



From the Chair, Dr Vern Harvey

I am the vine; you are the branches.
If you remain in me and I in you,
you will bear much fruit;
apart from me you can do nothing.
John 15:5 (NIV)

Since commencing 40 years ago Kairos in the US has grown to 30,000 active volunteers. Since our first program in Australia 20 years ago we have grown to around 3,000 volunteers.

Our Mission field has grown. On any one day in Australia there will be around 40,000 men and women in Australian prisons. Each year we run at least 20 programs inside prisons with an average of 20 participants – around 400 direct participants per year, or 1% of the prison population. Kairos is the largest provider of external Christian programs running inside Australian gaols and yet we have barely scratched the surface of our mission field.

Our first 15 years of growth and expansion were based on the baby boomer generation but the last 5 years have flat lined. The symptoms have been a decline in our two main inputs: volunteers and funds from donors.

Our challenge now is to engage with and transition to the next generation, known as GenX, who are themselves starting to think of retirement.

The Board is working on a Renewal Strategy for the next decade. Our thinking took a big leap forward in the last few months when we realised that five years ago, Kairos in the US was where we find ourselves now. Nearing the end of their Five Year Strategic Plan their recruitment and donor finance are growing again.

Using similar policies and as much of their material as we need, within three years we can be on a growth path to double our size over the next decade. At a Conference in the middle of 2019 we will present for ratification from Regional Committees a Five Year Renewal Strategy based on generational transition.

When finally signed off, our vision for the next decade will be something like 50% increase in

Regional Committees and 100% increase in participants across all programs which means another 400 people each year getting the chance to change their lives.

Please pray for us in these exciting times.

(Dr) Vern Harvey

Kairos Inside for Men - Alexander Maconochie # 7

Some quotes from participants

"I always heard people talking about the presence of God but never felt it for myself. For the first time today I understood what it meant and felt the Holy Spirit with us in the room. I know it is going to be difficult but I want to continue this spiritual journey."

"We have been talking about how we can meet together and set up church in our area."

"This is not goanna end. We are going to get connected. We can start something in here and let this be a little bit of heaven on earth!"

"I was anxious about attending. I am glad I did in the end. In the weekend I learned we need to communicate and share your problems. I want to continue what I learned this weekend with the guys in my pod."

"Before Kairos I was a believer. Now I am a believer and a follower."

"You guys know I am into cars. Before I came, I was not in the best headspace with negative and fear. It's like a car with rust, it gets worse and worse. In order to repair the car, you have to cut out the rust. I am going to cut out the rust in my life."

"Before Kairos I was really flat about this religious thing. Now I am working hard on forgiveness."

"I haven't been happy for a very long time. In the past couple of days I've been blessed by Kairos and I am much happier. The letters we received from the team showed that they had really listened to us – very moving and appreciated."

"When I look at the posters from around the world, I realised I am not alone. At times I can really feel alone."

(extract from leader's report)

Kairos Inside for Men - Goulburn #22

We've had a great week! Please pray for the men who have completed the course.

There were 17 residents completing the four days and they received their Kairos Crosses and Certificates.



J... started the Short Course on Day 1 but was unable to continue due to illness.

Stan... a participant from a previous course came every day as servant helper and was blessed by the experience.

Stan... insisted on making a speech on behalf of the residents at the Closing Ceremony!

On his Kairos Short Course last year Stan... hardly said a word. Now he has plenty to say! Praise the Lord!

We praise God that the men were incredibly responsive from the very start. About half of them are regulars from the fortnightly Journey program.

Table discussions were animated, when the time came to share their findings, well we had never seen such involvement in previous groups. They all had something to say.

(extract from leader's report)

Kairos Outside for Women — Adelaide # 28

Our team of 24 men and women served our five guests with love and warmth.



The theme for the weekend was; "I am Loved, I am Accepted". The talks and meditations were thoughtfully and well presented.

A highlight of the weekend had to be the Forgiveness Service. The beauty of the view from the Chapel windows combined with gentle music, made it a moving and very special occasion.

(extract from leader's report)

Kairos Inside for Women—Dillwynia # 18

We had 10 new people join the team .

Prayer support was tangibly evident, with 18 participants being finalised just days before the start of course.

In answer to prayer, a security officer organized temporary fencing outside the Chapel. To give runners time to assist with the serving of Inside Kitchen meals.

The Special Lunch drew rave reviews including a loud comment: **RED MEAT!!!!** heard right across the room.

Table discussions started somewhat slowly. The ladies participated in the singing with enthusiasm and enjoyment. The flower presentation saw the room hushed as they heard the story of the Crucifixion and Resurrection. The Forgiveness component once again touched the hearts of many of the women.

The Closing Ceremony was something else! Several of the ladies spoke of making a personal commitment and looking forward to a positive future with the Lord. Seventeen ladies spoke about God and the need to have a relationship with Him.

Sim Wong's Graduate Talk brought tears to the eyes of many present as she encouraged the ladies to put their faith in the One who will never leave them.

(extract from leader's report)

Kairos Inside for Men—Port Augusta #8

Preparations were complex, prison management changed the course dates, and attempts to update the prayer vigil website failed, we so decided to create our own vigil.

14 out of 19 men completed the course, with both participants and team members learning about God's love.

Prison management asked if we could run a 2nd course each year (currently only one a year) and if we could start a short course for women.

The new women's short course will start next year, but we need more volunteers to start a new men's course.

(extract from leader's report)

Kairos Inside for Men — Mid North Coast #15

During formation days the team grew in unity, and we had 8 new blokes on team.

Our Outside team was a jewel, producing 1050 meals for both team and participants.

Again, the Catholic community in Kempsey offered to billet the whole team.

The week inside the prison was a success. With 24 participants and 7 reserves, thanks to the great work of both chaplains, James and Gerard, who work closely with the men in green.

The support from our churches is something to be treasured, they delivered, 1100 packets of biscuits, 77 hours of continual prayer during the week inside and each participant received 78 letters.

The work of the Holy Ghost is eternal, and changes the lives of those men in green, and our team members. (extract from leader's report)

Kairos Inside for Women - Emu Plains #25

Kairos Inside for Women - Emu Plains # 25

We developed a good team spirit during our team formation days.

Participants were keen to discuss in their family groups and enjoyed the poster time together.

At the open mike session many women shared their experiences, and comments showed they had been listening to the talks and meditations.

Singing was a favourite activity. Laughter, tears, thoughtful discussion, were evident every day.

The women embraced blowing bubbles in the sunshine during some free time! One woman said, "I can't believe I'm doing this but it is so much fun"!

Several staff members joined us for the special lunch and were keen to find out more about Kairos

At the Closing Ceremony many shared what they had learned, been challenged by, and their desire for lasting change by continuing to learn more about Jesus. (extract from leader's report)

Kairos Inside for Women—Mid North Coast #4

It was a great shock and disappointment for us all to hear, once again, that the delay in the refurbishing of the old Visitors Centre would mean that there would be no venue suitable for our Women's Short Course to be held.

I am very grateful to all the wonderful team members who were prepared to set aside the time to be part of Kairos W#4 and I look forward to contacting them all again when a new date is finalised for September, 2019.

Please pray with me for God's comfort and guidance for the 18 participants who have missed out once again! (extract from leader's report)

Kairos Inside for Men—St Helliers # 11

The short course team was both keen and experienced.

On day, 2 residents seemed un-enthusiastic, but by the end of that day with the poster party and open mike they were paying attention and giving comments

Many of the residents knew of God or had an active faith, I believe that all residents made a substantial step of faith towards God if not a genuine conversion during this course.

On day 3, we still didn't have our 4th day speaker. The chaplain suggested we ask a resident who was on the helper's on team. He presented a most powerful testimony which impacted all involved.

The closing ceremony was well attended, and I hope this will translate into more team members for next year. We are struggling to pull enough members together to create a team. (extract from leader's report)

Kairos Program Support & Development Group

We focus on how effectively prison programs are delivered and communications between parts of the ministry

Some highlights from our work this year:

New manuals will be available late 2018 for both Kairos Inside & Outside prison programs.

Our 'Excellence Initiative' process helps with the continual improvement of how programs are delivered. Results this year are good over all.

Kairos Outside for Women – Sydney #39



We had 6 new members, and 11 former guests on team.

Some responses from participants:

“The table leader encouraged us to talk and let our feelings show”

“I don’t normally speak up. I am very introverted but our table leaders made us feel very comfortable”

“Team members were very gentle and encouraging, sometimes sharing from their own experience”

“The whole weekend was truly memorable and I felt loved”

“The whole weekend, was a time of nurturing, caring and realising others also share burdens”

“Thank you for being Jesus to me”

“All were welcomed and made to feel part of a family”

“Each talk and meditation had a bit of every feeling and thought about my situation”

“The thing that I will remember is I am not alone. God walks with me and I found love with skin on, God’s love through the team” (extract from leader’s report)

Relocating or Moving home

Please advise the Kairos Support Office of your new contact details, so that KPMA can keep you informed and up to date with the Ministry.



Tel: 02 9987 2016 or Email: operations@kairos.org.au

‘I was in prison and you came to visit me’ Matthew 25:36

Kairos Prison Ministry Australia is an interdenominational Christian ministry reaching out to incarcerated individuals, their families and those who work with them; to bring sustainable meaning and hope in the place of loneliness, isolation and despair. Building Christian Community.

Kairos Outside for Women - North QLD #7

We had a record number of 14 guests.

One guest said it was the best time of her life, another “It was like I was in a trance all weekend, overcome by love,”

We planned for 20 guests, 10 table leaders, and 5 table servers. But God gave us 8 leaders and 4 servers, the perfect number for our 14 guests.

A guest summed up the weekend- “It really was like being in Heaven, with everyone from all walks of life in different stages of their faith walk, yet in God’s eyes and in His love, we were all equal....Thank you so much for inviting me to spend this weekend in God’s Holy Presence. “

(extract from leader’s report)

Kairos Outside for Women - South East QLD #35

14 guests experienced God’s love in that amazing experience called Kairos Outside for Women.



Our guests were of mixed of ages, ethnicity and social backgrounds, all had experienced the pain of having someone imprisoned.

Our theme was **The Lord is close to the broken hearted; He rescues those whose spirits are crushed** (Psalm 34:18). Here was a time to experience God’s unconditional love for us.

We thank God for his provision of people, enthusiasm, commitment, prayer, agape gifts, and finances.

(extract from leader’s report)