

From the KOT State Chair

**GOD Is
So GOOD!**

ISSUE 12



Bill Salser

The last six months has been the most challenging and exciting six months of my Kairos life. We had an extremely productive state meeting in April with Chaplain Pierce introducing Linda Green as the new Director of Volunteer Services. Her comments about “**Crusades Ministries**” alone opened new avenues to support volunteer recruiting. Chaplain Pierce also defined the **TDCJ Mentoring Program** that while exciting, will not allow us to assist our Kairos alumni as they leave the system in and of itself. Details of both presentations are presented in the April State meeting minutes.

The highlight of our July State meeting was the presence of all our Kairos levels of activity from all of us as state reps and officers to our International Council Reps, to Mike Springer, Chairman of the KPMI Foundation Board, Ed Keefer our KPMI Board Chairman and the final piece to the puzzle is our new Interim Executive Director Tom Kemner. Tom blessed us with a brief overview of his role in Kairos and immediately added a personal presentation on fund raising using basic Christian principles for generating commitments. **The beauty of Tom’s approach is that it is Christian, personal and generates a reason to commit and can be used in many different ways - especially recruiting.** More detailed information is presented in the minutes for the July state meeting.

The KPMI Summer Conference was very rewarding as we are seeing an ever increasing awareness of the need to be accountable to our Volunteer base. The budget is real and the hard decisions to thin down to a realistic financial footprint are now in place. We see our **KPMI Board actively addressing all phases of Kairos** in face-to-face meetings and conference calls almost weekly. The International Conference committees were all buzzing with new excitement and **PROGRESS**. Again most of this information can be found in detail in the Summer Conference Special Report circulated to all the Advisory Councils and on the website.

The months of April, May and June demanded much of my waking hours to the preparation of the Kit Cummings presentations in to the HOPE Worldwide Chapters in Houston and Dallas and targeted recruiting. Houston was the initial attempt for Kit to use his evangelical talents to actively recruit new volunteers. None of us had any idea what to expect. The initial response was very encouraging. We did learn that we did not have enough of the right materials to effectively present the Kairos story and Kit while experienced in Kairos weekends did not present the whole Kairos picture effectively. We did have a very active set of “exit reviews” and the

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approach was revised for a Dallas presentation. I think we were much better prepared and organized for Dallas, but Dallas was not ready for us. We have come out of the Dallas presentation with an even better organizational awareness that I believe will allow us to truly capitalize on both Kit's skills and the energy levels of the our Kairos volunteers to maximize our delivery to the HOPE community in San Antonio in the near future and a blueprint to provide other states to follow.

It was not the initial "homerun" many of us wished to see or needed, but I am extremely happy with what came out of the presentations. We did crack a door into a new set of churches that will provide a source of volunteers for our Ministry. **We are going to have to work harder both in the presentation and the follow-up to openly explain the time and financial commitments of Kairos.** We have retooled most of our presentation material to be more responsive to the questions of the audience and provide the information we need to follow up intelligently.

The most rewarding part of the experience for me was seeing our volunteers get energized and excited. I am certain that we can expand on these experiences to broaden our message and address other potential volunteer groups more effectively.

Prayer and Share

by Tom Patterson



God blessed me by simply letting me be a witness. I can't stop thinking about last night's Kairos Prayer and Share meeting at the prison. I sat with four young men I had never met. Three of them had never been on a Kairos weekend. There was a 36 year old that was haunted by his life in the gang world and consumed with guilt because of the effects it had on his children. He has been in and out of prison since he was 17. He left the gang a year ago but his guilt has kept him from moving closer to Christ.

There was another young man who was lost with a sense of complete worthlessness. He had no father and was beaten down by an environment of degradation that was sure to lead him to a life of crime and incarceration. He was 20 years old and had no hope and no future!

As a Kairos volunteer we are instructed to sit in but not participate in Prayer and Share. This gets very difficult when you hear these stories and want to share the good news of Jesus. **They wanted me to share with them but I explained that this was their time not mine.**

There was another young man in white in the circle that was a Christian and Kairos brother. He sat and listened to their stories patiently until they were done. Then guided by the Spirit he began to minister to these two men. He addressed their past, their present and their future all in the context of the scriptures. He shared the good news in a way that only he, not I, could relate to them. **I sat there in awe. It was all I could do to just nod my head to every word he said and keep my mouth shut. I could see what was happening and wanted to share but it was not my place or time.** After sharing the gospel with these two men for almost an hour, he called them to Christ. I held hands with them as they prayed the prayer and accepted Christ into their hearts. What an amazing blessing to witness!!

The Kairos motto is to Listen Listen Love Love. You don't have to be a clergyman or bible scholar to volunteer and make a difference in Kairos. You just have to be there and share God's love with a smile and hand shake! The fact is that without volunteers present, these men cannot even have church services. God needs you and I to complete His work in this place for these men. Jesus made it very clear..."whatever you do for the least of these, you have done for me." We pray that the Spirit moves you to join us on a mission like no other!

Important websites:

Kairos of Texas: www.kairostexas.org

KPMI: www.kairosprisonministry.org





I would like to share about Kairos from the perspective of a Pastor. Today I serve as an Evangelist, traveling and preaching across the country. For a number of years I led large Churches and felt the heavy burden of pastoring congregations. I respect and admire the men and women who follow this calling. Their daily concern for their flock and the stress and sorrow of human pain can at times be overwhelming.

In today's spiritual landscape, the pressure is more intense than ever. Pastors are resigning at record numbers, some churches are closing their doors, and all churches are feeling the economic crunch. Church leaders are charged with growing their congregations, increasing their budgets. They continually look for new ways to feed their flocks spiritually, and keep them inspired. I honor those who give themselves to this noble pursuit. Many are simply burning out, while others are thriving. What is the difference? I find that churches whose members are active in outreach ministries, tithe, and get involved in taking care of their community are thriving.

Many pastors are now looking for ways to get their members active in ministries that serve the "least of these." Feeding the homeless, taking care of orphans and widows, and serving in convalescence homes are always great ways to engage people. Preachers teach and implore their congregants to be active in sharing their faith and to give away what we have been so freely given. Some even go on mission trips to third world countries and see up close and personal how the rest of the world lives. Often this is a life changing experience. Be aware, there is a "mission field" near your city that is ripe, ready and relatively untapped. This ministry has been here all along, and has the potential to light a fire in the congregation. This ministry could bring back the flame to preachers who have lost their heart. I am speaking of prison ministry.

In Matthew 25, Jesus reminds us that there are sheep and shepherds. The sheep fed the hungry, gave drink to the thirsty, invited the stranger in, clothed the naked, looked after the sick, AND visited the prisoner. I believe that Jesus was very intentional when He added those in prison to this famous parable. The sheep will ask when they ever saw Jesus in any of these conditions. Jesus said this famous passage: "Whatever you did for the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." I believe this is literal. When I go visit with the prisoner, I experience Jesus in a way that I have not found in over 20 years of full time ministry.

I believe most churches and pastors know that we should visit with those in prison. There are over 2.4 million incarcerated in our country: husbands, fathers, sons, mothers, sisters, daughters. Each one of them has a unique story to tell, but most of them have been forgotten and left behind. So Jesus visits them in a special way. Those of us who answer His call do as well. I would suggest the reason most churches do not have effective prison ministry is twofold. The barriers to entry are high (try to go serve at your local maximum security prison and see how far you get). Churches see residents as perpetrators, while seeing the others mentioned in Matthew 25 as "victims." Maybe Jesus understood that on some level we are ALL victims and we are all perpetrators. We have all fallen, and we all need grace. However, someone has got to go and answer the call to this growing but forgotten population.

Thank God for Kairos Prison Ministries International. What I experienced behind those walls, not only changed my life, but started a fire in my home congregation that is still burning. I found my heart again, and deepened my faith and relationship with Jesus in a powerful new way. I discovered that I received as much or more from answering His call to visit and attend to the "least of these" than those I served. There are pastors and churches all across the nation who desperately NEED Kairos. We need to go and share that we have an answer. Kairos removes the barriers to entry, takes care of the training and preparation, and helps you build a powerful ministry in your church.

Many pastors need help bringing passion back into their congregations. What I experienced was when Kairos volunteers came back from their "Weekend Miracle" and began to speak about their encounter; others were drawn to join them on the next team. Soon there were dozens who had been affected and the fire was lit.

I want you to consider a new conviction and approach to recruiting. Consider the pastor who needs Kairos to help his church find their purpose again. Consider the Christians out there who are studying their bibles, praying for answers, and are still floundering in their faith. Consider the fact that your church might NEED Kairos, just as much or more than Kairos needs their volunteers. It's a paradigm shift. It boils down to believing that Jesus knows what He is talking about when He calls us the go inside and SERVE. Maybe it's as much for us as for those on the inside. Just maybe!!!

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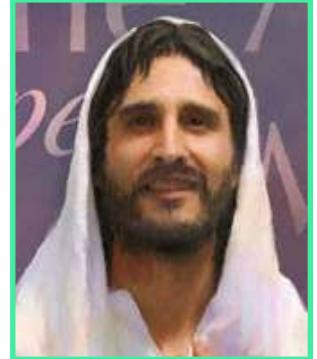


Jesus's Resume

Address: Ephesians 1:20

Phone: Romans 10:13

Website: The Bible. Keywords: Christ, Lord, Savior and Jesus



Objective

My name is Jesus -The Christ. Many call me Lord! I've sent you my resume' because I'm Seeking the top management position in your heart. Please consider my accomplishments as set forth in my resume.

Qualifications

I founded the earth and established the heavens, (See Proverbs 3:19)

I formed man from the dust of the ground, (See Genesis 2:7)

I breathed into man the breath of life, (See Genesis 2:7)

I redeemed man from the curse of the law, (See Galatians 3:13)

The blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant comes upon your life through me, (See Galatians 3:14)

Occupational Background

I've only had one employer, (See Luke 2:49).

I've never been tardy, absent, disobedient, slothful or disrespectful.

My employer has nothing but rave reviews for me, (See Matthew 3:15 -17)

Skills Work Experiences

Some of my skills and work experiences include: empowering the poor to be poor no more, healing the brokenhearted, setting the captives free, healing the sick, restoring sight to the blind and setting at liberty them that are bruised, (See Luke 4:18).

I am a Wonderful Counselor, (See Isaiah 9:6). People who listen to me shall dwell safely and shall not fear evil, (See Proverbs 1:33).

Most importantly, I have the authority, ability and power to cleanse you of your sins, (See I John 1:7-9)

Educational Background

I encompass the entire breadth and length of knowledge, wisdom and understanding, (See Proverbs 2:6).

In me are hid all of the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, (See Colossians 2:3).

My Word is so powerful; it has been described as being a lamp unto your feet and a light unto your path, (See Psalms 119:105).

I can even tell you all of the secrets of your heart, (See Psalms 44:21).

Major Accomplishments

I was an active participant in the greatest Summit Meeting of all times, (See Genesis 1:26).

I laid down my life so that you may live, (See II Corinthians 5:15).

I defeated the arch enemy of God and mankind and made a show of them openly, (See Colossians 2:15).

I've miraculously fed the poor, healed the sick and raised the dead!

There are many more major accomplishments, too many to mention here. You can read them on my website, which is located at: www dot - the BIBLE. You don't need an Internet connection or computer to access my website.

References

Believers and followers worldwide will testify to my divine healing, salvation, deliverance, miracles, restoration and supernatural guidance.

In Summation

Now that you've read my resume', I'm confident that I'm the only candidate uniquely qualified to fill this vital position in your heart. In summation, I will properly direct your paths, (See Proverbs 3:5-6), and lead you into everlasting life, (See John 6:47). When can I start? Time is of the essence, (See Hebrews 3:15)

Handy Little Chart

God Has A Positive Answer

YOU SAY

You say: 'It's impossible'
 You say: 'I'm too tired'
 You say: 'Nobody really loves me'
 You say: 'I can't go on'

 You say: 'I can't figure things out'
 You say: 'I can't do it'
 You say: 'I'm not able'
 You say: 'It's not worth it'
 You say: 'I can't forgive myself'
 You say: 'I can't manage'
 You say: 'I'm afraid'

 You say: 'I'm always worried and frustrated'
 You say: 'I'm not smart enough'
 You say: 'I feel all alone'

GOD SAYS

God says: All things are possible
 God says: I will give you rest
 God says: I love you
 God says: My grace is sufficient

 God says: I will direct your steps
 God says: You can do all things
 God says: I am able
 God says: It will be worth it
 God says: I Forgive you
 God says: I will supply all your needs
 God says: I have not given you a spirit of fear
 God says: Cast all your cares on ME

 God says: I give you wisdom
 God says: I will never leave you or forsake you

BIBLE VERSES

(Luke 18:27)
 (Matthew 11:28-30)
 (John 3:16 & 3:34)
 (II Cor 12:9 & Psalm 91:15)

 (Proverbs 3:5-6)
 (Philippians 4:13)
 (II Cor 9:8)
 (Roman 8:28)
 (I John 1:9 & Rom 8:1)
 (Phil 4:19)
 (II Timothy 1:7)

 (I Peter 5:7)

God determines who walks into your life.....it's up to you to decide who you let walk away, who you let stay, and who you refuse to let go.

Father, God, bless all my friends in whatever it is that you know they may need this day! And may their lives be full of your peace, prosperity and power as they seek to have a closer relationship with you. Amen.

Letter from a KO Guest

Dear Kairos and all the volunteers,

I had to write and express my wholehearted thanks for the special weekend you gave me. I'll hold on to it and remember it for years to come. Kairos gave me new hope, new hope in myself that I do have the strength to go on and keep trying no matter what may be ahead. You gave me a dose of courage. You let me see that I was not alone any more, as I shared with so many other mothers, wives, and grandmothers who understand my pain and broken heart over my poor son, and all the years of lost hopes and dreams. Also all the years of separation I've had from my son not knowing if he will live to see the next day or not.

This was the first time I could open up and let it all out and not be judged or turned away. I was listened to with love unconditionally and allowed to be me. There was a healing that took place in my broken heart. I walked away fully whole again. I would love to be a volunteer at the next women's retreat so I could help someone else heal.



To my fellow warriors and kingdom workers,

The Kairos weekend was different from any I have been on so far. It seems that no matter what the devil tries; God never loses His sense of humor or the power to change a man's heart. This weekend we started with some radical adjustments. We had 21 replacements for the original 42 brothers in white who were at the head of the line to attend this power packed weekend. Kairos truly is God's special appointed time for our brothers in white.

The introductions that occurred Thursday were different as well. A general theme is presented that is not preplanned, from the brothers as they give their reasons for wanting to be a part of this weekend. Last time it was "I can't go back into the world the way I am." This weekend it was about; "I want to draw closer to God or know God better." Even though this is what was said, many were last minute recruits and weren't sure how truthful they could be with us.

It was during the open mike time for the brothers at the closing on Sunday that "the rest of the story" came out. (By the way, if you have never been to a closing, I encourage you to do so. This is a real faith builder when you can hear how God met these men and see the glow of God on the countenance of men who have been hardened by life.) Spiritually, yes, these men wanted to know more about God. Physically, they came for the food. No matter what happened during the weekend, win, lose or draw, they knew they were in for some good eating. It was a common theme that said, "Well, I came for the food, but was hoping for more. I never dreamed I would really get to know God and that I am accepted by Him. WOW..."

It seemed to me, many of our candidates were familiar with a condemning Jesus and a religious mindset from their exposure to Christianity. It is watching a miracle unfold, sometimes in slow motion, as these brothers in white start to realize that the heart of God for them is not about judging them for their failures. As they begin to accept this, they suddenly, as in a moment, realize that the real Jesus has done everything for them, so that they too may know God, the Father, the way Jesus does. This is such a reversal of their concept of God that it really knocks them off balance, if not off their feet, as they realize for the first time that they are lovable and really loved as God meets them right where they are.

The prayer chain was again, the longest I have ever seen. I don't know the actual count of how many people had committed to praying for these brothers in white to have a God encounter that changed their life, but my guess is enough people all over the country and even in Europe and Australia, to make a chain around 300 yards long. This visual testimony that God's people are actively advancing God's kingdom through prayer and action changed the perspective of almost everyone about the church today. It was a breaking revelation to the brothers in white that God's children, the body of Christ, we are the church and not a denomination or buildings. "Who is the church? WE ARE THE CHURCH!" This is the knowledge with understanding our 42 brothers learned about the church this weekend.

The fact that so many people participated in the success of this weekend whether on an inside or outside ministry teams, giving financially, praying in unity with so many others, guiding and helping our children to be a part of this life changing experience; truly God's special time in the lives of our brothers in white. This clearly showed all of the men housed at Hutchins, the correctional officers and warden, the ministry teams, the towns of Hutchins and Lancaster, every witness, how willing our God is to participate in and through the lives of His children, enjoying His creation with us and through us. A powerful testimony of the harvest available around us with fruit that will last forever as God continues to grow the seeds that have been planted and watered this past weekend at Hutchins State Jail, Kairos #13.

Thank you for saying yes, here I am, Lord, and letting God lead you to be a part of this life changing event in the lives of men, giving hope where there was none and validating that God is with us and He has the power to save!

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A little Boys Explanation of God

It was written by an 8-year-old named Danny Dutton, who lives in Chula Vista, CA. He wrote it for his third grade homework assignment, to 'explain God.' I wonder if any of us could have done as well

'One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.'

'God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.'

'God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.'

'Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren't any who come to our church.'

'Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.'

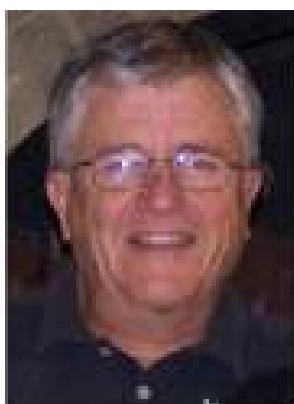
'His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.'

'You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.'

'You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God! Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway.'

'If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.'

'But...you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases. And that's why I believe in God.'



In Loving Memory

Chaplain Wayne Horton passed away June 25, 2012 in Abilene at the age of 64. He had been a Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ for over three decades and also served as a Texas State Prison Chaplain for 8 years. He is survived by his wife Carol, 3 sons, and 5 grandchildren. At the time of his death, he was Chaplain at the Robertson Unit in Abilene. Chaplain Horton was loved by all the Kairos volunteers in West Texas as he had served in several prisons and was a great friend to Kairos. This man loved those inmates and they knew it.

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Explanation of Life

On the first day, God created the dog and said, Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years."

The dog said, "That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?"

So God agreed ...

On the second day, God created the monkey and said, "Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give a twenty year life span."

The monkey said, "Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the dog did?"

And God agreed ...

On the third day, God created the cow and said, "You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years."

The cow said, "That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?"

And God agreed again ...

On the fourth day God created humans and said. "Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this I'll give you twenty years."

But the human said, "Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?"

"Okay," said God, "You asked for it."

So that is why for our first twenty years we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years, we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next ten years, we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last ten years, we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone.

Life has now been explained to you.

There is no need to thank me for this valuable information. I'm doing it as a public service. If you are looking for me I will be on the front porch.

Mathematical Love of God

From a strictly mathematical point of view what equals 100%? What equals 10% in life?

If A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
= 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

Then: **HARD WORK**

8 1 18 4 23 15 18 11 = 98%

And: **KNOWLEDGE**

11 14 15 23 12 5 4 7 5 = 96%

And: **ATTITUDE**

1 20 20 9 20 21 4 5 = 100%

But: **LOVE OF GOD**

12 15 22 5 15 6 7 15 4 = 101%



Praise the Lord

Therefore, one can conclude with mathematical certainty that while hard work and knowledge will get you close, and attitude will get you there; it's the LOVE OF GOD that will put you over the top.

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Region Coordinator - Rex Masons
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Paraprosdokian sentences -- A figure of speech that uses an unexpected ending to a series or a phrase, for example:

I asked God for a bike, but I know God doesn't work that way.
So I stole a bike and asked for forgiveness.

Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.

Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.

The last thing I want to do is hurt you.
But it's still on the list.

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

If I agreed with you we'd both be wrong.

We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.

War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

Evening news is where they begin with 'Good evening' and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.

A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. At my desk, I have a work station.

How is it one careless match can start a forest fire but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?

Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.

I thought I wanted a career -- turns out I just wanted paychecks.

A bank is a place that will lend you money...if you can prove that you don't need it.





Be sure to visit our website at www.kairosoftexas.org. Our webmaster, Bill Darnall, has done an amazing job of putting this all together. The new schedule and location for State Board meetings for 2012 are included here. We have a calendar showing when all the weekends will be held. Check your weekend - we depend on you to keep them updated.

On that same website you will find the current state officers, state meetings and minutes, map of state meetings, committees, and when the weekends are to be held. You will also find this current and past newsletters. If your unit does a newsletter, we would love to add it. There are links to KPMI and TDCJ.

There is information about Kairos Outside, including structure, forms and information, newsletters, and mission field. The minutes for KO meetings can also be found there.

Please take a look and see if we need to change, remove or add anything.



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