kairos. A few weeks later the Facility administration approached us (Kairos of Colorado) on the possibility of doing a 2-day program "something like a Kairos Weekend" for this special group, all the members of which had tested positive for the AIDS virus and therefore were totally segregated from the general population and not allowed to participate in any prison programs, including Kairos — noting that at this point in time, most people still believed that the virus could be contracted by contact. Nevertheless, we agreed to do such a program on the weekend of 11/12 July 1987, hastening to add that it would be neither a "Kairos Short Course" nor a "Kairos Retreat," since it could not follow the prescribed format for either.

What actually came to pass was the work of God, not of man. Our Facility Coordinator, Bob Sears, asked for volunteers. He got half a dozen immediately. The Facility arranged for their Chaplain, the Reverend Sheila Rollins, to participate, since she was the Chaplain who was regularly ministering to this group. The Facility provided a space in the unfinished basement below the dining hall, totally isolated from the general population.

On Saturday morning, 14 of the 21 AIDS/HIV men came into the room. They were friendly but unsure of what to expect. They took seats at three tables, with two outside team members at each table. Two Kairosed inmates from the general population served fresh donuts, coffee, homemade cookies, and pop. (The two servers were the fortunate two, chosen from about a dozen who had volunteered.) One of the guests would not touch the cookie plate, saying that he did not want to discourage the non-infected men from enjoying the cookies.

The conversations began. God's love began to flow — and flow — and flow. We presented little talks, mostly personal witness, on Rejection, Resentment, Confession, Forgiveness, Thanksgiving, Intercession, Listening to God, and Obedience. At the special worship on Sunday morning, Chaplain Sheila presented a touching homily on the seven eyes of God (see Zechariah 3:9 and Revelation 5:6).

We brought in home-cooked meals for each lunch. Just before Sunday lunch, we introduced the group to "palanca" (now known as "agape"), using Job 42:8-10 and the talk on Intercession as the springboard. Our presentation of general palanca included posters and letters from the Colorado Women's prison and from the Territorial general population. After a short break outside, they came back in and found their individual palanca bags with generic and many personal-by-name letters. Such love! Such joy! By that time it was obvious to everybody why we had boxes of Kleenex on each table. For the rest of Sunday there was a lot of poignant sharing, all voluntary — the witness to God's love that you hear at Closings, but more intense, in some cases heart rending — more than enough to boggle the spirit. Praise the Lord!

Throughout both days, physical contact was much like normal — handshakes at first, some hugs at farewell time on Saturday, lots of hugging Sunday. That in itself meant a lot to these "untouchables." Add to this that when they found out at palanca time that so many outsiders and fellow prisoners were praying for them, it was almost too much to accept — that anybody would care.

Two of the 14 did not come back on Sunday. One of them was deeply into Transcendental Meditation and told us Saturday that he would not be coming back. The other one was known to be a Christian and nobody knew why he did not return. We discerned a tugging at our hearts, that Jesus wanted this man to join us. Chaplain Sheila said yes, it would be OK to go into their segregated unit (Cellhouse 3) to talk with him. She and two of us went in. As soon as he saw us, his face broke into a very broad grin. "We missed you." "Just a minute, I'll clean up a little and be right with you!" Ten minutes later he walked ahead of us back to the basement meeting room. His brothers in Christ greeted him with unbelievable love and overwhelming applause and hugs. Not long afterward, in Chaplain Sheila's prepared homily, we heard Jesus' parable about the 99 sheep and the one who wandered away (Matthew 18:12-14). Amen.

Submitted by Jim Strub

(For the record, the outsiders who participated were Chaplain Sheila, Coordinator Bob Sears, Moses Archuleta, Don Holt, Dick McMahan, Al Rodriguez, Dave Vigil, and myself.)

Today is a gift. That's why we call it the present.

SECURITY AND COMPLACENCY

Complacency--is one of the biggest threats to your security.

If you are on "Automatic Pilot" when you go into the prison, you are putting everyone at risk. Remember security is as important to the candidate as it is to Kairos.

You need to think about your "yeah, go ahead" attitude. Maybe you have it and don't know it. It mostly will come from us "vets," who not only think but act as they own the "joint." I have observed this. Just because you know everybody, and they know you does not mean you have the privilege of saying, "yeah go ahead." You don't. Strict adherence to security is the only way to go - Complacency has no place in prison.

Enmeshment- to catch or entangle in (Webster dictionary 10th edition) is a deterrent to security. She/he is very sharp. I must get to know them. I wonder why they are in here? I'm going to find out. **NO, YOU ARE NOT!** Well, maybe I can help some how. **NO.** It's just a letter to mail. **NO.**

This kind of thinking brought one of our volunteers very serious problems. Long story short - the volunteer brought the inmate home the morning she was paroled. Consequently, the volunteer's husband hired the inmate to work for him. However, his company did not hire felons. So husband lost job. By time it was said and done, the parolee was charged with attempted kidnapping. Five more years in prison. It was sad, all the way around. The volunteer was a strong, intelligent woman who lost her heart over her good head. It all started innocently and it progressed. The volunteer was talked to no avail. There is more to this, but let this suffice.

Nothing is to be brought in or out by you. The minute you do, that person owns you. It will be held over you head. This almost happened to me over a butcher knife. I'll save that story! Your private information - no! no! I consider this at the top of the list when discussing security. You must remember our inmates have worked hard to get in prison. Most will be on paper when they get out. DOC has strict rules regarding exchange of personal info, and you are to unequivocally abide by those rules. Don't be foolish!

I have not been asked to do any team briefings except one. Maybe they are repetitious and boring, but here is an excellent quote from a smart woman. She said, "New volunteers would appreciate more information and veteran volunteers can never have enough reminders about what to do and not do. This why I have liked giving you briefings.

God bless you!

Jean Yanchek, Security Chairperson

2016 EVENTS

		<u>LEADER</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
29 Sept – 2 October	BUENA VISTA #1	Roger Hilbig	Kevin Condon
29 Sept – 2 October	RIFLE #23	Paul Ha	Tyne Bush
13-16 October	DELTA #50	Rob Carney	Bill Bennett
13-16 October	TERRITORIAL #61	Shawn McKenna	Dick Wilson
20-23 October	LA VISTA #1	Ann Weida	Ann Weida
3-6 November	BENT COUNTY #3	Rob White	Russ Gorrell
3-6 November	STERLING WEST #33	Dan Carey	Mark Cook
3-4 December	DENVER 2-day	RuthMary Lyons	Glenda Condon

**Definition of a meeting:
where minutes are taken and hours are lost.**

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL

[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 thirty-five 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 international ministry now includes some 30,000 volunteers.

COLORADO CHAPTER — STATE COMMITTEE

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