

# Wayside Cross Ministries

# News Release

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For Immediate Release... For News and/or Community and/or Religion Editor(s)

## **Ex-Banker Robber Presents Story of Redemption at Wayside Cross Ministries' June 25 Master's Touch Friendship Dinner**

**Aurora, Ill., June 15, 2010 (The Religion Wire™) —** The 2010 **Master's Touch**

**Friendship Dinner** will be held on **Friday, June 25, 2010** at **Lincoln Inn** (1345 S.

Batavia Ave., Batavia). **Ken Cooper**, author of the book "**Held Hostage: A Serial Bank**

**Robber's Road to Redemption,**" (August 2009, Chosen Books) will be the guest speaker.

Cooper, who grew up in coal-mining communities in Kentucky and West Virginia, was working for a Christian college and as a tourism promoter for Kentucky as he lived a double life. Dubbed the "gentleman bank robber," he would take women tellers as hostages to ensure a safe getaway.



His heists ended when shot in the chest by a plainclothes sheriff's deputy at a bank in Tampa, Fla., in 1982.

The author will discuss his background, his 99-year jail sentence, and his road back to God at the WCM dinner. He has had appearances on numerous media outlets.

**Mark Elfstrand**, WMBI-FM 90.1 (Chicago) radio host/executive *Mornings* producer, will serve as the evening's master of ceremonies.

The evening will also include an update on the Master's Touch Ministry.

Doors open at **6:00 p.m.** Guests are encouraged to host one or more table of eight. It is hoped that the evening will make many new friends. There is **no charge** for the event; a "free will" offering will be taken.

To make a reservation, please call **Randy Tomassi** at **(630) 723-3422**, or email him at [rtomassi@waysidecross.org](mailto:rtomassi@waysidecross.org). For more information visit [www.waysidecross.org](http://www.waysidecross.org).

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