

## TOM CLEMENTS

Kairos of Colorado is deeply saddened by the tragic death of our DOC Director, Tom Clements. We all have experienced his good work as we walk through the facilities in which we serve. His colleagues and fellow workers testify that CDOC and Tom's family have lost a really good man. Our prayers are with and for his family and the people whose lives he has touched. May he rest in peace.

## FROM THE CHAIR

We live in a rapidly changing world. When I grew up in the 1940's and 50's there were no cell phones. Most families had one black and white television and everyone in the family watched the same three channels and the same programs, too. My home town, Kansas City, had two newspapers, morning and evening, and everybody read the paper. People sent each other letters if they lived far apart. Computers? Nope. I remember watching a bunch of Chinese abacus clerks try to out-calculate the huge Univac computer on the TV program You Asked For It (sponsored by Skippy peanut butter). Univac was the size of a small building and lived in a climate controlled place, far from anybody we knew. To calculate, nerd boys carried slide rules in holsters on their hips. Most girls took home economics and learned to cook so they could have a family. Girls, and boys, were protected by society so they wouldn't get "in trouble", which for girls meant being in "a family way". Community was built around school, church and home, mainly. Life was good.

Times have changed. Nearly no one reads the newspapers; we send instantly delivered emails instead of "snail mail"; all school kids use calculators and have never seen a slide rule; hundreds of choices of TV shows blare from nearly every room; food is fast or micro-woven; we all have computers (our cell phone is more powerful than Univac) and at some level we are all in trouble.

So, here we are, trying to do the work of our Lord Jesus Christ in what to many of us seems to be a strange and foreign land. Curiously, our methods of recruiting and training are the same as the ones adults have used forever: viz. eyeball to eyeball, hand to hand, warm personal communication. Our societal coherence is much less and now, everyone is going his own way ("All we like sheep"?) and people are in the midst of so many distracting alternatives to Kairos. Time to change?

Fortunately, God has given us a lot of new toys and technologies that the world is using to connect. Could these help you?

You have a computer? Check out these URLs:

<http://kairoscolorado.wordpress.com> -- a blog...for Kairos volunteers and friends. Hmmm.

## CLICKS

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The Ministry

State Committee

[Colorado Web Site](#)

[KPMI Web Site](#)

<http://facebook.com> (if you haven't heard of facebook, you are in an exclusive club) - Check out the group named Kairos of Colorado using the link: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/kairoscolorado/>

Become a member. And, if you like that, try this one: Kairos Prison Ministry national group: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/57168017819/>

How about videos, on your computer. Might these videos be interesting to a pastor or a Christian brother or sister who wonders what we do? Try by clicking on the link. Your computer knows what to do.

<http://vimeo.com/6935281> -- On Both Sides of the Wall Kairos Intro

<http://vimeo.com/62HYPERLINK> "http://vimeo.com/6248288"4HYPERLINK "http://vimeo.com/6248288"8288 -- Paul Davis Ex-offender Testimony

<http://vimeoHYPERLINK> "http://vimeo.com/6918825".HYPERLINK "http://vimeo.com/6918825"com/6918825 -- My Redeemer Lives Silent Choir

<http://vimeo.com/6909194> -- Cookie Ministry, West Virginia

Need help with your Agape or Prayer Chain for your next 3 day? Others have found help online. Go here: <http://www.3dayol.org/>

How about training or state wide meetings? Do we have to drive or fly to attend? Check this out: <http://www.gotomeeting.com/fec/> Kairos in Colorado started using these tools last night to help volunteers be more effective at recruiting new volunteers. If you are interested, send me an email at [kevinpaulcondon@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinpaulcondon@yahoo.com)

So, here's my point. Times have changed. People need to know what we do in Kairos and how we do it. They need to find out more about our community and the good work God has given us to do and the great grace He pours out on all of us when we do it. To get more volunteers, we need to tell our stories and get them to closing (or to a reunion?) and bring them and their churches and their prayerful friends into our community. They will help us with personal donations, church contributions, children who make place mats, support for agape, like-kind contributions, prayer chain and prayer, prayer, prayer. They will become members of our community. You know how that has been done in the past, but now people are not so easy to interact with, are they?

Nearly everyone has email already. The new, simple to learn tools indicated by the links you have been reviewing can help us, if we use them. There are over a billion Facebook accounts. Nearly every family you know has one, most of them are only being used for grandchildren's photos or light business purposes so far, but this company and others like it are growing every day to offer and deliver more services that help communities communicate and grow. All the church and para-church organizations are coming into this area strongly.

I believe we can expand the size of our community by commenting, posting, "like"-ing, sharing, and telling our stories. Take photos of your team formation meetings. Write stories about the inspiring moments of your last reunion. Take a digital camera (it's on your phone) to your next team meeting. Use a video camera to capture two minute videos of each volunteer. Just ask them why they like Kairos. All this stuff can be posted on our new blog and our Facebook group. All this stuff is FREE. Let's do it. Let's turn up the heat on the community of well-wishers and potential volunteers. I believe our Lord LIKES Facebook, because it allows us to follow His directions and gather his sheep to do his work, remember? [It is here.](#) [Just click.](#)

Let's do it.

Kevin Condon

### THE PRODIGAL SON

I'm writing this on the 4th Sunday in Lent, which is also known in liturgical circles as Laetare (Be Joyful) Sunday, or as Mothering Sunday, or Refreshment Sunday. We mark the midpoint of our Lenten journey by "lightening up" – even to the point rose vestments may be used in place of purple. (I'm told I look good in rose, though the vestments I wore were closer to peach in color and I couldn't resist referring to myself as the "Peach of the Lord.")

On this day also, once each three years, the Revised Common Lectionary directs us to the parable of the Prodigal Son, Luke 15:11-32. I'll spare you a sermon, but I would like to encourage each of us to spend some time with this parable which operates on different levels for different audiences.

As you immediately see, there are three actors in this parable. It's not fully allegorical, but they are recognizable.

Jesus was directing this parable to the Pharisees, who had criticized Jesus for welcoming and eating with sinners. The elder son, who is faithful but indignant, is a good match for them. How many of them might have gotten the point of this parable?

This parable is often preached on the inside, where offenders may well identify with the younger (prodigal) son, who is welcomed home and cherished by his father in spite of all that has happened. It offers hope to the hopeless, though it runs the risk of becoming cliché and losing its power by dwelling too much on the particulars.

The Father is the third actor, who we immediately identify with the loving and forgiving God that we preach, and who we are called to emulate. The irony is that we are each a blend of the two sons, neither of whom is all good or all bad. If the parable has a specific purpose, it is to point out that reality.

As we insert ourselves into the parable, we will then be reminded of our own humanity and of the loving Father who runs to welcome us home. Then it becomes our turn to be the loving "father" to those around us who have been "dead" but who are now "alive" in Christ.

Bill Kindel

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### SPRING CLEANING

When the spring sunlight shines through my windows, I see the dust (and paw prints) on the piano. Maybe that's why "spring cleaning" seems so sensible: the strong sunlight of this day makes it easy to see the smudges and grime so that they can be cleaned.

Jesus is the light by which I clearly see imperfections in my life. When I look at areas in my life from Jesus' perspective, I am aware of my shortcomings.

But Jesus is not only the light by which I see my imperfections, He is also the "Spring Cleaner!" He doesn't just show me where I have failed to act like a Christian, He gives me the ability to change and be a different type of person. When I confess my wrongdoings, Jesus forgives me, wiping my plate clean.

Even better, Jesus still loves me when I fail to act with love and forgiveness toward others. He does not reject me when I have imperfections, any more than I would throw away my piano because it is dusty.

God bless you.

Cecilia Lobato

## 2013 EVENTS

		<u>LEADER</u>	<u>INFO CONTACT</u>
4-7 April	<b>RIFLE #16</b>	Rocky Baker	Tyne Bush
11-14 April	<b>STERLING EAST #10</b>	John Roehl	Mark Cook
11-14 April	<b>TERRITORIAL #54</b>	Phil Peloquin	Jim Carter
25-28 April	<b>DELTA #43</b>	Harvey Gray	Bill Bennett
21 April	<b>State Committee Teleconference</b>		Kevin Condon
17-19 May	<b>AKT (Kairos Inside) – Denver</b>		Tony & Liz Castillo
6-9 June	<b>DENVER #19</b>	Janelle Scrivner	Glenda Condon
13 July	<b>STATE COMMITTEE MEETING (Keystone)</b>		Kevin Condon
30 July – 3 Aug	<b>KPMI SUMMER CONFERENCE</b> <b>NCED Conference Center &amp; Hotel, Norman OK</b>		Wayne Park
10-13 October	<b>DELTA #44</b>	Tad Coit	Bill Bennett
10-13 October	<b>TERRITORIAL #55</b>	Lonnie Womack	Jim Carter
20 October	<b>State Committee Teleconference</b>		Kevin Condon
31 Oct – 3 Nov	<b>RIFLE #17</b>	Don Haynes	Tyne Bush
31 Oct – 3 Nov	<b>STERLING WEST #30</b>	Scott Glahn	Mark Cook
5-8 December	<b>DENVER #20</b>	(needs prayer)	Glenda Condon

## BRING A GUEST TO YOUR NEXT REUNION

Dave Chaffee, the regional coordinator for CDOC, has informed us that CDOC makes it possible for Kairos to recruit volunteers by using a guest “visit” to any facility. So, that means we can invite our pastor, our neighbor, our mission committee chair, our best prayer vigil warrior, our brothers and sisters in Christ to “see what we are doing in prison”.

According to Dave, every facility has the option to utilize a “guest status” to allow a visit inside. The request goes to the facility volunteer coordinator at the prison telling them the purpose of the visit. Each guest needs to submit their name, date of birth and driver’s license number. Each applicant will go through a facility background check on this information to receive clearance. The person visiting with you can initiate this type of visit up to four times per year. There are also guest guidelines that should be reviewed and signed before entry.

The Guest Guidelines form, which has been sent to the Advisory Council Chair of each facility, can be reviewed with the guest and signed, either with your help or at the facility, depending on how your facility volunteer coordinator wants to do it.

There is no BVT or UVT to be a guest. Can you use this method to get someone off the fence? I can. I intend to invite my pastor first, then my brother Mark who lives in Ft. Collins. Here’s what I might say:

“Hey Pastor (or Mark), I want you to come along as a guest at least once to see what we are doing in Sterling. Our next reunion is the third Saturday of April. Will you do it? Sit down and let’s take a minute to complete this form here. Check your calendar and let’s chisel it in stone. It’ll only take a minute. If April doesn’t work, we’ll do it in June.”

# 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 36 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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\* We are very grateful to Lonnie Womack for stepping up to the responsibilities of State Treasurer as Karen Rayer prepares to move to Oregon to be close to family. Lonnie and his wife, Debbie, are both active team members – Lonnie at Territorial and Debbie at Denver Women's. Before moving here they were active in the Texas Kairos. Lonnie is a semi-retired educator. His specialty is Spanish.

The Colorado Chapter of Kairos Prison Ministry International publishes this newsletter quarterly.  
Kairos is a 501(c)(3) ministry. Donations are appreciated and tax-deductible.  
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