



Kairos

PRISON MINISTRY AUSTRALIA

*releasing lives into the love
and forgiveness of Jesus*



Newsletter March 2013

A Message from the CEO

At the start of another year as I try to grasp all the things happening in the Kairos ministry in 2013 I am completely overwhelmed by how great our God is. Our opportunities can only be happening as part of His greater plan and His timing.

I know that if you are reading this there is a good chance you have already responded generously, with dedication, personal sacrifice and a compassionate heart.

In early January the Board met with State Council representatives to explore the future vision for the Ministry. We spent 2 days reviewing the near and mid-term opportunities and challenges, and how these things could fit our vision for the future of the Kairos ministry. Outcomes of this meeting will be detailed in subsequent meetings such as the National Conference in July, 2013.



Three key issues for your support and prayers: Firstly **National database**. The Board has approved a new National Database to support the Ministry through a single, secure, repository for all Kairos related information. Ultimately we will have a single interface for all our operations, National, State and Regional.

This includes a rebuild of the KPMA website, allowing greater flexibility, and more reliability. We pray for wisdom and grace to build and use it to effectively support and promote the Kairos Ministry for God's glory.

Secondly, **Expanded ministry into new prisons, new regions and even new States**. This will need new people with new talents. We need to approach our Christian brothers and sisters with the challenge of Matthew 25v36 and seek a response. We pray that many Christians will become new volunteers for God's ministry

Thirdly, **Embrace the big picture**. We need specific prayer for us all to grasp the bigger picture. Whilst I recognise that running short courses and weekends takes considerable effort and dedication, this is only part of our task. So we pray hearts may be opened to the greater needs of the ministry. That volunteers may be able to make the sacrifice and commitment to support the national needs of the organisation, to step up to the challenges of roles at the State and National level, for all that needs to be done in the background in order to make the whole ministry work. I look forward to working with you in Christian grace to further the ministry this year.

God Bless you all.

John Bignall CEO

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Mail: PO Box 169 Hornsby 1630
Phone: (61) (02) 9987 2016

A Permanent Home for Kairos Australia

When the Kairos Support Office relocated to Hornsby mid 2012, the vision, the dream, the fervent hope and prayer was a home of our own. For many years we were granted grace and favour accommodation at Parramatta

courtesy of NSW Corrective Services. Then with the closure of Parramatta – that ceased.

We need a home for the ministry to grow – there are more prisons and states where the message of hope that Kairos brings is yet to be heard. A fund has been established to make this vision for a permanent home a reality. All donations are tax deductible.

Thank you to the dear supporters who have contributed to this fund. We ask if you can spread the word of this need. Perhaps you know of someone who could be a possible benefactor?

Join with us praying for the blessing of our own home – God will hear our prayers and in some amazing way He will provide. However, he does tell us to ASK, in Psalm 2 – our Heavenly Father directs us to ask for whatever is on our hearts. Please pray and spread the word of the need, someone, somehow is out

there who God will match to meet our need. In the meantime we give thanks and praise for God's provision of rental accommodation.

Register now!

KPMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE
5-7 July 2013
at St James Anglican Church
Turrumurra NSW
Enquiries: KSO Roberta
02 9987 2016
operations@kairos.org.au

PREPARATION FOR KAIROS

A course for those interested in being on team
15-17 March 2013
Register by 28 February 2013
Merroo, Kurrajong \$150
02 9987 2016
operations@kairos.org.au

I was in prison and you visited me... Mt 25:36

Kairos Outside PSDG

My time as the Kairos Outside for Women (KOW) Program Support and Development Group Coordinator has come to an end. These past 4 years have been very productive and fulfilling for the PSDG team as we have worked together to encourage volunteers and strengthen the ministry across the 12 KOW Australian communities. The achievements of the PSDG for KOW since its inception include:

- * The review and up-dating of the Australian Kairos Outside for Women manual and related training modules, promotional brochures and other publications in order to make them more readily accessible and to better equip volunteers to implement KOW programs and relate more effectively to women impacted by a friend or relative's imprisonment

- * The review of the Essentials of Kairos Outside for Women training to more clearly identify and standardise the key elements of team formation and KOW programs and procedures with the aim of ensuring that all

Kairos Outside for Women activities are run according to set guidelines

- * The establishment of a process for Regional Committees and individual volunteers to raise issues and seek information about the implementation of KOW programs and activities

- * Observations by members of the PSDG of weekend programs in order to offer direct support, encouragement and mentoring of Kairos Outside for Women volunteers and leaders

I would like to acknowledge and thank Margaret Fuller (Deputy Coordinator), Lesley Rawlings (Training Coordinator) and the other 8 wonderful Kairos Outside PSDG members. Their hard work, support and commitment during these past years have been outstanding. It has been an enormous privilege to work alongside such skilled and experienced women and to observe their heart for this amazing God-given ministry, its guests and volunteers. We are enormously

grateful to the three major supporters for making available the funds to facilitate our annual planning weekends and to enable PSDG representatives to visit every Kairos Outside community.

I am delighted to welcome Teri Kempe as the new KOW Program Support and Development Group Coordinator. She brings to this position significant professional skills and personal experience initially as a Kairos Outside guest, then progressively as a team member, weekend leader, KPMA Board member and PSDG representative. I encourage you to pray for Teri and give her your full support as she selects her leadership team and, together, they put in place a plan for the on-going development of Kairos Outside for Women.

Gill Begbie

Thank you, Gill

Kairos is blessed with many fine, skilled and experienced volunteers who generously use their gifts and talents to bless our ministry. None finer than Gill Begbie, who, as an educator par excellence has devoted endless hours to training leaders, encouraging teams and developing the Kairos Outside Manual for Women which has been approved by Kairos in the US. As Gill steps aside as Coordinator we give thanks to God for all she brought to

the establishment and development of KOW PSDG. It is a daunting task to be following her, but she has promised to continue behind the scenes with support and guidance, for which I am very grateful. In the coming days we will continue to encourage teams to fully utilise the resources of the KOW Manual, to cross fertilise ideas and develop strength and confidence in new and expanding KOW communities. We will also be assisting



Gill Begbie and Teri Kempe

communities to make best use of the new database as it is integrated during the year. We hope all KOW communities will be represented at the National Conference.

Teri Kempe

Arthur Gorrie #4

Arthur Gorrie #4 was well attended with 17 residents signing up and all completing the short course. After years establishing the regional committee, it is a wonderful answer to prayer that doors are opening regularly for teams to go inside twice a year.

One new recruit on team surprised himself

how relaxed he felt sharing with the residents -- who were strangers at the beginning of the week and had become brothers in Christ by Friday.

A further encouragement of the relationship with this prison, all the residents who were on team and able to join the first

Journey - did so. Those who came shared quite openly how they were supporting each other in their units. One resident who did not have any Kairos friends shared his good experience with a new inmate who has now expressed a desire to do the next Kairos Short Course.

Farewell Joan - Welcome Roberta

Joan Llewellyn, the Support Office Administrator, resigned in February to take up grandmothering duties. Joan joined the Office in September 2010 and has seen many changes including the move to Hornsby. Joan has made a valuable contribution to the Ministry during her time with us. We wish her well in her new and exciting role. But we are not losing Joan from the Ministry completely. She will continue her involvement in Kairos at Dillwynia Womens Correction Centre.

By the grace of God Roberta Tsai was seeking new employment and has now joined the Office to continue the role of Office Administrator. Roberta has been involved with Kairos Inside and Outside for many years including leading a recent KOW in Sydney.

We give thanks to God for blessing us with both these wonderful women.

You can contact Roberta via email: operations@kairos.org.au or tel: 02 9987 2016.



Roberta Tsai & Joan Llewellyn

Unless the Lord builds the house... they labour in vain who build it.. Psalm 127:1

Mannus opens again

Mannus KI had its first course after a break of 7 years. And at the conclusion the CC staff and Chaplain invited Kairos to return. Wonderful exciting times ahead.

The journey program is well attended fortnightly – and the inmates tell of a change in attitude towards them after the short course. And they feel good about it. Perhaps their own attitude is changing too as the message of love and acceptance works deeper into their lives.

“G”, a mighty warrior and great potential

leader of men, told his story of coming from a family of six sons, all of whom are in prison. He said that he was visited by his mum who is dying from cancer. She told him that every Friday she fasted and prayed. He said, “Mum, why you do this?” She said, “I do it for you my son.” He said, “But Mum, you’re sick, you should do it for you.” She replied, “I do it for you and your brothers.”

Please pray for this great man, now on the outside, as he seeks to give up his old ways, to now fight for truth, righteousness and love.

What can I do?

- Find out how to become a Volunteer
- Join the Kairos Prayer Network (email prayer@kairos.org.au)
- Consider a financial contribution.
- Attend a function.

Email: operations@kairos.org.au
Phone: (61) (02) 9987 2016

A resident's response

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

I have enjoyed my week of Kairos and have learned a lot more about God and His family.

I will miss everyone when my week in Kairos ends but I will always keep all of the people I have met during this time in my thoughts and heart when I leave W.C.C. I would like to continue my belief in God for the rest of my life. God has a purpose for me throughout my life to help others so that I am in their hearts and their thoughts. I would like to thank you all for the help to make myself see the life I can have and cherish. I pray for others to have their chance to live a better life and be able to cherish life as much as I do. I encourage you to read Proverbs 1:5 and practice what it preaches. May God bless you as your life goes on your friend and brother in Christ.

Used with permission

KOWNQ #1

“Grow, where you are planted.”

Kairos Outside for Women North Queensland blossomed – 43 months after first planting.

It was just the right theme, for during 3½ years, the small ad-hoc committee has continued to grow enthusiasm for Kairos Outside for Women in North Queensland.

We learnt a lot, raised the much needed funds. Some team members and guests travelled long distances (over 1500 km) - and we prayed for God's Kairos time.

We welcomed a team of seven from South East Queensland to guide us and are very grateful to God for their wisdom and assistance.

On the weekend all 20 beautiful ladies turned up. We cried, we laughed, we ate, we shared surprises and we prayed together. The joy of the women at closing bubbled over at the Mighty Wonderful God who had brought each of them closer to Himself. Guests at the closing were amazed at the stories.

All the team and many of the guests want to be part of the team in 2013. The guests are spreading the news to friends and relatives, so we continue to “Grow, where you are planted.” *Gwen*

KOW SEQ #24

“You have turned my mourning into dancing” was the theme of Kairos Outside for Women South East Queensland #24.

There were 13 guests, and each seemed to hear the message God had for them at this time in a way that was relevant to them. It's interesting watching the process from the leader's perspective, because you are able to observe the guests as they form their table families and friendships and join in, and watch the transformation.



One highlight I won't forget is when the guests were introduced to the international theme song for Kairos Outside for Women “In this room”. From the back of the hall the singing sounded wonderful. Looking out at the tables I don't think there was a dry eye in the room, and everyone was impacted by that simple truth of the safe place where you find “God near” and “Jesus here”. God had prepared just the right team and I thank them all for their commitment (and flexibility

in dealing with the unexpected!). The guests definitely had the opportunity to see God's love in action through everyone on team – and it blew them away. The guests witnessed “God with skin on” in the team members (seen and unseen) and the campsite staff. How strong was the visible and tangible expression of God's love shown to the guests through words and actions.

God's presence leading up to and throughout the week-end was palpable and His wisdom and guidance and problem solving skills were definitely evident!

Pam

KPMA Board Matters

Jeff Herbert was introduced to prison by being on jury duty. Shortly after he attended a closing at Long Bay. This convinced him that God was leading him to become involved.



Jeff Herbert

After serving on many teams in Long Bay he led the final course in 2002. Jeff continued with The Journey Program for another 3 years. Jeff has been on team for Bathurst, Parklea and John Morony in NSW and Fulham in Victoria, as well as Torch at Frank Baxter Juvenile Centre north of Sydney.

Jeff joined the Training Group and assisted with design and presentation of many courses in Sydney, Goulburn, Carcoar, Bonny Hills in NSW as well as Canberra, Perth and Adelaide.

In 2012 Jeff joined the Board and shortly thereafter was elected Chair.

Jeff is deeply committed to the Kairos Ministry and is looking forward to working with the CEO, other Board members and all

Kairos volunteers to expand the ministry and reach out to more of those in prison and those affected by having a family member or friend in prison.

Paul Forbes has been involved with the Bathurst Inside Course since 2008 including leading in May 2010. Paul currently serves



Paul Forbes

as a Bathurst Regional Committee member and represents the region at the NSW State Council. He is Deputy Chair and Secretary of the NSW State Council.

Paul has belonged to the Training Group and has presented the Essentials of Kairos Inside course.

Paul is a member and lay preacher at St Stephens Presbyterian Church in Bathurst, where he lives with his wife and family.

Paul joined the Board in December 2012 and brings a wealth of experience not only in Kairos but also in agriculture, especially in program and policy issues and change management.

Ian Saunders is the newest Board member, joining in February 2013. He now lives in Adelaide coming from Wales in the UK many years ago.



Ian Saunders

Ian has been on team in many different roles for seven Kairos Inside courses at Mobilong SA, since in 2002. He is the Chair of the Mobilong Regional Committee and a member of the South Australian State Council.

Currently Ian works as a Research Scientist at the CSIRO and has extensive experience in education and involvement with another national volunteer organisation.

Ian is married and lives in Adelaide. They currently worship in an Anglican church, though they are fairly ecumenical and Ian has previously served as an Elder in the Uniting Church in Victoria, Queensland and South Australia. He had just become a grand-dad for the first time – a cause for celebration.

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.

| Course | Program | Location | Leader |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Advanced Training | | | |
| 15-17 March | Preparation for Kairos | Merroo Conference Centre | Les Padroth |
| 21-22 April | Essentials Kairos Outside W | Grafton | Lesley Rawlings |
| 22-23 June | Essentials Kairos Inside | TBA | TBA |
| 5-7 July | National Workshop | St James Anglican Turrumurra | John Bignall |
| Kairos Outside Weekends for Women | | | |
| May 17-19 | Adelaide #18 | PO Box 242 Highgate 5063 | Judy Thomas |
| May 24-26 | Sydney #29 | PO Box 2178 Normanhurst 2076 | Gill Begbie |
| July | Canberra/Monaro #14 | PO Box 3691 Weston 2611 | Sunshine Macdonald |
| Sept 27-29 | Wide Bay Capricorn #7 | 16 Bayrise Drive Urganan 4655 | Patricia Gorman |
| Oct 18-20 | Adelaide #18 | PO Box 242 Highgate 5063 | Sibylle Walker |
| Nov 8-10 | Riverina | PO Box 189 Junee 2663 | Nola Price |
| Kairos Inside Short Courses | | | |
| 8-12 April | Mobilong #17 | PO Box 242 Highgate 5063 | Steve Bown |
| 16-19 April | Dawn de Loas #1 | PO Box 169 Hornsby 1630 | Jon Hale |
| 15-19 April | Arthur Gorrie #5 | PO Box 52 Lutwyche, 4030 | Charles Lawrence |
| 29 Apr-2 May | Acacia #4 | 24 Fordham Drive Swanview 6056 | Ian Knight |
| 30 Apr-3 May | Mannus #8 | 8 Vista Ave, Batlow 2730 | Bert Adams |
| 29-3 May | Emu Plains #20 | PO Box 407 Emu Plains, 2750 | Frances Connon |
| 30 Apr-May 3 | Fulham#14 | 9 Gordon Street, Heyfield 3858 | Luke McCord |
| 6-10 May | Mid North Coast #10 | PO Box 2604, Pt. Macquarie, 2444 | Ross Tingle |
| 14-17 May | Dillwynia #13 | PO Box 3102, Rouse Hill, 2155 | Lyndall Nixey |
| 20-24 May | St Heliers #7 | PO Box 257 Singleton 2330 | TBA |
| 7-10 June | Parklea #6 | PO Box 630 Stanhope Gardens 2768 | TBA |
| 1-5 July | Wolston #3 | 8 Malcolm Street, Beachmere, 4510 | TBA |
| 14-18 Oct | Arthur Gorrie #6 | PO Box 52, Lutwyche, 4030 | TBA |