

VIRGINIA SYNOD ELCA YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES



APPLICATION FOR ADULTS TO SERVE AS SMALL GROUP LEADERS AND STAFF

JUNE 23 (Sunday, 6pm) - June 28 (Friday, noon), 2024
Roanoke College, Salem VA

Kairos is our annual week-long faith formation event for youth who will be in 9th-12th grades in the coming fall. It is a chance for youth who are already committed to a life of faith to be part of a unique Christian community for an entire week, to have a fresh experience of the grace and presence of God in that community, and to develop habits for Christian discipleship that can be taken home as they live out their baptismal call to be followers of Jesus. Kairos is different from our weekend events in that congregations do not send advisors with youth; the event staff serves as small group leaders and dorm advisors for the week.*

Kairos is a big commitment, but normally you are able to have a private room in the dorm, and we also use dorm monitors at night so that you can get to sleep whenever you need to. Small group leaders also normally work in teams, which reduces the overall workload on one person. Leaders are normally 21 or older and active members of a congregation or ministry.

If you are interested and available for serving as a small group leader, the best approach is first to contact Synod Youth Director Dave Delaney (cell: 540-529-6893; delaney@vasynod.org) and see if he has any instructions or questions for you. You can also contact him with any questions you may have.

This form, then, is for you to register as an adult and to indicate your interest and desire for being a leader in this community. The expectations are worded a bit differently from the youth registration form, with you adults in mind, and you are invited to consider a set of questions slightly different from those on the youth application. If you are not a pastor or other rostered leader, I ask you to obtain your own pastor's signature. If your congregation is without a pastor, please indicate so. Thank you for responding to this call to service!

*Your registration fee for Kairos is already paid, except for \$50 which we ask you to contribute to cover processing and supplies costs. If that will be difficult to do, please do not hesitate to ask for that fee to be waived as well. We *really* hope that your congregations will contribute this fee on your behalf.*

***Kairos** is the New Testament Greek word for "special time." It is used whenever God's people want to talk about a time of change, of renewal, of God's special work in the believer and the community. (This event should not be confused with the prison ministry that is also called "Kairos" or other ministries and organizations that share this name.)*

KAIROS 2024 APPLICATION FOR ADULT PARTICIPANTS

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY!

Name: _____ Circle one for housing : Male Female

Address: _____

_____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____

Work, Cell, or Other Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Congregation Name : _____ location: _____

How will you submit the \$50 fee for Kairos adult leaders? (We encourage congregations to cover this cost!)

Other notes or instructions for the event registrar, including pronouns you use (optional):

CIRCLE YOUR T-SHIRT
SIZE! (All sizes are adult)

XS S M L

XL XXL XXXL

MEDICAL INFORMATION AND PERMISSION TO TREAT

Date of Birth (mo/day/yr): _____

Medical Insurance carrier: _____

Policy / Contract number: _____

Allergies / Special Medical or food conditions / medications:

"In the event that I am incapacitated or unable to answer, I give permission for myself to be treated at an appropriate medical facility."

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Other emergency contact:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Daytime: () _____ Night: () _____

Cell: () _____

THE KAIROS COVENANT - EXPECTATIONS OF ALL PARTICIPANTS

Following are the expectation points to which we ask all youth and adults to agree. At the end of this list is an additional set of expectations for our adult staff. In addition, each adult will need to have completed a "Small Group Leader Survey Form" and a "permission to conduct background check" sheet for the current (2022-2023) event season prior to the event.

I am aware that Kairos seeks to create an intentional Christian Community. I want to come to this event and will help build this community by honoring the expectations of this event, which include

- striving to live out the covenant God made with me in baptism
- being open to the Holy Spirit's work in deepening my faith, being open to new friendships with other Christians from around Virginia, and understanding the importance to the Kairos community of my presence and full participation in the event
- treating all members of the Kairos community as children of God, who are worthy of respect.
- attending the entire event, from Sunday evening, June 23rd to Friday noon, June 28th attending and participating in all large group and small group sessions and worship
- agreeing to spend daily time in private reading and private writing in a journal
- remaining on the grounds of Roanoke College throughout the event
- conscientiously observing the dorm curfews and lights out times
- conscientiously observing the dorm regulation not allowing coed visitation between dorms or dorm rooms
- not bringing electronic media devices (if you need a CD or mp3 player for "open mike" we will provide one for you). If you believe you have an exceptional situation, check with the event director.
- not bringing weapons, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco to the event (other than required medications)
- being aware of and refraining from actions which constitute inappropriate or unwelcome touching of others, sexual harassment, or other sexual misconduct, or suggestive or inappropriate language
- respecting the privacy and safety of all participants
- understanding that those who choose not to abide by these expectations may be asked to leave the event for the good of the community that is being created

I am looking forward to KAIROS and I sign this covenant with great hopes for the Christian Community that will be formed there. By my signature, I promise to abide by the expectations of the Kairos community.

Some additional expectations for adult staff:

- Our purpose as adults working with youth is to be examples of Christian discipleship to each other and to the youth whom we are called to serve, to build caring and supportive relationships with them, and to be examples of faith, love, and service for them. Adults should also be good examples of church commitment and Christian lifestyle.
- Adult participants at Synod Youth Events are part of a community of mutual support and should commit to show the encouragement, respect, and mutual consolation toward one another that is appropriate to such a community.
- Adult participants at youth events must abide by the same expectations as apply to the youth - including matters pertaining to alcohol, drug, and tobacco use - and be willing to follow the restrictions and requirements of the event schedule (large group times, lights out, etc.). **We are asking our adults to carry cell phones during the day in order to be able to contact Event Director Dave Delaney for emergencies, but to leave them hidden and on vibrate except for those situations.**
- At Kairos, our adult staff serve as dorm monitors and advisors for the *whole community* as well as small group leaders.
- Adults working at Virginia Synod Youth Events must not have any prior history of sexual misconduct and must not engage in inappropriate touching, suggestive conversation, or other inappropriate behavior with youth. Each adult must complete a "Small Group Leader Information" sheet and a "permission to conduct background check" form.

Adult leader signature: _____

(If you are not a pastor or other rostered leader, please also obtain your pastor's signature)

Pastor's signature: _____

(If your congregation is currently without a pastor, please indicate that as well)

YOUR COST FOR ATTENDING KAIROS 2024 AS AN ADULT LEADER IS \$50.00

Make check payable to “VIRGINIA SYNOD ELCA” and mail this form to:

Kairos Registrar, Virginia Synod ELCA, PO Box 70, Salem VA 24153

or scan and email your registration form to us (and mail your check separately) to

delaney@vasynod.org. → psst ...Get your congregation to pay this for you !!

Once your Kairos application has been received, you will receive a letter confirming your registration. It will include directions to Roanoke College, instructions on when to arrive and where to check in, and a list of things to bring with you. If you do not receive a letter of confirmation within 3 weeks of sending in your application, or at least 2 weeks before the event begins, contact Dave Delaney immediately (540-529-6893)!

Throughout the spring, Synod Youth Director Dave Delaney will send out periodic updates on the planning process, the theme, and other tidbits about leading at Kairos. Then, about 3 weeks before the event, the Small Group Leader Guide for the week will be distributed to leaders and staff, along with a first draft of small group leader teams. We will have a Small Group Leader orientation via zoom the Sunday evening before Kairos begins (June 16th). PS - The sooner you can commit to Kairos by submitting this form, the more secure we will be in admitting any participant to Kairos who wants to attend!

The Basic Daily Schedule for Kairos (Each day is slightly different)

(Kairos begins on Sunday evening with 6:00pm check-in and 7:30pm large group and ends on Friday at noon.)

7:50 am	Matins	1:15 pm	Large Group	8:15 pm	Small Group
8:00 am	Breakfast	2:00 pm	Small Group	10:00 pm	Large Group and Vespers
9:00 am	Large Group	3:30 pm	Free Time	10:30 pm	Dorm Time
9:45 am	Small Group	5:30 pm	Dinner	11:20 pm	Compline
11:50 am	Noon Prayers	6:45 pm	Large Group	11:30 pm	In Rooms
Noon	Lunch	7:45 pm	Individual reflection time	Midnight	Lights Out

ADULT STAFF, PLEASE RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

The youth are all invited to share their own expectations for Kairos. What are *your* expectations for this year’s event? What kinds of things do you value about Kairos that you want to make sure we attend to?

What kind of faith questions / stories / issues, etc. do you bring to this task of small group or event staff leadership this year?

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT KAIROS OR THE APPLICATION PROCESS, PLEASE CONTACT DAVE DELANEY, VIRGINIA SYNOD DIRECTOR FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES: VIRGINIA SYNOD ELCA, PO BOX 70, SALEM VA 24153; 540-529-6893; DELANEY@VASYNOD.ORG