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FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

First, I would like to wish all a very blessed and joyous Christmas, and health, peace and love for the New Year.

It has been a great honor and privilege to serve as your State Chair for the past 2 1/2 years. We all seem to say, when speaking of the weekends, "this was the best....", but I can truly say that my time as State Chair, has been the best of the 23 years I have been in this ministry we call Kairos. I had served in many capacities over the years, several of those on the State Board. But, in all those, never have I felt more love, cooperation and support than I have this go around.

You, the volunteers, are what make this ministry a continued "passionate calling" on my life. Always be open to the prompting of the Holy Spirit in your service, and when asked to step into a new, and sometimes a bit frightening, position within the Kairos of Colorado organization, pray for His guidance, then listen before declining. I say this because if I had not stepped out of my comfort zones, and tried new and challenging positions, I would not have reaped such wonderful memories, new "International and National" brothers and sisters, and blessings.

Stay strong, obedient, and most important, be loving to all.

Love in Christ, Mary L. Sogan

KAIROS OUTSIDE

KO #1 is set for 14-16 November 2008, YMCA of the Rockies Retreat Center, Estes Park. The long lead time is needed for recruiting and a multitude of arrangements. Jean Mares and Sylvie White need your help in recruiting 45 team members, including ten for the cook team (which should include men). They also need a gift of 60 Kairos song books. See page 5 for contact info.

ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

- ◆ **Thank you**, First United Methodist Church of Colorado Springs! You have been printing our newsletters for quite a few years — a blessing we really appreciate!
- ◆ **Thank you**, donors of green agape — individual supporters, churches, team members! Kairos is still a not-for-profit ministry, totally dependant on your generous financial support. Please do continue your support, even without those convenient little envelopes that were in the USPS edition of the newsletter. POBox 25004, Colo Spgs CO 80936 will still be happy to receive your agape of financial support.
- ◆ **Thank you**, the one hundred who came out for the 25th Anniversary Celebration at the Red Lion in Denver. We are especially grateful to the DOC officials, wardens, and former wardens who shared their time with us on this happy occasion; the many who came over from the Western slope; the Potters who willingly submitted to praise and humorous abuse; and, most important, to the Lord, Who made it all possible, including good weather for the traveling.
- ◆ **Thank you**, those who donated to the silent auction at the 25th Anniversary Celebration. Your gifts generated \$2400.00 for the start-up of Kairos Outside!
- ◆ **Thank you**, Mary Sogan for keeping the 25th Celebration on track, in spite of a few scheduling and other hurdles; and, with your anonymous helpers, for all the organizing and preparation that went into bringing it all off. [Pause here for a round of thunderous applause.]
- ◆ And finally, **Thank you**, all of you who have contributed so much of your God-given talent, time, and treasure to this ministry during the year of our Lord 2007. The heart of every inmate touched by your ministry wishes it could tell you this personally.

CAÑON WOMEN'S CLOSING

- We came side tracked, wanting renewal. We found discipline, began dealing with our faults.
- We felt shut off, feared the unknown.
- We were shaky in our beliefs, found compassion for each other, rejuvenation of our faith.
- I was lost. I knew the Bible like the back of my hand, but had been neglecting it – and Him.
- I was quite scared, not ready to open up. I was that lost sheep, but now I think I've been found.
- Was looking for a better understanding of Jesus, a desire not to go back to my old ways.
- Was angry with myself, so didn't go to church. This weekend opened up my eyes. My two unused Bibles will now get read, and I've shared more of myself with others than ever before.
- I gave my son to God right after he was born. I now know that I need to be closer to God.
- This weekend woke me up.
- Am now closer to God. I need to follow the role model you've given me. I know God is the best friend I've ever had.
- I had so much hate, anger – couldn't get it out. Kairos helped me with this.
- What I found out is that I still have a lot of work to do. ——— >>>

TERRITORIAL CLOSING

- Deaf people miss a lot. You people gave us God's word again.
- After my service in Iraq I built a big wall around myself, kept my own family at arm's reach. Two veterans on this team really helped out with my wall.
- A fellow inmate got me to go to church — and here. My favorite song now is "Change My Heart, O God" — and I am changing the bad things I do.
- I will remember this experience as long as I am on earth. Amazing how this faith holds us all together.
- Bottom line: when you hear the knock, open the door.
- Thank you for not judging us.
- I've gone through a lot. I'm a knuckle head. A lot of the brothers here have brought me a long way. Jesus is at my door now, and I want to open it to him.
- I didn't know what to expect. My cellie got me here. Now I'm opening the door. (Rev 3:20)
- I learned some important things about forgiveness this weekend, about forgiving others— and forgiving myself. ——— >>>

- The forgiveness gave me a much lighter heart.
- A lot of people have judged me and shunned me. My friends are helping me get my anger down.
- My eyes are open now and my feet are walking forward.
- I came in feeling really good about my relationship with the Lord. Then you find that Kairos expects to feed a hunger you didn't even know you had. I was able to open my heart, which was hard to do. I thank God for choosing you and using you to bring all this about.
- The weekend has lifted me spiritually.

Cañon Women's 4th Day Speaker

You were chosen by our Father. He knows our needs, our burdens better than we do. This weekend is part of our journey.

I used to carry my guilt, my shame, my unforgivable sin. I kept it all to myself. I couldn't trust nobody – (they're all so quick to judge). I was too proud to be humble. I wore what I thought was a perfect mask -- until my Kairos (ten years ago). Nobody had told me about all the tears I was going to shed. My walls tumbled. My "unbreakable" mask was washed away by my tears. My insides started shifting me around. I related to the team's pain, their joy, their love. They weren't sent by a judge or a jury. They came on their own.

Jesus told Peter to "feed my sheep." That's what's been going on here. And this is only the beginning.

Finally: forgive one another, and let God's face shine upon you.

DENVER WOMEN'S CLOSING

- ♦ I learned you don't have to be a "Mary Kay" lady to have Jesus Christ. This opened my eyes — that there is a better community than the one I came from.
- ♦ I tried to commit suicide a couple of weeks ago and failed. Kairos has been the highlight of my life. I am 22 and I have finally begun to forgive myself.
- ♦ I came to Kairos to find just one Christian friend – and here you all are. I thank God for all of you.
- ♦ Was just a seed when I came. Am leaving as a flower.

Territorial 4th Day Speakers

I want this to be a new beginning for you. You can make your own choices. You each have self worth. You can deal with your bitterness and anger. Try to fill your hearts with the love of Jesus. Don't let your bitterness hold you down.

Come, use the chapel. We meet there every morning for prayer and fellowship. We've never had love like this in our lives. Keep your letters, read them over once in while.

LA MODELO #1 – NICARAGUA

I just got home from one of the most beautiful Kairos weekends I have ever experienced, and I wanted to share some of it with you. I was blessed to be able to be part of the USA delegate to La Modelo Prison in Managua, Nicaragua.

The team was made up of 5 men from the US, 3 were bilingual and 2 of us were not. Language was not a barrier in our servanthood role, 7 men were from Costa Rica, of which 2 now reside in Nicaragua, but were part of the Costa Rica start up weekend, and the remainder of the team was from Nicaragua. From the time we arrived in Managua there was an overwhelming feeling of Christ's Love by the local team members to those of us who traveled from the USA and Costa Rica. We had the final team bonding meeting Wednesday evening after all team members had arrived and it was a very spirit filled and a moving time together.



AGAPE POSTER FROM LA MODELO TO COLORADO

As we entered the prison on Thursday, I found out we had to forfeit our Passports to the officer at the gate which I was very uncomfortable with, as we all know that's our only free pass back out off a foreign country. So, I figured, well, God got me in here he will bring me home as well if I have faith, and trust in Him to guide the officers.

We worked with a different time schedule as we only had from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM each day with the residents, day light hours because the electric would usually go out around 8:30 AM and sometimes come back on about 3:00 PM but never sure when or if it was coming back on. We started the weekend at 10:30 AM Thursday and finished up at 4:00 PM Sunday.

The over all feel of the weekend was one of growing joy in Christ Jesus for the residents, and learning who Jesus is. To explain this a little clearer, at open mike one of the residents talked about the word Love, and explained it like this. He said he had not thought of the word, used the word, felt the Love, or heard the word in a long time. Long enough ago he could not remember when the last time was, let alone feel God's unconditional Love the way he did on the weekend.

Another resident at closing expressed his feeling of family, and how great it was to have a family around him that he could now count on as his natural family left him long ago. He said he now had a family to communicate with, pray with, and share life with

We are taught that we minister to officers as well as the residents in the Kairos program. Well, God showed me that this weekend. One of the officers on Saturday asked me and a couple other guys to print our names on a piece of paper and then sign our name. I thought, "What's Up Now"! We are taught to follow the officer's orders even if they feel wrong and ask leadership about it at the end of the day, not to question it as it happens. I found out first hand Saturday, why. After we printed and signed our names the officer thanked us and said he needed our names so he could pray for us the rest of his life that we had no idea the impact we had on his life and his future.

I would like to close with what was the most awesome thing I heard during open mike on the weekend. One of the residents said he felt the Holy Spirit moving in his heart like never before. He never thought of the spirit as being already in him, and with him. He thought he could never be good enough to deserve a friendship with God, and now he knows God has always been there, that it was he (the resident) that had moved and now is back in the grace of our Lord and Savior from the experience he had on the weekend.

In Christ,
Randy Borden, Sterling Kairos team

*Reprinted from the Northern Colorado Emmaus
Community Northern Lights November 2007*

2008 CALENDAR

	LEADER	INFO CONTACT
24-26 January	KPMI WINTER BOARD Norcross (Atlanta), Georgia	Mary Sogan
31 January - 3 Feb	STERLING NORTH #12	Andrew Sisneros
15-18 February	FREMONT #46	Jim Waters
21-24 February	HIGH PLAINS (Brush) #4	Karen Salzman
28 February-2 Mar	STERLING EAST #5	Andrew Sisneros
6-9 March	RIFLE #6	Skaught Graham
10-13 April	DELTA #33	Bill Bennett
10-13 April	TERRITORIAL #45	Chuck Weida
17-20 April	CAÑON WOMEN'S #47	Jonnie McConaghy
25-27 April	ADVANCED KAIROS TRAINING Wheatridge (American Motel & Conf Center)	Randy Borden
1-4 May	STERLING SOUTH #11	Andrew Sisneros
5-8 June	DENVER WOMEN'S #9	Glenda Condon
31 July-3 August	HIGH PLAINS #5	Karen Salzman
5-9 August	KPMI SUMMER CONFERENCE Oakland, California	Mary Sogan
7-10 August	RIFLE #7	Skaught Graham
2-5 October	DELTA #34	Bill Bennett
9-12 October	TERRITORIAL #46	Chuck Weida
16-19 October	CAÑON WOMEN'S #48	Jonnie McConaghy
30 October—2 Nov	STERLING NORTH #13	Andrew Sisneros
14-16 November	KAIROS OUTSIDE #1 Estes Park (YMCA of the Rockies)	Jean Mares
4-7 December	DENVER WOMEN'S #10	Glenda Condon

STREET REUNIONS Kairos family, especially Kairos graduates: join us on the 2nd Friday of each month, 7:00 pm, Warren United Methodist, 14th and Gilpin, Denver. Potluck, grouping, music. Contact: Glenda Condon.

MISSING TEAM MEMBERS

4 Feb 62 — **Russell Barefield** — 24 Oct 07
Russ served on Kairos teams a few years ago at Territorial. He loved Jesus and people, and was himself loved by all. One of his employees is a graduate of Kairos. A member of his church (Rocky Mountain Calvary) is currently on the Territorial team. We all will miss his warm smile and servant spirit.

Elaine Wise — 10 November 2007

Elaine served Kairos faithfully at DWCF since Weekend #1, as team member and musician. She also assisted the Chaplain with liturgy music. A year and half ago, two team meetings into lay leadership of Kairos #6, she was diagnosed with lung cancer. Elaine's husband, Art, former Chair of the State Committee and representative to KPMI, suggests that memorials for Elaine be in the form of donations to the Kairos ministry at DWCF.

BLESSINGS

- ♦ **Fremont Restart**. By the grace of God and Warden, there will once again be a 4day Weekend at Fremont—Kairos #46, 15-18 February 2008. Please contact the leader, Bruce Carlson, if you are led to serve.
- ♦ **Outgoing Servants**. In January three veteran members of Colorado Kairos will complete several years of blessings given and blessings received through their service on the State Committee. Thank you — Bruce Carlson, Steve Gabriel, and Chaplain Jack Olafson
- ♦ **Memorials and Honoraria**. The State Committee invites anyone who has lost a loved one to suggest **memorial** donations be made to Kairos —for the ministry in a particular prison, or to Kairos of Colorado, or to KPMI. Anyone can do the same in **honor** of someone, whether still in this world or not. All donations will be received and processed in confidence, and acknowledgments will be sent to the donors.

COLORADO CHAPTER OF KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL (KPMI) STATE COMMITTEE

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ADDRESS FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE:

P.O.Box 25004, Colorado Springs CO 80936

COLORADO 2008 AKT

Our incoming Training Chair, Randy Borden, has already made the arrangements for the 2008 session of Advanced Kairos Training here in Colorado.

Dates:	25-27 April 2008
Place:	American Motel & Conference Center, Lakewood, I-70 at Kipling
Cost:	Single room: \$248 Double room: \$199 Commuter: \$120

This training is open to everyone. It is a mandatory prerequisite for all Weekend Leaders (formerly known as Rectors). For more info or to sign up, please contact Randy at rjborden@comcast.net.

This is also posted on the KPMI website.

JANUARY 2008 ELECTIONS

As per KPMI Operating Procedures, the State Committee will be electing its members (including officers and committee chairpersons) at the 12 January 2008 meeting in Castle Rock. The Nominating Committee for this election consists of Steve Gabriel (Chair), Bruce Carlson, Jim Strub, Glenda Condon, and Peter Kufeke.

The SC consists of 6 officers, 6 committee chairs, 2 clergy, and a representative from each Advisory Council. In January, due to term limits, we will need replacements for Chairperson, International Representative, and one Clergy. We also need to fill two committee chairmanships and a vacancy in the Vice Chair position.

As of mid December four people have stepped up to the challenge. If interested, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee.