



Newsletter

June 2009

Kairos Outside #11 a Great Success!

With a record attendance of 27 guests, 30 team members and 9 angels, God took Kairos Outside NC # 11 to new levels. It was obvious from the time that we arrived that God was in charge of this weekend.

Several team members arrived on Thursday night to pray over the camp site and start setting up for the weekend. The rest of the team arrived on Friday and got right to work.

It was obvious from the time the first guest arrived that all of our guests were ready for this weekend. Some had anxieties, perhaps fears, concerns, they were not sure what to expect, and some even had pain. They were willing to trust us as a team but most importantly, they trusted God. What a privilege it was watch the miracles take place in all of our guests!

The weekend was filled with great food; heart felt talks, deep discussions, and enlightening music. We prayed together, laughed together, and even cried together.

The weekend had many hands involved including:

- The many people who bathed the weekend in

Kairos Outside of North Carolina
Demonstrating God's grace and love through
Christian support for women who have loved ones
who are or who have been incarcerated

prayer

- The kitchen crew who did such a wonderful job with all the decorations in the dining hall and with serving us our meals
- The agape team, who put out gifts of agape on the beds and helped wherever was needed
- The table servers who kept our community room organized and served the needs of the table families
- Our table leaders who helped lead our table discussions
- Our angels who worked so hard behind the scenes with Agape, kitchen, table servers, and transportation of guests to and from the weekend
- Our chapel person who made our Chapel such a special place to worship
- Our music leader who followed the leading of the Spirit and made all aspects of this weekend so special
- Our spiritual directors who kept this weekend in prayer and were available to address our spiritual needs and kept us covered spiritually over this weekend
- Our leadership team that kept things organized and running smoothly

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We are so thankful to all of you for all that you have given so freely to make KO # 11 a success.

The best advice that I received when I became the Leader for KONC # 11 was to spend 30 minutes each day in prayer for the weekend. I took that suggestion to heart. Through all the team formations, planning, and throughout the weekend everything fell into place. She also shared with me that God does not call the qualified but qualifies the call. Thank you my friend for helping me build a strong foundation for the weekend.

Christ's presence was felt from the beginning of the weekend until the end. I hope you were able to see Christ's healing and restoration that was taking place in our guests and several of our team members.

Here are a few things that our guests shared with us at closing:

"I am worthy, I know that today. God gave us all a gift this weekend. I've learned I'm not

in control. This has been the best weekend of my life. I've never been loved so much. Thank you."

"I'm grateful to be here. I've never felt so close to God in my life."

"I found a rebirth. I can go out and carry the Word to others. God is teaching me a lesson to sit still and listen to him. God, I know you love me even if no one else does."

"This is not a journey I would have chosen, but I wouldn't have taken anything for the trip."

"Been given a gift of an opportunity to shed my pain. We're on a journey and we're not alone. We're lighter in spirit. Can't give what you don't have to and glad I was given love. I am changed. One of most awesome weekends of my life."

"Had a very good time. Cried until all my tears are gone. This weekend was more than I expected."

Our time together went by too quickly, by Sunday afternoon it was hard for a lot of us to leave. The weekend ended with the Blessed Quartet singing at the end of our Closing. What a great

finish to what had been a fabulous weekend.

I am sure that throughout the weekend, God was smiling and saying "Well done, my good and faithful servants."

On a personal Note: What a privilege it has been for me to be the second guest to come back and be leader for such an awesome ministry. I give thanks to God and to my team for all the confidence and faith that they showed me. I am so thankful for all the prayers and encouragement.

God continues to take Kairos Outside of North Carolina to new levels with us having the First Kairos Outside Western North Carolina in the Fall of this year. In 2010, there will be four Kairos Outside weekends, two in the eastern part of the state and two in the western part of the state.

I encourage all of you to continue to be involved in this ministry and I look forward to working future Kairos Outside Teams together.

Because of Him,
Cheryl Richard
Leader KONC # 11



Message from Paula, Advisory Council Chair

YOU WANT ME TO DO WHAT?!?!

I'm in the middle of reading a book about a girl who was a Hitler youth. After the war, through many hardships, she came to know Christ. After becoming a Christian, she had to work on obedience and stepping out of her comfort zone. One day, Christ told her to sell Christian magazines on her street. She said that she and her husband reluctantly obeyed and sold every single magazine they had. Again the next week, Christ told her to sell the same magazines down the same street! Feeling foolish, she said she and her husband obeyed, this time switching sides of the street. As expected they sold NO magazines until they came to the last apartment building. In this building, her husband met a woman who asked that they come back when her husband was home.

Of course they did. The couple selling magazines led the other couple to Christ. The man said the couple was an answer to prayer because he had been asking God to send someone to help him get his life right. He said he had been praying and asking for help for 6 months!! Imagine that man's persistence!!

Even more so, think about the couple's obedience. Sometimes, we have to step out of our comfort zone and do things we wouldn't normally do. Sometimes, we think we aren't qualified or good enough to do what we are asked to do. That's what WE think. But what does Christ think? He thinks we should be obedient. I've heard many times that Christ doesn't call the qualified. He qualifies the called.

I had to step out of my comfort zone when I started working with Kairos Outside. I remember the first weekend. I didn't know a single person!! And to think I had to spend all weekend with them!! I was nervous but I am so glad I did. Those ladies and men from that first weekend have become my family.

I had to step out of my comfort zone and be obedient again when I became Advisory Council chair. In my opinion I am in NO WAY qualified to hold this position. But Christ has other ideas. I can say that I am doing my best to be obedient to His call.

So if you have been thinking (maybe it's Christ talking to you) about working on a Kairos Outside team, working on the Advisory Council, starting a Reunion group, or even calling someone you met on your last weekend, step out of your comfort zone and do it. You never know what the results will be.

We are on the web!!

Kairos Outside of North Carolina has a new home on the web at:

www.kairosoutsidenc.org

Photos from KO #11



A large red graphic element in the top right corner of the page, consisting of a solid red rectangle with a white diagonal cutout on the left side.

KO East joins Second Chance Alliance

Ensuring Safe Communities

The KO Advisory Council of NC East has voted to join NC Second Chance Alliance, a statewide alliance of businesses, and interested individuals citizens working together for the safe and successful reintegration of adults and juveniles returning home from incarceration. The goal is to promote policies that remove barriers ex-offenders face in getting jobs, housing and other basic needs, so they can become productive citizens.

North Carolinians of all political perspectives believe that crime and punishment must go hand in hand, but they want to see a prison door that isn't a revolving door. Consider these facts:

- Approximately 40,000 people are currently in NC prisons; 95% of them will eventually leave prison and return home
- Nearly 50% of those entering prison are repeat offenders
- It costs the NC Department of Corrections \$23,000 annually to incarcerate an individual
- It costs \$80,000 to construct a single prison bed

“The current system of incarceration and re-incarceration doesn’t work. It erodes the safety of our communities, drains our state’s resources, and fails those who have paid their debts to society,” said Linda Davis, KO Advisory Council member from Raleigh. “That’s why I’m excited that we’ve joined the NC Second Chance Alliance.”

The Second Chance Alliance worked with Rep. Garland Pierce and Sen. Ed Jones to introduce

the Re-entry Study Commission Bill, to examine the barriers facing those who were formerly incarcerated or have criminal records. We can no longer afford to pour our resources and dollars into a revolving door criminal justice system.

Great news—our work in the NC Second Chance Alliance, is already having an impact.

Governor Perdue recently announced the formation of her “StreetSafe Task Force to Stop Repeat Offenders”. The task force will bring together faith-based organizations, non-profits, local and state government agencies, business leaders and members of the community to develop a plan to combat recidivism and reintegrate offenders safely into the community.

“Citizen and community safety is a major priority in North Carolina,” said Perdue. “StreetSafe will protect our communities, prevent ex-offenders from repeating crimes and provide them with the support they need to restart their lives.”

Attorney General Roy Cooper and Correction Secretary Al Keller have agreed to serve as co-chairs of the StreetSafe Task Force.

“Law enforcement officers too often see criminals they’ve arrested and convicted go right back to their old ways as soon as they get out of prison,” Cooper said. “Stopping criminals from repeating their crimes will make all of us safer.”

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Get Involved!

Team Volunteer. Working a team requires members meet for 36 hours to prepare for a Kairos Outside Weekend. Members share their special talents – musical, spiritual, social – with Guests and each other. The process begins with a volunteer application, which is submitted to the council and leaders of upcoming Weekends. Leaders begin choosing their team many months in advance, so becoming a Team Volunteer can take a long time because of all the planning involved.

Angel Volunteer. “Angels” are special volunteers who work behind the scenes during a weekend. They help prepare Guest quarters, set up tables and chairs, clean, cook, run errands, set up luminaries and pray during the weekend. We also need help with Guest transportation during weekends. This is a wonderful opportunity for college and high school students, and youth groups who need service hours.

Prayer Partners. In Kairos Outside, we depend on God to make things happen, so we recruit volunteers to pray for us from start to finish.

Agape. Agape is a sacrificial “love” that takes many forms. It could be prayer or working as an angel. Or it could be making little gifts such as bookmarks or food, for our Guests on the weekend. It could also be a “green agape” - a financial gift that is tax deductible.

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"It will take a commitment from all of us to address the challenges faced by ex-offenders" Keller said. "The work of the StreetSafe Task Force will benefit everyone who is working to help ex-offenders become productive taxpaying citizens."

The plan will include recommendations on how ex-offenders can access job training and education, stable housing and substance abuse prevention. The plan also will encourage ex-offenders to develop personal responsibility for their actions.

The NC Second Chance Alliance will continue to work on raising awareness of the issues of helping ex-offenders return home and become productive citizens. For more information or to get involved in this important advocacy work, contact Linda Davis at lgd919@nc.rr.com or 919.210.4420.

Advanced Kairos Training

Have you ever thought you wanted to learn more about Kairos Outside but didn't know where to get more information? Have you ever thought about being a leader for a Kairos Outside weekend but wanted more information first? If you have ever had either of these thoughts then mark your calendars for July 10-12. Advanced Kairos Training for Kairos Outside will be held at Peace College. Anyone can attend. The cost for training is as follows: \$160 per person – double occupancy; \$190 per person – single occupancy; \$90 per person – commuters. This includes lodging for 2 nights (linens included), 4 meals – Saturday Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner and Sunday Breakfast. KO ladies will have a special time of food and fellowship on Friday night. All training supplies will be provided. Be sure to register before June 30. Prices go up by \$10 on July 1.

To register, contact: Ted Cashion at TedCashion@nc.rr.com or 919 859 1709 or Bob Clinkscales at clinkscales@inteliport.com or 252 426 7720.

Kairos Outside of North Carolina

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