

Kairos Prison Ministry International

The Kairos prison ministry is active in 33 states and five foreign countries. The ministry is operating in 270 prisons. About 170,000 incarcerated men and women have been introduced to the Christian ministry of Kairos. For more information about Kairos Prison Ministry International, go to:
www.kairosprisonministry.org

Connections Between Kairos and Established Christian Renewal Movements

People are considered for service in the Kairos prison ministry if they have completed one of the following Christian renewal weekends:

- ◆ Catholic Cursillo
- ◆ Cum Christo
- ◆ Christ Renews His Parish
- ◆ Episcopal Cursillo (or Happening Youth Weekend)
- ◆ Great Banquet
- ◆ Koinonia
- ◆ Lutheran Via De Christo
- ◆ Tres Dies
- ◆ Walk to Emmaus (or Chrysalis Youth Weekend)

There are also a couple other ways to qualify for serving in the Kairos Ministry. Ask a Kairos leader about these other alternatives.

What is Kairos?

The purpose of the Kairos ministry is to help grow and nurture strong Christian communities within state and federal adult correctional institutions.

Through a systematic structured program, God helps Kairos volunteers provide residents the opportunity to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and/or to renew that relationship—starting with the 3-day Kairos “short course in Christianity.” During the weekend and subsequent follow-up spiritual growth activities facilitated by Kairos volunteers and prison chaplains, residents are challenged to accept God’s call to a life of Christian witness and service to one another and to staff during their stay in the institution and beyond.

As the mission of Kairos is accomplished in an institution, there is a positive impact on the total environment of the institution.

Contact information for
Kairos Prison Ministry of Ohio
www.kairosohio.org
P.O. Box 14490, Columbus, OH 43214
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Kairos Volunteer Recruiting Brochure
8th Printing—December, 2005

Consider And Pray About Being A Team Member For a Kairos Prison Ministry Renewal Weekend



Kairos Weekends
are conducted twice per year at:

- ◆ Lebanon Correctional Institution
- ◆ Marion Correctional Institution
- ◆ Ohio Reformatory for Women (Marysville)
- ◆ Ross Correctional (Chillicothe)
- ◆ Trumbull Correctional (Warren)
- ◆ Toledo Correctional Institution
- ◆ Southern Ohio Correctional (Lucasville)
- ◆ Franklin Pre-Release Center (Columbus)

For dates of Kairos Weekends go to
www.kairosohio.org

Kairos Weekends Need a Team
Of 40-60 Volunteers (Including 7 Clergy)
To Serve 30-42 Resident Participants



Kairos Ministry In Ohio

There are 8 Ohio prisons where the Kairos 3-day “short course in Christianity” is provided twice per year. The Kairos ministry has been active in the following prisons since the indicated startup dates: Lebanon Correctional Institution - 1991; Ohio Reformatory for Women (Marysville) - 1994; Marion Correctional Institution - 1997; Ross Correctional (Chillicothe) - 2000; Trumbull Correctional (Warren) - 2002; Toledo Correctional – 2003; Southern Ohio Correctional (Lucasville) - 2004; Franklin Pre-Release Center—2005 About 4500 Ohio inmates have participated in the Kairos program.

Please pray that other state prisons will receive the Kairos ministry and that more volunteers will come forth to serve in Kairos.

Does the Kairos Ministry Really Make a Difference?

The wardens and chaplains at the Ohio institutions where Kairos is operating have very positive opinions about the Kairos Ministry. One positive is that Kairos volunteers keep coming back to the institutions month after month and year after year. This provides continuity in the ministry and builds security for the Kairos participants, because they witness the continuing support of volunteers. Another positive is that the Kairos program follows National Kairos Manuals, so the chaplains and supervisors know what to expect in every facet of the ministry.

The wardens have reported improvements in the prison living environment due to the positive influence of residents that are in the Kairos program. Attendance at Sunday church services has increased. Many residents who are active in the Kairos program have become committed disciples of Jesus Christ.

South Carolina Department of Corrections did a recidivism study on those inmates who had been through the Kairos program. They found that Kairos experience brought a drop in recidivism rates from 36% to 26% when compared to their control group. Fewer of the Kairos men and women returned to prison within three years; fewer by 10 percentage points—which is a 28% improvement from the norm.

More About Kairos Ministry

Kairos is an ecumenical Christian ministry designed for use in men’s and women’s correctional institutions. The ministry is conducted, in cooperation with chaplains of correctional institutions, by teams of laity and clergy who are qualified by their experiences in Christian renewal movements.

The purpose of Kairos is to help build and nurture strong Christian communities among the residents of correctional institutions. The Kairos experience for residents starts with a 3-day short course in Christianity. This weekend involves 30-42 inmates screened by the Chaplain and a team of 40-60 lay and clergy persons. The weekend is modeled after renewal weekends like Cursillo, Cum Christo, Emmaus Walk and Via De Christo.

After their Kairos weekend, residents continue their faith walk by participating in small Prayer and Share Groups. These groups meet weekly to share their lives on a deep spiritual level and to pray for one another. Kairos participants also attend monthly reunions in the institution with Kairos volunteers. Kairos volunteers conduct two spiritual retreats per year for residents who have made a Kairos weekend.



“...I was in prison and you visited me.”

Matthew 25:36

Responsibilities of Kairos Team Members

- 8 team meetings (Fri. PM or Sat. AM)
- Provide 200 dozen home-baked cookies for Kairos Weekend (ask church members, friends and family to help bake) Each weekend needs 6,000 to 10,000 dozen cookies.
- Ask others for financial support of weekend
- 3 1/2 day Kairos Weekend inside prison
- Attend monthly reunions with Kairos “graduates” at the institution for one year. Reunions are held Sunday afternoons or evenings or weekday evenings.

Yes, I’ve made an approved renewal weekend and am willing to be considered to serve on a Kairos Weekend Team!

My Weekend Name _____

Name _____

Male () Female ()

Street Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone Number () _____

Cut out and mail to:

Kairos Prison Ministry of Ohio
P.O. Box 14490
Columbus, OH 43214

Questions? Call the Kairos office, leave a voice-mail message. 614-268-4333.

E-mail: Kairosohio@aol.com