

## Why So Many Cookies?

Each Kairos team member is to bring 150 dozen home-baked cookies to a Kairos Christian renewal weekend. That adds up to 7,500 dozen cookies.

How are so many cookies used? The cookies represent at least three truths of the Christian life:

- 1 God's unending grace. Cookies are everywhere in the prison. They are a physical symbol of God's grace, available to all believers (i.e. agape love)
- 2 The power of Christian Community. All Kairos cookies are home-baked, demonstrating that real people on the outside can see the inmates through the eyes of agape love and have prayed for the inmates while baking the cookies.
- 3 Availability of forgiveness. You can imagine that God's forgiveness and self-forgiveness are difficult to accept in a prison. On Saturday evening, each Kairos participant is asked to take a bag of cookies to whomever in that institution he/she considers his/her worst enemy and ask for, or grant, forgiveness.

## Kairos Ministry In Ohio

There are currently 21 (18 men and 3 women) Ohio institutions at which the Kairos 3-day "short course in Christianity" is provided twice per year. At July 2015, 50 weekends had been conducted at Lebanon Correctional Institution, the first Kairos Community in Ohio started in 1990. Each institution normally holds 2 Kairos weekends per year with an average of 42 inmates attending each one. That translates into over 1700 inmates (and growing) per year experience the love of Jesus Christ in close personal relationship.

Officers of Kairos in Ohio are in communication with the wardens and chaplains of the remaining Ohio correctional institutions wishing to offer the Kairos prison ministry. It takes an average of 150 volunteers per institution to put on two weekends per year per institution. Please pray for more Kairos volunteers.

## What is Kairos?

Kairos is an ecumenical Christian ministry designed for use in men's and women's correctional institutions. The ministry is conducted, in cooperation with chaplains of correctional institutions, by teams of laity and clergy who are qualified by their experiences in Christian renewal movements.

The purpose of Kairos is to help build and nurture strong Christian communities among the residents of correctional institutions. The Kairos experience for residents starts with a 3-day short course in Christianity. This weekend involves 42 inmates selected by the Chaplain and a team of 55 lay and clergy persons. The weekend is modeled after renewal weekends like Catholic Cursillo, Cum Christo, Emmaus and Via De Christo.

After a Kairos weekend, residents continue their faith walk by participating in small weekly Prayer and Share Groups to share their lives on a deep spiritual level and to pray for each another. Kairos participants also attend monthly reunions in the institution with Kairos volunteers. Kairos volunteers also conduct 2-day Christian retreats twice per year for those that have attended a Kairos Weekend.



"...I was in prison and you visited me."

Matthew 25:36

Kairos Ohio District Office: (614) 268-4333

[www.KairosOhio.org](http://www.KairosOhio.org)

Ohio Kairos Cookie Brochure  
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## Would You Bake Cookies For A Kairos Prison Ministry Christian Renewal Weekend?

Weekend #38

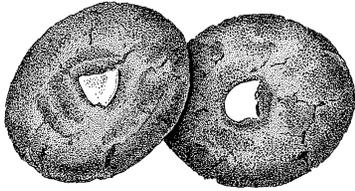
Marion Correctional Institution

October 22 thru 25, 2015

7,500 Dozen Cookies  
Are Needed for  
Each Kairos Weekend!

Every Team Member  
Provides 150 Dozen

## Cookies Spread God's Unconditional Love on Kairos Weekends



### Only Home-Baked Cookies Are Used *Baking and Packaging Instructions*

- Cookie mixes, pre-mixed cookie dough (tubes or tubs) from your supermarket, or “frozen cookie balls” from food wholesalers are easy beginnings.
- Chocolate chip (easily the most appreciated), oatmeal, cookies with M & Ms or butterscotch bits, peanut butter, plain sugar cookies are easy to make and popular. Rice Krispy bars and brownies are special.
- Don't over-bake cookies; brittle cookies may break during shipping and handling.
- **No raisins, icing or powdered sugar.**
- Cool cookies before packaging so they don't stick together.
- Package in one quart or one gallon zipper-lock bags (no metal ties), 1 Dozen per bag. Mark bags with quantity and type of cookies enclosed. E.g. “1 dozen chocolate chip.” For easy count and sorting by handlers.
- Pray for the Kairos weekend participants as you bake and package your cookies. Ask God to use the cookies and the team as instruments for his unconditional love, forgiveness, healing, Christian renewal and evangelism.

## How are Thousands of Dozens of Cookies Used on a Kairos Weekend?

- On Thursday evening, cookies go with coffee and other beverages to soften the first tense minutes of the meeting between resident participants and team members.
- Every evening, each of the 42 participants takes back to his/her cell or dormitory a bag containing dozens of cookies that are shared with other inmates as the participants answer questions about the Kairos weekend.
- Cookies are available to the 42 participants throughout the 3-day weekend in the meeting room.
- Cookies are provided daily to the security stations, break rooms and staff offices as a way of thanking the corrections officers and other staff for assisting Kairos and let them know that they too are loved by the Lord.
- All inmates not involved in the Kairos weekend receive a dozen cookies. This takes almost 3,000 dozen. Also, Kairos participants return to their units on Friday evening with a second grocery bag full of cookies to eat and give away in their cell block or dormitory. By this time everyone in the institution knows that something really special is happening inside the walls.
- Saturday is forgiveness day. Kairos participants learn about forgiving themselves, asking for and accepting God's forgiveness and forgiving others. They each get an extra grocery bag of cookies to give to another inmate or corrections officer against whom they bear a grudge or from whom they desire forgiveness for something



## Kairos Prison Ministry of Ohio

### Date Needed and Location

Please leave cookies on a counter in the upstairs kitchen next to the fellowship hall By Friday afternoon on October 16, 2015. That allows time to count and process.

However, late arrivals will be accepted thru noon on Thursday, October 22nd.