



K A I R O S O F C O L O R A D O

## CLICKS

### [Page 1](#)

From Our Chair  
Recruiting

### [Page 2](#)

Upcoming Events

### [Page 3](#)

Kairos Outside #3  
Sterling East #6 Closing

### [Page 4](#)

Territorial #48 Closing

### [Page 5](#)

State Committee Elections  
Spiritual Advisor Training  
Blue Manual Changes

### [Page 6](#)

The Ministry  
State Committee Roster

### [Colorado Web Site](#)

### [Sterling Web Site](#)

### [KPMI Web Site](#)

**"God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone but also on trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars."**

The Colorado Chapter of Kairos Prison Ministry International publishes this newsletter bimonthly. USPS address is P.O.Box 25004, Colorado Springs CO 80936. Donations are appreciated and tax-deductible. Kairos is a 501 (c)(3) ministry.

## ADJUST YOUR ATTITUDE, NOT YOUR APTITUDE

How many times have you asked someone to join you on a Kairos Weekend and got the answer, "No, I could never do that!" People constrain themselves into categories. Whether it's societal pressure or some innate human fear of change, folks just seem to self-limit. It's truly tragic. I've had folks quote Matthew 19:26 ("With God all things are possible.") and turn-around and explain to me why they couldn't possibly do something due to some perceived deficit. What, God won't help you? How have we allowed ourselves to be constrained into smallness when God intends greatness for us?

Personal accomplishments like learning to play an instrument, getting a pilot's license, or earning a karate black belt seem to be unattainable to many folks. This just simply is not true. Those endeavors are far more about perspiration than talent. The predecessor to perspiration is inspiration. One must first dream of a goal. This goal must be something that you want to do and are driven to attain. Then, as the aphorism goes, it is 90% perspiration from there. Showing up is most of the battle. The same goes for being successful in Kairos, you have to show up for it to happen. And to have any long term effect, you have to show up regularly, especially to the Reunions. Popping in every few months won't cut it. The residents in prison won't see you as a constant if you are inconsistent.

God is clear about attitude. In Philippians 2:5 Paul tells us to have Jesus' attitude. Jesus never walked away from a difficult task. He lived Matthew 19:26 and knew that "with God all things are possible." He went face to face with Satan and his temptations and won. How? By using God's word. We can similarly find inspiration and the strength to persevere in Ephesians 6:18: "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."

This doesn't just apply to big steps like deciding to do a new ministry, but also to every-day life. Amelia Earhart said it best when she wrote, "**Courage** is the price that life exacts for granting **peace**. The soul that knows it not knows no release from little things." The next time some seemingly difficult little task comes your way, ask yourself if it's a matter of aptitude or attitude, then say a prayer and have it at!

*M. Jeffrey Holley, Chair, Colorado State Committee*

## RECRUITING

One direct implication of the message above is for more folks to get involved in Kairos – and to stay involved. And, as Jeff points out, it is mostly a matter of attitude. Yes, aptitude has a role, but we have to note that Kairos team members represent a broad spectrum of aptitudes, which is one aspect of the ministry that makes it so effective. "We" are people from all walks of life, all levels of "accomplishment." There are no entrance exams, no required educational level, no required income, no required societal background. Just a servant's heart – which is a matter of attitude.

It is said that sailors hear the call of the sea, that climbers hear the call of the mountains. The Bible tells us that people of God hear the call of God. Often the call of God comes through other people. Let us pray to be the "other people" – to discern who God wants to reach for His ministry in our prisons. To paraphrase the Action Talk:

**Discern a friend being called.  
Nurture the friend being called.  
Bring the called friend to a Closing.**

For more, click [here](#) and then click on "**Get Involved!**"

## UPCOMING EVENTS

	<u>LEADER</u>	<u>INFO CONTACT</u>
<b><u>2009</u></b>		
1st & 3rd Thursdays	<b>LA VISTA WOMEN'S REUNIONS</b>	Sara Igyarto
5-8 November	<b>STERLING WEST #26</b> Scott Glahn	Thomas Sonntag
13-15 November	<b>KAIROS OUTSIDE #3</b> Linda Lauper	Jean Mares
	<b>Ponderosa Retreat Center, Larkspur/Monument (Still room for more guests)</b>	
3-6 December	<b>DENVER WOMEN'S #12</b> Marti Casey	Glenda Condon
	<b>DENVER STREET GATHERINGS</b>	
2nd Fridays, 7:00pm	Warren United Methodist Church, 14th and Gilpin. Bring spouse, friend, grouping card, musical instrument. Volunteers also bring potluck dish. Contact is Glenda Condon.	
	<b>COLORDAO SPRINGS STREET GATHERINGS</b>	
3rd Fridays, 6:30pm	Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Hancock & Boulder, Bus lines #5 and #19. Volunteers bring potluck dish. Contact is Jean Magnuson.	
<b><u>2010</u></b>		
11-13 February	<b>KPMI WINTER BOARD</b>	
	<b>Holiday Inn, Orlando, Florida</b>	
12-15 February*	<b>FREMONT #48</b> Jim Waters	Mary Sogan Tom Guidera
4-7 March	<b>RIFLE #10</b> Ken Ooley	Tyne Bush
8-11 April*	<b>TERRITORIAL #49</b> Chuck Weida	Bill Durfee
15-18 April	<b>DELTA #37</b> Ken DeForest	Bill Bennett
29 Apr 2 May	<b>STERLING EAST #7</b> Kevin Condon	Thomas Sonntag
21-23 May	<b>KAIROS OUTSIDE #4</b> Pilar Manzanares	Jean Mares
	<b>Id-Ra-Ha-Je Camp &amp; Retreat Center, Bailey</b>	
21-23 May	<b>ADVANCED KAIROS TRAINING (KI/KO)</b>	Randy Borden
	<b>American Motel &amp; Conference Center, Wheat Ridge</b>	
3-6 June*	<b>DENVER WOMEN'S #13</b> Michelle Johnson	Glenda Condon
27 July-1 August*	<b>KPMI SUMMER CONFERENCE</b>	
	<b>Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas</b>	
5-8 August	<b>RIFLE #11</b> Lloyd Strobeck	Mary Sogan Tyne Bush
30 Sep-3 Oct	<b>STERLING WEST #27</b> Rob Bradley	Thomas Sonntag
7-10 Oct	<b>DELTA #38</b> TBD	Bill Bennett
7-10 October*	<b>TERRITORIAL #50</b> TBD	Bill Durfee
5-7 November	<b>KAIROS OUTSIDE #5</b> Catherine Flint	Jean Mares
	<b>Ponderosa Retreat Center, Larkspur/Monument</b>	
2-5 December*	<b>DENVER WOMEN'S #14</b> TBD	Glenda Condon

*\* Dates subject to Facility Confirmation*

## COLORADO KAIROS OUTSIDE #3

13-15 November

Colorado Kairos Outside #3 is to be held at the Ponderosa Retreat Center on 13-15 November. Plan now to show and share God's Love by attending one or both of:

The **Walk in Love** Candlelight on Saturday the 14th.

Glenn Chapel

Please arrive between 8:00 to 8:15 pm

Parking available at Glenn Chapel

The **Closing** on Sunday the 15th

Glenn Chapel

Please arrive between 2:00 and 2:15 pm

Parking available at Glenn Chapel

General directions: From I-25 Exit 163 (County Line Road) go east on County Line Road 1.8 miles to Furrow Road, turn left (north) for about .9 miles to Ponderosa sign, turn left, follow road to Glenn Chapel.

The purpose of Kairos Outside is to demonstrate God's grace and love through Christian support for women who have relatives or friends who are or who have been incarcerated.

We currently have 27 guests signed up. There's room for quite a few more, but please get them signed up soon, since there are pre-event things that need to be done before opening night.

Contacts are Lorraine Huard, Linda Lauper, and Jean Mares.

## STERLING EAST #6 CLOSING

### From the Table Families (36 Candidates):

We arrived spiritually bankrupt, seriously searching, totally lost, feeling less than human, needing a battery charge, with mixed feelings, hungry for more in life, anxious and excited, had a low fire, filled with confusion, and feeling lost.

We found friendship, hope, joy, and love from people who really care about us. A lot of our families have cut us loose. We also found a broader group of relationships that broke the racial barriers. We found fellowship tools, reassurance and honesty, and thousands of calories. For 3 ½ days we forgot we were in prison, and felt real agape love.

We are taking with us hope, joy, freedom, a deeper understanding of God, a new life with Jesus, how to walk in fellowship, a bond with our Kairos brothers. Also we are taking away the knowledge that we need to get along and that we are all equal and to not let our egos get in the way.

### From 4th Day Speaker #1:

I felt the Holy Spirit in the room. My name means God is with us. I am not ashamed to claim I love the Lord. My upbringing was ugly including violence, incest, and witchcraft. I was 1 of 8 kids and my brother is serving a 70- year sentence. We were both gang members. When I was in ad seg, which is 23-hour lock down, I actually saw God's face. Now I'm freer than I've ever been. I don't use my gang name any longer. My name is Emmanuel.

### From 4th Day Speaker #2:

The food helps you to sign up for the unknown, but it is just to get you here for the real gift. Take the love you have found with you and shine in your units so more will want to sign up to receive this gift.

### From the Open Mike:

- I haven't felt love like this since I was held in my mother's arms
- The letters from everyone were awesome, they are beautiful and you are like disciples of Jesus for sharing with us.
- Being in prison isn't the end of the road; I learned it's still about making the right choices. I spent the whole weekend with cool Christians and I'm going to keep them in my prayers. This was a miracle for me. I challenged God to open my eyes and heart, it happened. We saw Christ through you. Please pray that we can take it and keep it in the yard.
- I felt like I was left in storage and forgotten until this weekend.
- I couldn't wrap my mind around the fact that so many people from around the world were praying for us. We were deeply blessed with riches from God.
- I would appreciate your prayers as I have a terminal illness and expect to be leaving to see my Lord very soon. *(This sparked a spontaneous group prayer from all and there wasn't a dry eye in the place. A very touching moment.)*

One man who accepted Jesus was released the next day to his mother and a rehab program in Arizona.

Give God the Glory!

Submitted by Joan Borden

## TERRITORIAL #48 CLOSING

### From four of the table families::

We were broken, confused, unstable, lost, faithless, spiritually stagnant and starved, in spiritual cardiac arrest, torn, cheated and misguided. We had lost a lot of faith, and we knew there was room for improvement.

We found knowledge, wisdom, understanding, believers, lots of love, fellowship, trust in others, spiritual acceptance, a spiritual mountain top, renewal, a way to keep the door open, peace, having our pain accepted, ears to hear and fingers to sign (for the three Deaf inmates), new friends, comfort, joy, agape love, smiles – and the touch of Jesus.

We are taking away friendship, the love of God, peace, new hope and faith, new songs, Agape, and faith. Our lives are like books – some bad chapters, some good; this was one of the good.

### From the table family that included three men of The Deaf (thru an interpreter):

*(Hat on backwards)* On Thursday – we were skeptical, let's see what this is about.

*(Hat on sideways)* On Friday & Saturday – maybe there's something worthwhile going on here and maybe we need to check this out.

*(Hat on frontwards)* On Sunday – we are good, proud. "I'm a Christian now! – I have a good relationship with God."

[Note: Most of The Deaf male inmates in Colorado DOC (except those requiring high-level security) are at CTCF. There are presently about a dozen. They are their own subculture and are housed in the same area. DOC provides professional interpreters for all CTCF events they attend, including all Kairos events. They prefer to be known as "The Deaf."]

### From Individuals at Open Mike:

- So much love has come to us from all over the United States.
- I now know about the Great Commission – to be fishers of men. You did that for us. Now, knowing how much that meant to us, we want to go out and do it for others.
- I was thinking, "Why is there Kleenex on the table?" I thought maybe they (the Kairos team) think since it is cold we might have coughs and runny noses. I know now that no one is too tough for God. Tears were flowing from the personal Agape. I've seen raging waters from the eyes of the toughest. There are no co-incidences, only God-incidences.
- I experienced that 3-legged stool. I opened my door. I discovered, have begun to discover what God intended me to be. I am beginning my action, am prepared to act, to participate in groups. We serve an awesome God.
- Didn't know what to expect, except that it would make me a better person. I learned that choices affect not only us but all those around us. We were shown how to open doors to each other.
- I was baptized last month and wasn't living it. Didn't really know much. Then my Christian brothers brought me to Kairos. And I am living the life.
- Was bitter, upset with my life experiences, putting my trust in those I thought were my friends. People will fail you, but God never will. Getting ready to leave here and ask you to keep me in your prayers. I don't want to be back here.
- Came here using my street name. Now I am back to using the name given me at birth. God has been knocking on my door for a long time. Yesterday the letters (plus the wisdom of one of the inside servers) broke it in.
- It is amazing what a mask can do to you in here. Now that mask is removed.
- *(Regarding Footprints in the Sand)* When I look back, it's just one set of footprints most of the way -- God carrying me. God finally had to kick down my door (*fist on podium --smash, boom, boom, boom!*). I came to Kairos kicking and screaming. I've never felt so much love in one place. It gives us hope. I have seen the light of hope go out in people's eyes. I want to see two sets of footprints as I walk along with God. Doors are expensive. I don't want no more doors kicked in.
- I have been brought back from the street life and that kind of acceptance. Now I have a new kind of acceptance.
- I came to Kairos with all my selfish baggage. I am not a listener (If I don't listen, I don't have to change). So they put me at a table with three men who couldn't hear. I now know that God hears everything, even in silence. I felt a level of respect I hadn't felt in a long time.
- Just started 20-year sentence, didn't know where life was going. I have found new brothers, personal agape, the truth of God, and who's really there for us, who we can trust (God). Now I know who is really calling me to Heaven's gate.
- I was dealing with a lot of depression, including rejection by my mother. Then the letters – totally touched, renewed.
- *(Deaf man)* On Thursday I didn't know what love was, but now I know.

### From the 4th Day Speaker:

This is my last Kairos before getting out. I pray and hope I can make it. I was a gang member. I am blessed to be a server on Kairos #48. I found Jesus Christ on Kairos #47, was baptized recently. I now know how to forgive and forget. I recently lost my mother and felt lost and discouraged, but the brothers in Christ held me up and provided comfort during my time of need. Jesus Christ means so much to me. Now I can walk to the Chapel with my head up high, not hiding in my jacket.

*Submitted by Glen Wiersch and Jim Strub*

## NEW STATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

At its 18 October meeting the State Committee reelected Mary Sogan as our state representative to KPMI (KPMI required that this election be held prior to November.)

Election for new At-Large members of the State Committee is scheduled for the 13 December SC meeting. From all the At-Large members then on the SC, the SC will elect its officers, who will be seated on 9 January 2010. All of the officer positions are for one-year terms, so are open for replacement or reelection (except for the Chair who is term limited). Both Clergy positions are open.

If you have any interest in serving or know someone who is, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members – Randy Borden, Glenda Condon, or Peter Kufeke. They have already made some preliminary recommendations – Tim Brady for Vice Chair, Glenda Condon for SC Clergy, and Jack Olafson for SC Clergy. Still need a nominee for Chair. All of the other officers are eligible to serve at least one more year, and are willing to stay on.

The nomination process remains open until the actual election. Any active Kairos volunteer is eligible, unless in the mandatory “three-year gap” following previous SC service.

## SPIRITUAL ADVISOR TRAINING

This weekend (10/16-10/18) Jeffrey Holley, Randy Borden, Joy Maly, and I had a great time in the Spiritual Advisor Seminar. We laughed, cried, and had a magnificent time of fellowship. We also received illumination on some important principles of spiritual counseling. Perhaps the most definitive principle of spiritual counseling came from my host family. I was reminded of an old proverb: **“No man can sincerely help another without helping himself.”** Out of respect for my host family I will share a parallel story from my past:

A long time ago, in a far away galaxy ... sorry, wrong story ... so, one night I received a phone call from a friend of mine informing me that his dad had just passed away. My mother had recently gone to be with her Lord and Savior, so I was still dealing with some grief issues myself. However, I discovered that as quickly as my words of comfort went out to my friend, God's healing love touched my life!

God's healing love works in our lives as we let his *agape* love flow through our lives to others! If you are going through a difficult time right now, please let God touch your life with His healing love by reaching out to others with His *agape* love. (I John 4:11,12; John 13:34-35)

*Submitted by Chaplain Jack Olafson*

At the 18 October SC meeting, Jack reported that he is preparing for KPMI a summary report of the Spiritual Advisor Training program to date. This is a pilot program. KPMI will evaluate the progress so far and recommend a next step.

The following have completed the pilot course and have been certified: Tina Anderson, Paul Benavides, Randy Borden, Tim Brady, Kristin Briggs, Ace Chapman, Richard Fairchild, Paul Ha, Dan Hayes, Jeff Holley, Joy Maly, Martin Kennedy, Glenn Kimbrough, Bert Morrison, Patty Morrison, Karen Salzman, Eric Simonson, Lloyd Strobeck, Jim Strub, Marilyn Tedford, Daniel Tyler, Chuck Weida, Randy Weldon, and Debbie Womack.

## KPMI CHANGES TO THE BLUE MANUAL

**Our KPMI Executive Director, John Thompson, is asking each of us to participate in a revision of the Blue Manual.**

The Blue Manual is five or six years old. There are various subject areas that need to be refreshed. Some of us want to add more information about team meetings, some miss the information from the previous “Continuing Ministry” manual about grouping, and some are still troubled by the content or intent of some of the talks.

John's hope is that the principle work for the revision will take place between now and the 2010 Winter Conference. Whatever revisions or additions **you** would like to have considered, please write them up and email them to our National Rep, Mary Sogan at [mlsogan@comcast.net](mailto:mlsogan@comcast.net). This will be our last call for your participation.

## BLUE MANUAL CHANGES — LAST CALL

## 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 31 states and eight other countries – Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, South Africa, Costa Rica, 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

#### OFFICERS:

Chairperson	Jeff Holley	303-469-7719	jeffreyholley@msn.com
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#### CLERGY:

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The Reverend	(vacant)		

#### ADVISORY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:

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#### EX-OFFICIO:

Chaplain	Jack Olafson	719-590-9639	jolafson7@msn.com
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**"The salary may be small, but the retirement benefits  
are out of this world."                      A. Nony Mous**