



Keryx Prison Ministry
555 Riverside Road
Marquette, MI 49855

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

Fall 2018

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 21, if you come to the closing OR mail or bring to Prince of Peace Church on M-28 in Harvey before Saturday, October 20.

+++++

URGENT REQUEST

We were grateful for all volunteers who attended the serenade and closing of Keryx #49. There was a wonderful turnout for the serenade. 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. Monday "Prayer and Share" is also an important commitment. A team volunteer who is unable to attend on the Monday for which he has signed up should contact an alternate who will take his place.

Note from Keryx 49 Rector

Dear Brothers & my sisters in Christ.

As the past Rector of Keryx #49, I would like to tell all of you that this was one awesome and amazing experience. Yes we had our unique challenges during this weekend' as always but it is amazing to just watch our "God at work"! Just when a problem/issue seems to "pop up" God shows up at the right time and "poof" it is gone as quickly as it appears. I cannot thank all the administration and guards at the Marquette prison enough for all that they do to accommodate our Keryx team and our community members as well. A special "thank you" goes to all those awesome brothers and sisters who come for the serenade and closing. You have no idea how important this is in making this weekend such a success. I have witnessed many "hold outs" till they get to the serenade and to watch a bunch of rough and tough male prisoners break down and cry possibly for the first time in many years and really "feel the pure love of a Christian Community" is an amazing thing. I know speaking for myself I have never been able to get through one of these serenades without crying and I admit Keryx 49 was no exception. What an awesome God we serve and what a privilege it was to be the Rector of Keryx 49. God loves you all and so do I.

Marvin La Grew, Rector Keryx 49

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 stay 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.

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

UPDATE FROM CHAPLAIN TOM

Gale Bott, volunteer coordinator, now handles processing all volunteer applications. Anyone interested in becoming a prison volunteer needs to pick up an application at the front desk and return the papers to Gale Bott, Volunteer Coordinator, Marquette Branch Prison. Mr. Bott sets the trainings for new volunteers at the beginning of each year. The last training for 2018 is December 11, 12:00-2:00pm. Persons going in once or twice a year, for the serenade or closing, are no longer considered volunteers and will not be in the data base. It is now possible to attend the serenade or closing on a daily pass. In order to do this, a person needs to fill out a LEIN form at the front desk at least a week before going in to the prison. **That policy is in effect now.** If you are unsure if you are approved to go into MBP for this Keryx weekend, call Gale Bott (226-6531, ask for Gale Bott). If you are not approved, go to the prison front desk and fill out a LEIN at least a week before the Keryx weekend.

Testimony from a former candidate

Dear Friends:

My name is Willie. I attended Keryx 48 and sat at the table of Luke. One of the issues we discussed was letting go. Forgiving myself was the hardest thing to do. I prayed, "God, I know I'm in prison. Please meet me where I'm at, forgive me for the pain and shame I've caused to others and to my family." Listening to the testimonies of the volunteers strengthened my hope, letting me know I am not alone. Keryx 48 was God's way of letting me know He loves me unconditionally. He's a God of a second chance. God assured me that I was in the right place. I knew that if I did not forgive myself, I would be blocking the sunlight of God from operating in my life. Although I am still in prison, I see life through a different light. I attend church, Bible studies, and AA. I am so thankful for the volunteers who come to Keryx, Ichthos, and Prayer and Share. Remember God loves you and so do I.
Your brother in Christ, Willie

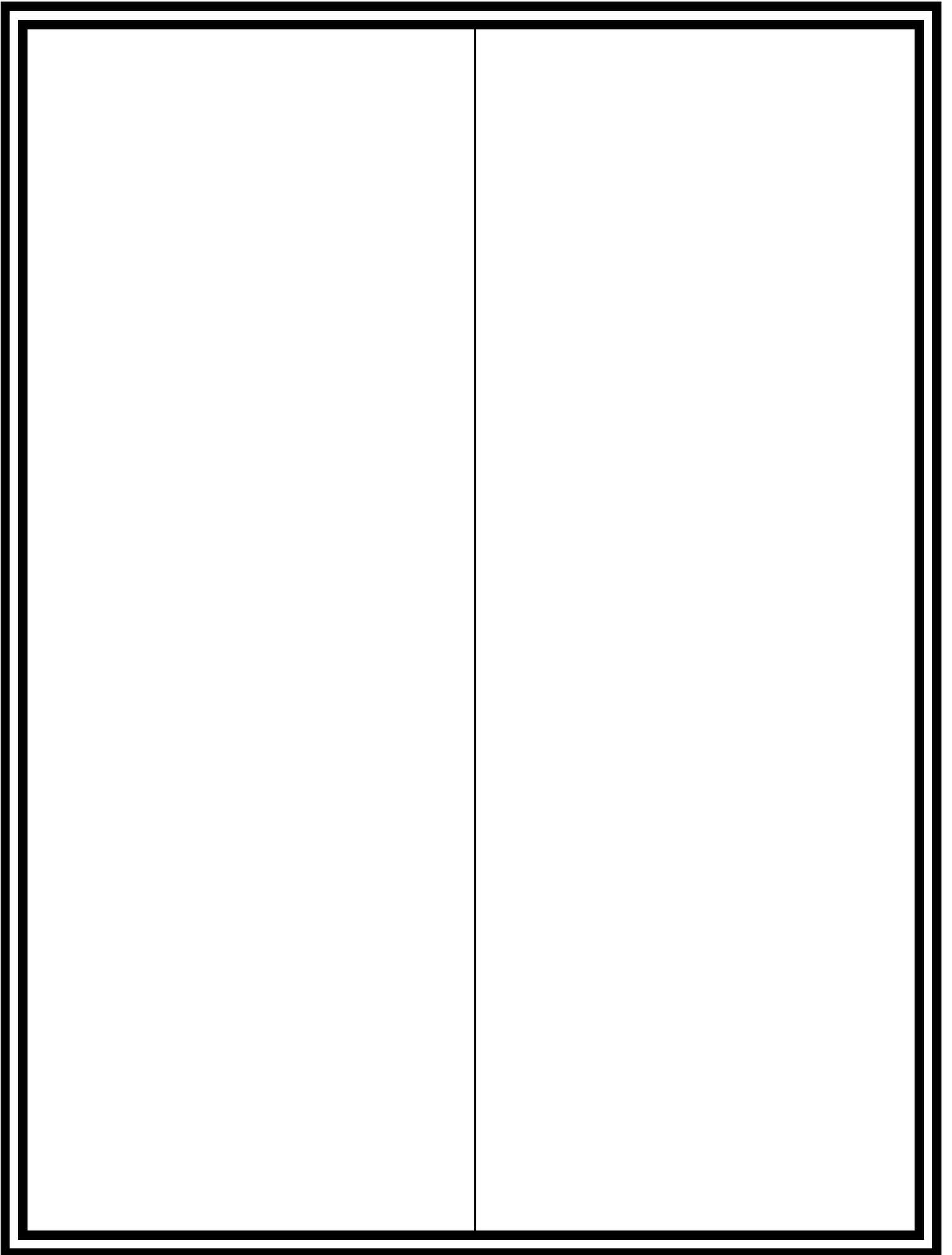
NEW PIANO FOR THE CHAPEL

The Keryx Board voted to replace the piano in the chapel which had not been working well for almost a year. It was replaced it with a piano that is able to record music. We are very grateful for the time, energy, and expertise that Rob Engelhart spent researching a piano that met MDOC stipulations, recording our favorite Keryx songs, printing instructions which allow all the Christian services to use the songs he recorded. Monday "Prayer and Share" and Third Saturday Reunion are now able to have music available for their services. Thank you Keryx and Rob for making this all possible.

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 filling in the prayer vigil sheet.

The Keryx Outside Team will meet at Prince of Peace Church on Thursday, October 4, 7:00 pm. Any one willing to help plan meals or prepare food for the team during the weekend, please make plans to attend this meeting.



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 18-21, 2018**

If you are already a **certified volunteer** (have been through the volunteer training program and in the volunteer data base) have made a 3-day Weekend on the outside and wish to participate in the **Keryx Serenade and Closing** for Keryx 50, please bring your driver’s license or other official picture ID with you to the front desk on Saturday, October 20 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 21 at 12:30 p.m. (no earlier for the same reason) for the closing. Just a reminder that a handshake is the only contact allowed.

In the past, it was necessary for volunteers to sign a yearly LEIN form in order to keep their volunteer status current. Gale Bott, volunteer coordinator, assures us that this is not longer necessary. When a person has been trained and in the data base, there is no additional training or form updates necessary. However, a volunteer needs to attend more than once or twice a year to retain volunteer status.

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 for more information. It will be necessary to pick up volunteer application forms at the front desk of the prison. Return the forms to the front desk with Gale Bott’s name on the envelope or mail them to Gale Bott, volunteer coordinator, Marquette Branch Prison.

It is now possible to attend the serenade or closing without volunteer status by obtaining a daily pass. It is necessary to go to the front desk at the prison and sign a LEIN form at least a week before going into the prison. Any volunteer who is uncertain if his/her volunteer status is current should call Gale Bott at the prison (226-6531) before coming to the serenade or closing.

There are many ways to support the Keryx Team. Consider being trained as a volunteer 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

Jim Hayward, President 906-475-7582 103A E. Buffalo Road Negaunee, MI 49866 JSHayward647@gmail.com Second term ends 6/20	Pete Corkin, Treasurer 520 N. Lake Enchantment Trail Marquette, MI 49855 Petec108@hotmail.com First term ends 6/21	Tom Smithson, Palanca 2623 W. Maple Ridge Road Rock, MI 49880 smithsontom@hughes.net *Tom is not on the Board but has agreed to serve as palanca coordinator
Martha Hayward, secretary 906-475-7582 103A E. Buffalo Road Negaunee, MI 49866 Marthaannhayward@gmail.com Second term ends 6/20	Bruce Buckman W 9277 Hibbard St. Iron Mountain, MI 49801 bruce.buckman@charter.net First term ends 6/21	Marvin LaGrew N. 14511 Black River Road Ironwood, MI 49938 Marv46@up.net First term ends 6/2019
Mike and Marylou Stefanski 43N. Serenity Drive Gwinn, MI 49841 Second term ends 6/20 oulyarm@gmail.com	Dave Blomquist 906-396-0259 1530 West Ridge #7 Marquette, MI 49855 Second term ends 6/20 Dmlb1530@gmail.com	Vic Thompson 1109 N. 18th Street Escanaba, MI 49829 Thom7374@gmail.com First term ends 6/2019



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!