

**Keryx Prison Ministry**  
**P.O. Box 1042**  
**Marquette, MI 49855**

*Matthew 25:36*  
*"I was in prison*  
*and you visited me."*

Spring 2016

KERYX of MARQUETTE

*Keryx is a Greek word meaning "herald". In the ancient world, a herald was one sent by his master to proclaim in public the master's message. He dared not change the announcement because it was not his own. His responsibility was only to proclaim it accurately. That is how Paul understood his gospel ministry.*

*We, in Keryx, as Paul, are mere servants proclaiming our Master's Good News.*



**AGAPE/PALANCA LETTER WRITING INSTRUCTIONS**

**Please note** that all agape/palanca must be written expressions on paper, only, and with **NO stickers of any kind** on them. Please address your letters, "Dear Brother in Christ," and write of your support and God's love for the candidates. Palanca will NOT be received by the candidates until **AFTER** the Keryx.

**Do not include any identifying information such as your last name, address, phone number, etc. Use only your first name - no exceptions.**

All agape for each individual prisoner will be placed in one large envelope and mailed at the end of the weekend. Therefore, do NOT put your letters in envelopes. All letters are read by our volunteers for acceptability and are again screened by Department of Corrections personnel after their arrival at the prison via U.S. Mail.

**Please bring your letters by Sunday, April 17, if you come to the closing OR mail or bring to Prince of Peace Church on M-28 in Harvey before Saturday, April 16.**

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## From Chaplain Tom Prisk

To all Keryx Volunteers:

It's hard to believe that it's been nearly six months since Keryx #44. Due to the additional work involved in preparing for a Keryx weekend on top of an already overloaded schedule, I always find myself dreading the approach of Keryx. But then it arrives and I remember why I do it and consider it so important. Jesus Christ radically changes lives and this is a powerful opportunity to share that fact with these guys.

March and April are also time for all current returning volunteers to update their volunteer status with MBP. Any new volunteers need to have their paperwork in to me now so that the administration has time to review and approve your application as well as clearing your LEIN form. This process needs to be completed before I can add your name to the list for volunteer training/orientation which is scheduled for April 14<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-4:30.

Thank you for all of the time, energy, prayer and sacrifice that you all invest in putting together a Keryx weekend.

Chaplain Tom Prisk

## Note from Keryx 44 Rector

It was my pleasure, and a blessing, to be able to serve as Rector for Keryx 44. Each time I have been able to serve God by being involved in a Keryx weekend, I stand in awe of the dedication to God and the desire to serve him shown by each member of the team. What a wonderful example of the way the world should function!

Once again as Rector, I had the privilege of observing the Christian connection that develops between both the "inside" and the "outside" team members and the candidates, and the Christian love and caring that results. What an experience that is!!

I thank God for the opportunity to serve, and thank the entire Keryx Community for the prayers and other support given for each weekend. The power of prayer is awesome! We serve an awesome God!!

Your Brother in Christ, Bob Johnson

## MANY THANKS!

Thank you to all those churches and individuals who have so generously supported the Marquette Area Keryx Prison Ministry, financially and through your prayers. We would especially like to thank Lake Superior Christian Church, a faithful, regular contributor to the Keryx ministry. Prince of Peace Lutheran Church supports us in many ways. They generously allow us to hold team meeting in their church and provide space for the team to gather during the Keryx weekend. This fall the Evangelical Covenant Church of Norway, Michigan gave the Keryx Program a generous donation from their Mission Outreach. We are grateful that St. Peter's Cathedral provided money from their prison fund for us to purchase the crosses each candidate receives at the close of the weekend. We also want to thank our many donors and especially the team members who contribute so generously by giving both time and money. We thank God for your faithfulness as you help us bring the Good News to those incarcerated at Marquette Branch Prison. **If you or your church family would like to help defray the costs of putting on a weekend or the costs to print or mail the newsletter, please send a check made payable to "Keryx Prison Ministry", and mail to P.O. Box 1042, Marquette, MI, 49855. Your donation is a tax-deductible contribution under IRS tax code 501 (c)(3). Thank you.**

## Sample Palanca

Dear Brother-in-Christ,

My prayers are with you as you continue your 4<sup>th</sup> day journey, walking humbly with Christ. May you remember the feeling of God's loving presence throughout the Keryx and may you bring that to others as well. I remember how powerful my own weekend experience was. Since then, I've found that regular grouping, daily prayer and devotions, and consistent examination of conscience practices keep me faithful in my walk. I hope that you will also walk forward, confident as a child of God and desiring to serve as you are called, where you are called.

Your sister/brother-in-Christ,

First name

## Letter from a Former Keryx Participant

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

When my Keryx walk first began, I was a bit overwhelmed with all the guys lined up, full of smiles and shaking my hand. I thought to myself, "is this real or am I just imagining this?" For the first time in my life I felt like I was actually being treated like a human being. I felt Christ moving powerfully in the church. Saturday came and I was really on fire for Christ and ready to complete the weekend. Then the angels came to sing and what a blessing. It was an awesome joy to realize that men and women took time out of their personal lives to come and fellowship with us.

I still thank the Lord daily for that weekend. In just three days my life was spiritually transformed. I have had a few bumps in the road and will still have some as I continue my walk. I praise God for being there with me every step of the way and for never leaving or forsaking me.

I would recommend the Keryx program to all who have never taken the walk. May the Lord continue to bless the Keryx program.

In Christ,  
Bob

## Help Save Postage

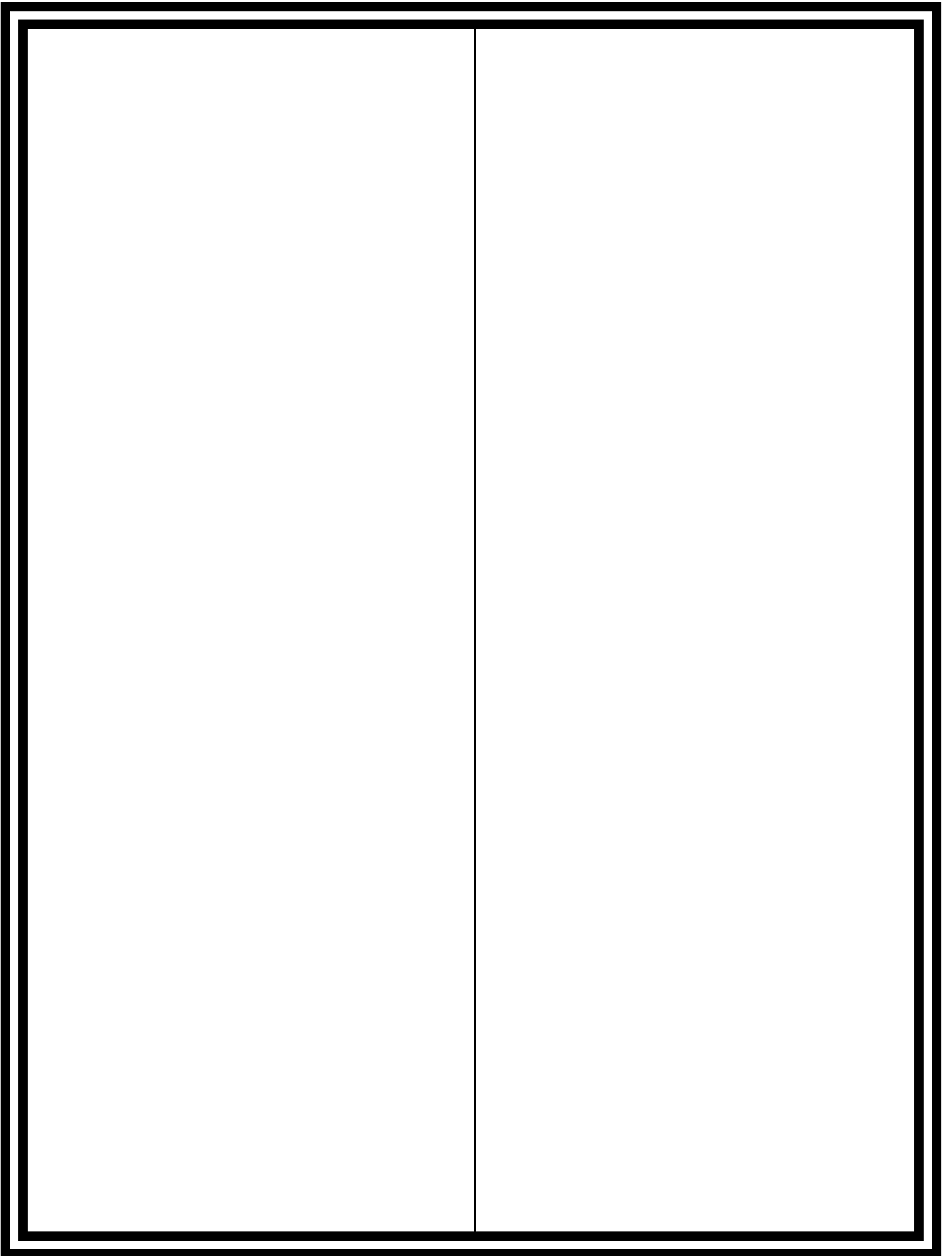
Thank you to those who have agreed to receive the Keryx Newsletter electronically. It's not too late!! If you are willing to get your newsletter on line, email Martha Hayward at [marthaannhayward@gmail.com](mailto:marthaannhayward@gmail.com).

## Keryx Website

The Keryx website has been updated. Check it out: [MarquetteKeryx.org](http://MarquetteKeryx.org). You can read the current newsletter, past newsletters, team meetings, volunteer opportunities, and more. We welcome suggestions for what should be included in the website.

## Keryx #46

Keryx #46 is scheduled for October 13-16, 2016. Please mark these dates on your calendar. We hope all of you will be able to participate through the serenade, closing, palanca, and your prayers.



## DO YOU HEAR GOD CALLING?

**Is God calling you to visit and serve Him by bearing Christ as a committed volunteer to inmates in the Keryx Prison Ministry at Marquette Branch Prison?**

If so, we invite you to join the “active” Keryx Prison Ministry faith community, which holds Keryx weekends and weekly and monthly reunions in the Trustee Chapel at Marquette Branch Prison (more info. below). For more information about this opportunity to serve, call one of the board members.

**Please answer God’s call!  
The Keryx weekend is April 14-17, 2016**

If you are already a **certified volunteer** (have been through the volunteer training program and have participated in a volunteer activity within the past 12 months and have filled out a volunteer application within the past year), have made a 3-day Weekend on the outside and wish to participate in the **Keryx Serenade and Closing** for Keryx 45, please bring your driver’s license or other official picture ID with you to the front desk on **Saturday, April 16 at 3:30 p.m. (no earlier as you will be asked to drive out off the prison property)** for the 4:00 p.m. Serenade, and on **Sunday, April 17 at 12:30 p.m. (no earlier for the same reason)** for the closing. If you are a certified volunteer, it is still necessary for you to reapply as a volunteer each year. There are two forms that must be filled out and submitted to the prison front desk at least a month prior to the date you plan to attend a prison program. If you have not filled out these forms in the past year, you should call the front desk to check the date on the back of your card. Just a reminder that a handshake is the only contact allowed.

**Volunteers are responsible for keeping track of their status. All you need to do to keep your status current is fill out a new LEIN every March or April. If you forget and let it lapse, your ID is shredded and you will have to go through the whole application process again. In the past reminders were sent out but that does not happen anymore. If your contact information has changed, please email or call Tom Prisk so he can update your information.**

Anyone who is not a certified volunteer but feels God’s calling to become one, please contact one of the board members listed in this newsletter. It is necessary for volunteers to be active to keep their volunteer status current by either serving on Keryx weekend teams and attending a minimum of one Monday night Prayer & Share session per month, and/or by attending Serenades, Closings, and occasional third Saturday afternoon reunions. If you are not certain your volunteer status is current, please call the prison and check before coming.

There are many ways to support the Keryx Team. Consider getting your volunteer card and attending Serenades and Closings, pray for the team and prisoners attending the weekend, provide and/or help serve food for the evening and (early) morning meetings at Prince of Peace Church (please call Martha Hayward at 906-475-7582 to sign up for food options).

### PLEASE NOTE: ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to the Monday evening (7:00 p.m.) Keryx Alumni Prayer & Share, and the Third Saturday (1:30 p.m.) Alumni Reunion, there are several opportunities to volunteer at Marquette Branch Prison in the Trustee Division (either male or female welcome): Saturday services are held at 5:35 p.m. (Protestant) and 7:15 p.m. (Catholic) and Sunday services are at 5:30 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. (Protestant). Ichthos Fellowship is on Tuesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. Volunteers should be **at the front desk** 20 minutes prior to the serv

## MARQUETTE AREA KERYX BOARD

Jim Hayward, President 906-475-7582 103A E. Buffalo Road Negaunee, MI 49866 <a href="mailto:JSHayward647@gmail.com">JSHayward647@gmail.com</a> First term ends 6/17	Dave Adler, Treasurer 906- 343-6666 400 Shot Point Marquette, MI 49855 Da.eagleup@gmail.com  *term on board has ended but Dave continues to serve as treasurer	Larry Fladung, Palanca 906-249-3052 249-3052 128 Old Kiln Road Marquette, MI 49855 <a href="mailto:Bigjudes128@yahoo.com">Bigjudes128@yahoo.com</a> Second term ends 6/16
Martha Hayward, secretary 906-475-7582 103A E. Buffalo Road Negaunee, MI 49866 <a href="mailto:Marthaannhayward@gmail.com">Marthaannhayward@gmail.com</a> First term ends 6/17	Bob and Bonnie Johnson 906-884-4732 22746 W. State Hwy M64 Ontonagon, MI 49953 <a href="mailto:Rijohnsondds@hotmail.com">Rijohnsondds@hotmail.com</a> First term ends 6/15	Pierre Geoffrion 906-226-2811 706 Clark St. Marquette, Mi. 49855 geoffrionp@sbcglobal.net second term ends 6/16
Mike and Marylou Stefanski 43N. Serenity Drive Gwinn, MI 49841 First term ends 6/17 oulyarm@gmail.com	Dave Blomquist 906-396-0259 1530 West Ridge #7 Marquette, MI 49855 First term ends 6/17	



Donations of **home-baked** cookies are gratefully accepted for Keryx weekends. We would like to bring as many dozen cookies as possible into the prison as a gift to the corrections officers who go out of their way to allow us to come into the prison on these weekends. Please help us out by dropping off your cookies (in disposable packaging please) on Thursday or Friday, April 14 or 15 at Prince of Peace Church in Harvey. Thank you for your generosity!

If you have any comments, suggestions or item contributions for this newsletter, please let me know: Judy Fladung at 249-3052 or Martha Hayward at 475-7582.

We hope many of you will be able to attend the serenade and closing. The presence of volunteers at these times is a powerful way to express our support and love.



**Prayer coverage is a vital part of the weekend. Please make a concerted effort to circulate and return (by email is fine) the prayer vigil enclosed in this newsletter.**

**This is something that EVERYONE can do!**

**Hearts are softened and God's power works through your prayers!**