

Would You Bake Cookies For the LeCI#40 Kairos Prison Ministry Christian Renewal Weekend, March 11-14?

(LeCI, Lebanon Correctional Institution, is a state prison located near Lebanon, Ohio)

10,000 Dozen Cookies Are Needed for Each Kairos Weekend!

Why So Many Cookies?

Each Kairos team member is to bring 200 + dozen home-baked cookies to the weekend. 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., God's *agape* love)
2. The power of Christian community. All Kairos cookies are home-baked demonstrating that real people on the outside representing many Christian denominations 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 of the weekend, each Kairos participant is asked to take a bag of cookies to whomever in that institution he considers his worst enemy and ask for, or grant, forgiveness.

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

- Cookie mixes, pre-mixed dough (tubes or tubs) from the supermarket, or "frozen cookie balls" from food wholesalers (GFS) are easy beginners.
- All types of cookies are welcome but keep in mind that because of handling they must be sturdy in order to resist breakage. . Cookies measuring 2 to 3 in., work best.
- Rice Krispy bars and brownies are special.
- Use of icing or powdered sugar is forbidden by the institution.
- Cool cookies before packaging 2 dz. individual cookies in 1 gal. plastic snap lock bags. (**no metal ties, foil, wax paper, or paper plates in the bags, please!**)
- Pray for the Kairos weekend participants as you bake and package your cookies, asking God to use your cookies to re-present God's forgiving, healing, life-giving love in Jesus Christ.

Please bring your cookies to the church office by March 5th

• What is Kairos?

Kairos prison ministry is an ecumenical Christian ministry that is world-wide. The ministry is conducted in cooperation with the chaplains of correctional institutions by teams of laity and clergy who are qualified by their experiences in Christian renewal movements such as Catholic Cursillo, Lutheran Via De Christo, and Walk to Emmaus.

The purpose of Kairos is to help build and nurture Christian communities among the residents of correctional institutions. The Kairos experience for the 42 residents starts with a 3-day short course in Christianity. After the weekend there are continuing weekly activities for the graduates to provide ongoing nurturing in their Christian faith.

For further information about Kairos: Kairos Prison Ministry in Ohio: <www.kairosohio.org>
Kairos Prison Ministry International: <www.kairosprisonministry.org>