

February 2016

Dear Pastoral and Lay colleagues,

I want to encourage you to use the Chrysalis movement to benefit the youth of your church family. Chrysalis is the youth component of the Walk to Emmaus. I took my Walk to Emmaus back in 1985 and have served on several Walks and Chrysalis Flights.

Chrysalis is a journey with Christ based on the passage in based on the Scripture in 2 Corinthians 5:17, *'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!'*

A Chrysalis weekend is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation that begins with a three-day short course in Christianity. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers.

Youth come to Chrysalis 'Flights' and experience a spiritual metamorphosis. They learn how 'Caterpillars' or 'Bugs' are transformed into beautiful butterflies. This is the same metamorphosis Jesus wants for all of us

The Chrysalis experience begins with the prayerful discernment and invitation from a sponsor. After one accepts this invitation they complete an application. The Chrysalis leaders prayerfully consider each applicant and in God's time, the person is invited to attend a three-day experience of New Testament Christianity as a lifestyle.

Following the three-day experience, participants are joined in small groups to further their faith and to support each other in their ongoing walk with Christ. Through the formational process of accountable discipleship in small groups and participation in the Chrysalis community, each participant's individual gifts and servant-leadership skills are developed for use in the local church and its mission. Participants are encouraged to find ways to live out their individual call to discipleship in their home, church, and community.

The objective of Chrysalis is to inspire, challenge, and equip the local church members for Christian action in their homes, churches, communities and places of work. Chrysalis lifts up a way for our grace-filled lives to be lived and shared with others.

Chrysalis Flights are held at the Maumee United Methodist Church. Sleeping, great meals, fun times, great music, talks bas on the Scripture and emphasizing the Grace of God are given by lay persons and clergy and discussion, and Holy Communion are some of the special components of the Flights.

Dates for Chrysalis Flights in our area for 2016 are as follows:

Boys: March 18-20

Girls: June 24-26

Boys: November 18-20

Girls: November 4-6

You can see more information about the Walk at <http://chrysalis.upperroom.org/>

Chrysalis is part of our United Methodist Board of Discipleship and Upper Room ministries.

I strongly encourage you to prayerfully consider youth in your church or community who could benefit from a Chrysalis Flight and **sponsor them**. If you need more information please do not hesitate to contact me. ***I think all of us know how important a spiritual foundation is for our youth in our culture today.*** I am sure Chrysalis will **change** their lives and ours as well.

For the Risen One who transforms us,



Rev. Scot Ocke

Maumee Watershed District Superintendent

