

KAIROS MINISTRY IN OHIO

There are eight Ohio state institutions at which the Kairos 3-day “short course in Christianity” is provided twice per year. The Kairos Prison 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; Richland Correctional – 2004; Southern Ohio Correctional – 2004. About 3500 Ohio inmates have participated in these Kairos weekends and the follow-up Kairos programs.

Please pray that other institutions will receive Kairos.

DOES THE KAIROS MINISTRY REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

The wardens and chaplains at the Ohio institutions where Kairos is active have very positive evaluations of 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 a National Kairos Manual, so the chaplains and supervisors know what to expect in every facet of the ministry.

The wardens have reported improvements in the whole 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 an in-house recidivism study on those who had been through the Kairos program. They found that Kairos experience brought a drop in recidivism (i.e. return to prison) 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 their norm.

ABOUT THE PURPOSE OF KAIROS

The purpose of Kairos is to help grow and nurture strong Christian communities within 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.

For more information about
Kairos Prison Ministry in Ohio
< www.kairosohio.org >

Web site for Kairos Prison Ministry
International
kairosprisonministry.org

Kairos Green Agape Brochure
4th Printing—March, 2004

PLEASE GIVE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR A KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY CHRISTIAN RENEWAL WEEKEND AND PRAY FOR THE INMATE PARTICIPANTS

<p>Kairos Weekends start Thursday evening and end Sunday evening</p> 
<p>Weekend # Institution: Dates:</p> 

**THE COST OF A KAIROS WEEKEND
AVERAGES \$5,000
FOR FOOD, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT
\$125 PER PARTICIPATING INMATE**

**EACH KAIROS WEEKEND HAS A TEAM
OF 40 TO 60 VOLUNTEERS
SERVING
30 TO 42 INMATE PARTICIPANTS**



God's Special Time

Please Return This Response Form with Your Contribution Either to a Weekend Team Member or to the Office of Kairos Prison Ministry of Ohio

- The average total cost for a Kairos Weekend is about \$5,000 for food, supplies, equipment..
- Average cost per resident attending a weekend is \$125.

Your name or contributing organization

Street Address (street, route, box)

City State ZIP

Make check payable to Kairos Prison Ministry of Ohio .

Please print name of prison on the memo line of your check.

- Enclosed is \$125 to support one resident on this Kairos Weekend.
- Enclosed is \$ _____ to support more than one resident on this Kairos Weekend.
- Enclosed is \$ _____ to help support this Kairos Weekend.

**Kairos Weekend Team
Contact Person is:**

Kairos Prison Ministry of Ohio
P.O. Box 14490
Columbus, OH 43214
(614) 268-4333
E-mail: kairosOhio@aol.com

**COMMENTS ABOUT KAIROS
MINISTRY BY PARTICIPATING
RESIDENTS**



“I came into the weekend upset , no hope and in pain. I’m taking away peace of mind, joy and Jesus.”

“I’m glad I was incarcerated here at Ohio Reformatory for Women. Otherwise I might not have found Jesus.”

“Jesus and my Kairos Prayer and Share Group are my lifeline.”

“Prior to coming to Kairos, I was on life support.”

“I had a wall around me that I didn’t even know about, and Kairos helped me start breaking down my wall.”

“The judge gave me a life sentence; Jesus gave me a life contract.”

“There’s a whole lot of love in those letters and cookies.”

“After Kairos I’m all the way on God’s team.”

“You have not only loved us unconditionally, but treated us with utmost respect.”

“What I learned at Kairos is that God doesn’t hate me, he just hates my sins; the volunteers taught me that he is a forgiving God—no matter what.”

“Coming into my Kairos weekend, I was angry and hateful, which made me miserable; the weekend changed my attitude and I am going to study the Bible to continue transforming me.”

“Kairos opened doors that I thought I lost the keys to; I am going to let God work in my life a day at a time.”

“I was a Satanist and Arian Nation leader in this prison up until I accepted Jesus as my savior 4 months ago; this Kairos weekend has moved me to love people and to proclaim Jesus to other inmates.”

WHAT IS KAIROS?

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 the Kairos ministry 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 to 42 inmates screened by the Chaplain and a team of 40-60 lay and clergy Kairos volunteers. 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