

God's Special Time

**The mission of the
Kairos Prison Ministry
is to bring
Christ's love and forgiveness
to all incarcerated individuals,
their families and
those who work with them,
and to assist in the transition of
becoming a productive citizen.**

Testimony of Faith

I can never repay Kairos for what it has done for me. I came to the Kairos weekend filled with hate, anger and deceit. I only came because I heard that there would be good food, but I didn't want anybody in my face about God. But as I began to hear these men talk about how God loved me so much that he sent Jesus, His own son to die in my place so that I would be free, something started to happen to me. I began to experience a kind of love that I had never seen or felt before. I now understand that it was the love of God, offered to me by His people.

I made a mess of my life and ended up in prison. My family abandoned me and society had written me off. I was worthless, and I felt that way. Life had lost all meaning for me – I was like a balloon with nothing inside. But these Kairos men fed me with the Word of God, and now I hunger after Him. I will be forever grateful to Kairos for showing me that the way to freedom is through the cross of Christ.

A Kairos Inmate

Testimony

Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc.

Statement of Faith

♥ Kairos encourages believers from a variety of Christian traditions to be volunteers in this Christ-filled ministry.

♥ Kairos programs offer to prison residents, their families, and those who work with them, the opportunity to receive God's forgiveness through faith in Jesus Christ, and to grow in their faith and Servanthood in Christian community.

♥ The people of Kairos are called by God to share the love of Christ with those impacted by incarceration.

We stand on the common ground of the following elements of faith:

- † The Bible is God's authoritative and inspired word for our faith and our lives**
- † In the Trinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit**
- † In the deity, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ;**
- † Friendship with God is a free gift, for God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.**
- † The love of Jesus Christ motivates His followers to provide food for the hungry, drink to the thirsty, welcome to the stranger, clothes for the naked, and visits to the sick and those in prison.**
- † In sharing the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ with all incarcerated individuals, their families and to those who work with them inside and outside the correctional institution.**

Kairos consists of three programs:



Men's and Women's Ministry,
begun in 1976



Kairos Outside, begun in 1991



Kairos Torch, begun in 1997



Men and Women Ministry

Well-organized and well-trained volunteer teams of men and women from the communities surrounding an institution present an introductory 3-day weekend, described as a short course in Christianity. This inter-denominational team of volunteers — both clergy and laypersons — works in cooperation with the Chaplain who carefully selects up to 42 inmate leaders to attend. A well-organized follow up program is part of this ministry.



Kairos Outside for Female Family and Friends

Kairos Outside is a special weekend retreat designed to support the female loved ones of men and women who are or have been incarcerated. Families of the incarcerated “do time” right along with their loved ones. In a safe environment with loving people, women interact with other women who are in similar situations and learn to form small groups to support and give them strength for the challenges they face.



Kairos Torch for Youthful Offenders

Kairos Torch offers unconditional love and acceptance, encouraging young men and women to share their life journey through participation in a long term mentoring process. The program begins with a weekend retreat inside the prison. Torch team members commit to a weekly mentoring process with the youthful offenders for six months after the weekend.

Kairos Ministries currently operates in over 270 prisons in 33 states, England, Australia, South Africa, Costa Rica, and Canada. More than 170,000 incarcerated men and women have been introduced to Kairos, since its inception. The current number of volunteers exceeds 20,000 per year.

Kairos Outside is active in 19 states, Canada, England, Australia and South Africa, and includes 35 programs. ***Kairos Torch*** is operational in 10 locations.

In addition to having a positive impact on prisoners, the program also has a very favorable effect upon volunteers. Many volunteers acknowledge that the team training, with its emphasis on introspection, honesty, sharing, and community, enhances their spirituality.

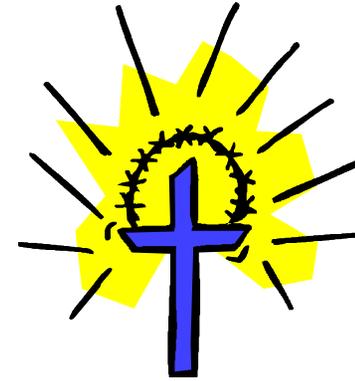
Kairos Prison Ministry affects the lives of prisoners in countless positive ways. Lives have been changed, and former inmates re-enter society as better spouses, parents and employees. Many released prisoners become volunteers, and give back to society. Some start their own ministries, pastor churches, while others run re-entry programs, and become mentors.

The Kairos method of talks, meditations, individual and group activities is an invitation to live in a personal relationship with the living Christ. Kairos is not only to help Christ in saving souls, but to put human lives in service – literally to transform prison environments.

The Kairos method confronts man with his problems and his personal history and Christ is presented as the only total solution. This in truth can only be done by the man himself – too many distractions tend to make him immune to the journey.

Kairos Prison Ministry has made certain adaptations for this method to be effective in the environment of prisons. We do this because we are prompted by the Holy Spirit to remember, “God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” In Matthew 25:36 He has called us to visit the prison environment.

The Kairos continuing ministry of reunions and spiritual retreats allows us in community to provide a more authentic, continuous, and vital Christianity which changes lives.



“I was in prison and you visited me. Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.”

Matthew 25:36



Prison Ministry is all about
Changing Lives!



God's Special Time

is a . . .

Christian

Kairos volunteers represent the Christian faith and present a Christian perspective.

Ecumenical

Kairos volunteers come from many Christian denominations, but present only those principles that all share in common.

Lay-led

Kairos leadership is drawn from lay persons, although clergy play a vital role.

Volunteer

Kairos is an overwhelmingly volunteer organization, with over 20,000 volunteers worldwide.

Ministry

Kairos ministers to incarcerated individuals, their families, and those who work with them.

Get Involved!

Here's How You Can Participate...

Be a team member

Kairos volunteers come from all walks of life. They all share a desire to follow Christ's admonition of Matthew 25:36, "I was in prison and you visited me." If you feel God's call to minister to the incarcerated as a part of a Kairos team, contact:

admin@kairosclemens.org

Get Involved!
Here's How You Can Participate...

Be a Prayer Partner

All Kairos activities are covered with prayer. You can be a part of that prayer effort.

Get Involved!

Here's How You Can Participate...

Be a Support Volunteer

Each Kairos retreat weekend has opportunities for outside support, such as baking cookies, writing letters of support, or preparing meals, contact:

admin@kairosclemens.org

Get Involved!

Here's How You Can Participate...

Be a Ministry Financial Booster.

All Kairos activities are funded by donations. If you would like to support this ministry by your donation, make your check payable (any amount is appreciated!) to:

Kairos Prison Ministry - Clemens Unit