



Needed: Kairos Cookies and More

Why Bring Cookies?

The baking of cookies is an essential part of the ministry. The cookies are a method to attract the residents to the Kairos program. They are to be homemade because it shows our love for them in a concrete way. Prayerfully baked, this part of the ministry shows the men of Pontiac love in a way that goes beyond mere words. When the residents learn that many people put in so many hours for them, it reaches them in a way that our words cannot.

Cookie Preparation

The types of cookies that are generally acceptable are: Oatmeal, Peanut Butter, Molasses, and Chocolate Chip. See recipes below. Cookies should be between 2 inches and 2-1/2 inches in diameter and not more than 1/2 inch thick. **It is very important not to use icing, sugar or any other type of coating on the outside of the cookie.** Do not add any kind of fruit (except raisins) or nuts to the cookies. Do not use butter or margarine – use shortening instead – the ones made with butter or margarine break easily.

Packing the Cookies

Bag thoroughly cooled cookies in a Quart-Sized Zip Lock bag. If you use sandwich or gallon sized bags, your cookies will have to be re-bagged before going into the prison. Place one dozen cookies to a bag. Label each bag with the type of cookie. Freeze all cookies if not using within 3 days.

Getting the Cookies to the Prison

If you are not working on the team, please deliver the cookies to a team member or to the place designated by a team member by Tuesday (Saturday even better) before the start of the weekend, so they can take them to the prison. Other ways to help if you're not able to bake cookies or if you would like to do even more, see the suggestions below following the cookie recipes.....

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THE KEY INGREDIENT: PRAYER

Pray individually or as a family over the ingredients before and during mixing. **Pray** over the cookies as you drop them onto the cookie sheets and bake them. Ask God to use your cookies as a source of His love to shine on the prisoners and staff on the Kairos weekend. **Pray** that each cookie brings the resident or person who eats it closer to God. We want every person to become a part of the family of God.

Peanut Butter

3/4 cup Creamy Peanut Butter
1/2 cup Crisco Shortening
1-1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar
3 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 egg
1-3/4 cup all purpose flour
3/4 teaspoon salt
3/4 teaspoon baking soda

Combine peanut butter, shortening, sugar, milk and vanilla in a large bowl and mix at medium speed until well blended. Add egg and mix well. In a separate bowl combine flour, salt and baking soda, mix well. Add flour mixture to peanut butter and mix until just blended. Drop by heaping teaspoons onto ungreased cookie sheet and flatten slightly in a crisscross pattern with the tines of a fork. Bake at 375 degrees for 7 to 8 minutes until set. Makes 3 dozen cookies.

Chewy Oatmeal (optional - add raisins – a prison favorite!)

3/4 cup butter flavor Crisco
1-1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar
1 egg
1/3 cup milk
1-1/2 teaspoon vanilla
3 cups quick cooking oats
1 cup all purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

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Combine Crisco, brown sugar, egg, milk and vanilla in a large bowl. Mix at medium speed until well blended. Combine oats, flour, salt, baking soda and cinnamon in a separate bowl, mix well. Add to Crisco/sugar mixture until just blended. Drop rounded tablespoons of dough onto cookie sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for 10 to 12 minutes or until lightly browned. Makes 2-1/2 dozen cookies.

Chocolate Chip

3/4 cup Crisco shortening
1-1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar
2 tablespoons milk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 egg
1-3/4 cup all purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
3/4 teaspoon baking soda
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Combine shortening, sugar, milk and vanilla in a large bowl, mix until well blended. Add egg and mix well. In a separate bowl combine flour, salt and baking soda, mix well. Add to shortening/sugar mixture until well blended. Stir in chocolate chips. Drop by rounded tablespoon onto ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes for chewy cookies or 11 to 13 minutes for crisp cookies. Makes 3 dozen cookies.

Molasses Cookies

3/4 cup margarine or shortening
1 cup granulated sugar
1 egg
4 tablespoons molasses
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon ginger
2 cups flour
2 teaspoons baking soda

In a large bowl, cream margarine or shortening with sugar. Add egg and blend. Add molasses and spices; mix well. Add flour and baking soda and blend. Chill dough 30 minutes or overnight (covered tightly). Shape dough into small balls and place 2-inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 325 degrees for 10-12 minutes. Remove from oven and cool on wire racks. Makes 2 1/2 dozen.

Other Ways to Help

Decorated Posters: Ask your Sunday Classes or your prayer group to make a group poster. These can be full size, half size or 8 ½ x 11. You can imagine the impact these have on the inmates.

Decorated Placemats: Please ask them NOT to put any stickers of any kind on them. They are not allowed. We need about 600. That means about 20 to 30 per team member. It is especially powerful when they see placemats done by a child. Just have the child color a spiritual image and add some spiritual saying like “Jesus Loves You and So Do I” and have them sign it with their first name and age. A powerful thing is just to have them finger-paint their hands on a placemat. Prisoners on past weekends have testified that the most significant part of the weekend were the placemats signed by the children.

Prayer Vigil: We have a prayer vigil sign up at www.3dayol.org under Kairos Mens Inside #4 Pontiac. Anyone can sign up to for a half hour time slot to pray for the mission and the men. We will strive to have all times filled. Please encourage the “prayer warriors” in your life to sign up!

Monetary Contributions : Normally, each KAIROS volunteer pays his/her own way, however, some volunteers need financial assistance. Besides travel, food and lodging for weekends and reunions, there are other expenses like state and national dues, bibles for KAIROS graduates, music books, and weekend supplies. Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc. is qualified as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service. All gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law, as provided in section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code. Please make checks payable to KAIROS .

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL
Patrick O'Connor at (815) 356-1756(H) or (847) 458-0150(W)



Thank you from Kairos Prison Ministry

Our Vision . .

*A Community Spiritually Freed From
the Effects of Imprisonment
Reaching all Impacted by Incarceration,
Through the Love, Hope, and Faith
Found in Jesus Christ.*