



Keryx Prison Ministry
555 Riverside Road
Marquette, MI 49855

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

Fall 2017

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, October 22, if you come to the closing OR mail or bring to Prince of Peace Church on M-28 in Harvey before Saturday, October 21.

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URGENT REQUEST

We are grateful for all volunteers who attended the serenade and closing of Keryx #47. These events are a very important part of the weekend. Candidates frequently comment that they are moved that volunteers are willing to come to prison on Saturday and Sunday to be part of their weekend. Please update your volunteer status if needed and make plans to be present for the Serenade and Closing. Thank you.

Note from Keryx 47 Rector

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
During the winter Marquette Branch Prison closed one and a half dorms to renovate the facilities for college level courses. To do this they shipped over 220 inmates to other prison facilities. Monday night Prayer and Share was down to 6 inmates. At the first team meeting, we knew we had a low number, under ten candidates signed up for the weekend. Through much prayer and hard work by Chaplin Tom, the enrollment reached 21. The Holy Spirit enhanced the lives of 20 inmates during the weekend. These guys are on fire for the Lord, as they witnessed during the Sunday closing. In fact one inmate said he joined a gang, God's CHURCH community led by Jesus. The 25 person Keryx team could not do this alone. The serenade, the around-the-clock prayer vigil, the Prayer Partners, and volunteers on the outside, all work to make this a truly Christian community event. On behalf of the Keryx 47 team, thank you to all involved in the success of the weekend. God bless the Keryx47 alumni. May they spread God's grace and Jesus' love around the compound.
Bruce Buckman, Rector

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. 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 Keryx, 555 Riverside Road, Marquette, MI, 49855. Please note this change of address. As of January 2017, we will no longer receive mail at the P.O. Box. **Your donation is a tax-deductible contribution under IRS tax code 501 (c)(3). Thank you.**

OUTSIDE TEAM MEETING

The Keryx Outside Team supports the Keryx weekend by preparing supper and breakfast for the team members, organizing the palanca packets which are mailed to the candidates after the weekend, and illing in the prayer vigil sheet. The Keryx Outside Team will meet at Prince of Peace on September 28, 7:00 pm, at the same time as the 4th team meeting. Any one willing to help plan meals or prepare food for the team during the weekend, please make plans to attend this meeting.

HELP US SAVE POSTAGE

If you are willing to receive your newsletter electronically, call or email Martha Hayward (734-417-3427) or marthaannhayward@gmail.com

From Chaplain Tom Prisk

To All Keryx Volunteers:

This is a reminder that the times of the serenade and third Saturday reunion have changed. The serenade is 6:30-7:30 on Saturday evening. Please be at the prison between 6:00-6:15pm. The closing on Sunday remains the same. Be at the front desk at 12:30. The third Saturday reunion is 9:15 to 10:30am. Be at the front desk by 9:00am.

There is a new volunteer coordinator, Gale Bott. I will still be helping him with new volunteer orientations/training but all LIENs and applications should be sent to Gale Bott for processing **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**. I received the approval from the Warden's office for the Keryx weekend. I have posted information in the housing units and chapel. I hope to have 24 candidates by October 2, in time to process the necessary paper work. Again, many thanks to the volunteers who make this program possible. Chaplain Tom

Letter from a Keryx Volunteer

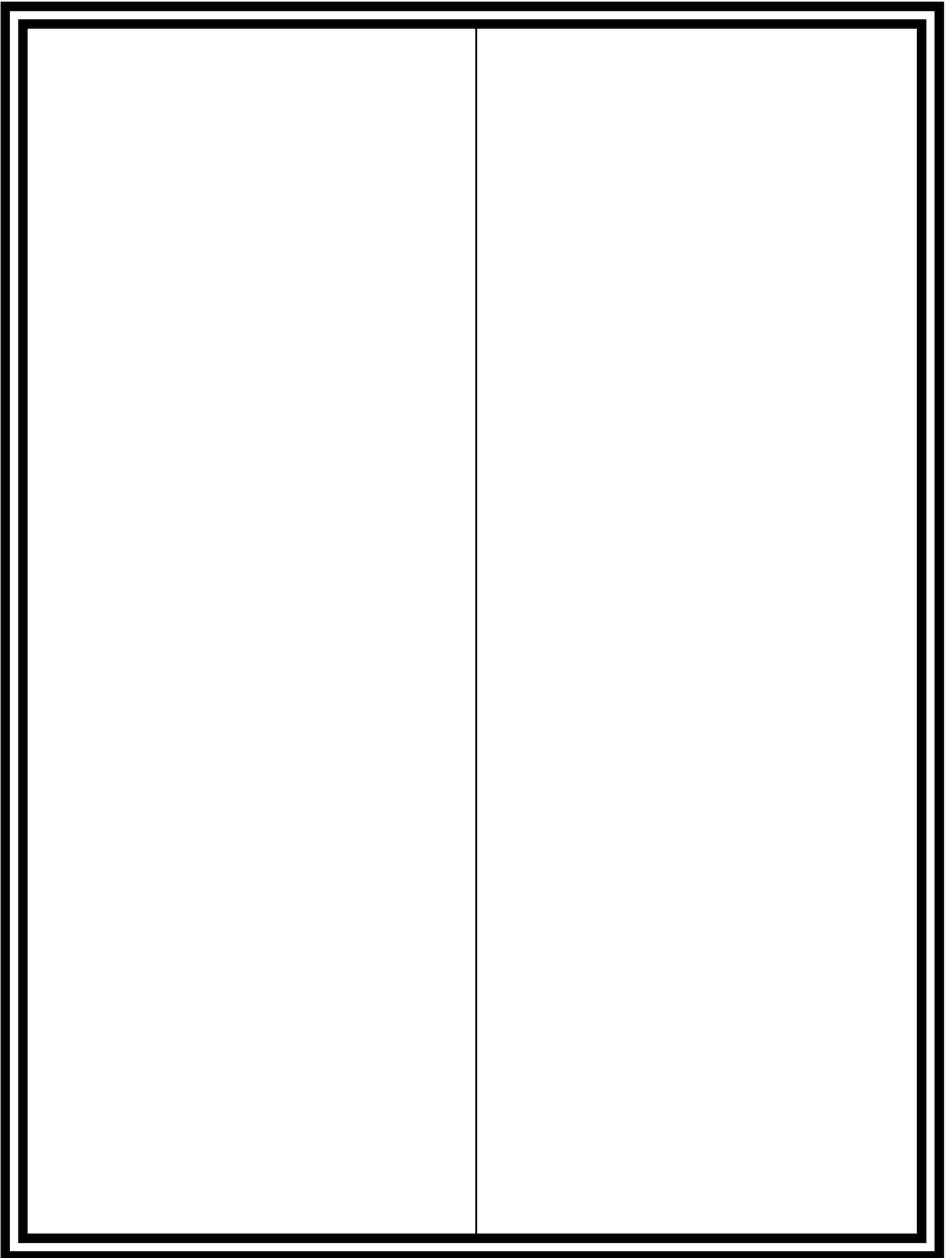
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Very soon, on October 19, 2017, we, your husbands, church members, and friends, will enter Marquette Branch Prison to meet, and minister to, 24 inmate residents, who will be the "candidates" for Keryx #48. I write this letter to you to say what a wonderful, giving experience this will be for me and my brothers on the team, and to remind all of you about our gratitude for your participation and/or support of this ministry.

Like many of you, I have been blessed with a life which is far more wonderful than anything I could claim to have earned or "deserved." I had excellent, loving parents and grandparents, a great education, and almost no problems or difficulties in my life, except those that I made for myself. An easy life, and one with professional "status" or "power", even on a small scale, feeds one's sense of self-importance and self-sufficiency, and distances you from the reality of God's creation and the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for your redemption and salvation. For many years, I was a lawyer, a prosecuting attorney, and a tribal judge. In short, I had more to do with putting men in jail or prison, than in helping them reform and recover. Then, after problems in my second marriage, I was introduced to Cursillo by a lawyer friend, Fred Weisse. And after coming to Christ, another friend, whom many of you may know, Bill Tucker, invited me to be on a Kairos team at MBP. Fearful at first that my work would endanger me or alienate inmate candidates, I said "no" for a couple of years. But Bill, and through him, God's Holy Spirit, prevailed upon me to serve, beginning in Kairos #9.

My family, Christian brotherhood, and gatherings and retreats at MBP are the most valuable things in my life. I've been convinced for a long time, notwithstanding my former work, that Christ's love does more to "rehabilitate" and prepare men for "reentry" than anything DOC can do --- even when it has the needed resources. This was confirmed for me, this last week by what I once would have called a "coincidence." Shortly after being invited to write this letter, I received an unexpected phone call from a former inmate, Jeff G., who called to thank me and the Keryx team and community for showing him God's love and our respect for him as a brother. He has married and has full-time work with Ford. And he is helping another Keryx candidate/leader, Ralph D., to find work there, too.

So, once again, I thank God for you brothers and sisters who continue to "visit the prisoner" and who seek to plant the seeds of God's love and will on our small part of His earth. Your prayers, volunteering, serenading, and loving presence at each Keryx closing are wonderful gifts of hope and love to our brothers at MBP. In His name, thank you, Tom Smithson



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 October 19-22, 2017**

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 48, please bring your driver’s license or other official picture ID with you to the front desk on **Saturday, October 21 at 6:00 p.m. (no earlier as you will be asked to drive out off the prison property) for the 6:30 p.m. Serenade, and on Sunday, October 22 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 (9:15am) 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 7:00pm. (Protestant). Ichthos Fellowship is on Tuesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. Volunteers should be **at the front desk** 20 minutes prior.

MARQUETTE AREA KERYX BOARD

<p>Jim Hayward, President 906-475-7582 103A E. Buffalo Road Negaunee, MI 49866 JSHayward647@gmail.com First term ends 6/17</p>	<p>Dave Adler, Treasurer 906- 343-6666 400 Shot Point Marquette, MI 49855 Da.eagleup@gmail.com</p> <p>*term on board has ended but Dave continues to serve as treasurer</p>	<p>Tom Smithson, Palanca 2623 W. Maple Ridge Road Rock,MI 49880 smithsontom@hughes.net</p> <p>*Tom is not on the Board but has agreed to serve as palanca coordinator</p>
<p>Martha Hayward, secretary 906-475-7582 103A E. Buffalo Road Negaunee, MI 49866 Marthaannahayward@gmail.com First term ends 6/17</p>	<p>Bob and Bonnie Johnson 906-884-4732 22746 W. State Hwy M64 Ontonagon, MI 49953 Rijohnsondds@hotmail.com First term ends 6/15</p>	<p>Marvin LaGrew N. 14511 Black River Road Ironwood, MI 49938 Marv46@up.net First term ends 6/2019</p>
<p>Mike and Marylou Stefanski 43N. Serenity Drive Gwinn, MI 49841 First term ends 6/17 oulyarm@gmail.com</p>	<p>Dave Blomquist 906-396-0259 1530 West Ridge #7 Marquette, MI 49855 First term ends 6/17 Dmlb1530@gmail.com</p>	<p>Vic Thompson 1109 N. 18th Street Escanaba, MI 49829 Thom7374@gmail.com First term ends 6/2019</p>



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, October 19 and 20 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.



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!