

October 2015

International Advisory Committee

Theme: **Business Unusual**

This year I felt the atmosphere of the weekend was one of renewal/recommitment to the Emmaus/Chrysalis ministry. It was very encouraging. I wanted to run back to western New York and yell wake up! We have much work to do for God! Get off your bottoms and get to work!

There were representatives from all five regions in the U.S. and then representatives from Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, Latin America and the Caribbean.

The International Emmaus Office has been busy working on Strategies to build up the Emmaus/chrysalis movement.

In progress and almost complete is;

~ HEALTHY COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE

This is to encourage communities to self - assess themselves. To see where their Strengths and the weakness are. The questionnaire covers areas of the Board of Directors, Community, Weekend event and Fourth Day. They hope to have this tool

Available to communities by December 2015.

This tool is part of the 2025 Strategic Plan that the International Office has been lead to develop. They are focusing on four areas.

1. Strengthening Communities

~ Evaluating Relevancy

~ Empowering Leaders

~Improve Administration

2. Exercise Financial Existence

~ Expand Fundraising

~ Generate New Revenue

~ Create Transparent Budget

3. Create New Partnerships

~ Kairos

~ Denominational Leaders

~ Local Church Reach out

4. New Gateways

~New communities

~Face to Face

~ Journey to the Table – Reaching out to adults in the transient time of life

~ Discovery- JR High kids 11-13 prepare them for the Chrysalis experience

Time Line Set by the International Office

~ 2015 Healthy Community Questionnaire

~2016 Develop relationships with clergy

Nashville is developing the community Data Base. They will control that now instead of the company that currently holds it. The cost for the data base will be significantly Lower.

~ 2017- New Handbooks/manuals available electronically

~ 2018 - Walk to Emmaus 40 th Anniversary

~ 2020 -Evaluate Face to Face and Journey to the Table

“SHARE YOUR STORY”

Our Communities are being encouraged to get our “voices” out into the world to tell how Emmaus/Chrysalis has affected our lives. Check it out at voices.upperroom.org/4thdaystory. I wasn't sure if our voices could be added to the web page. We would ask people in our community to “share their story” so others could see the effects of Emmaus experience has had in our lives.

REPORTS FOR 2015

The Gift—as of October 2015 the total reached is \$70,437.00

Chrysalis –

They are testing age difference. May be expanding the age to attend to 13-17 year olds. They have had some test flights. Some went off with no problems others had struggles with the younger participants. Revising manuals in 2017 and then a bigger revision set for 2019-2020.

Discovery Weekends--

These weekends are geared to 11-13 year olds. They start on a Friday night and go through Sunday. It is led by High School students. The co-ed weekends are held once a year in your local church. It is liked to VBS on steroids. Nashville is hoping to roll out the program January 2017. This program was developed by a Pastor how has gone through Emmaus and has been running for many years in Florida. The Pastor has been trying to get the Upper Room involved with it for years. Several from the International office have observed some weekends and are very excited about it. This experience prepares the kids for a Chrysalis Fight.

Journey to the Table—

These weekends are for 18 to 35 year old adults. The first draft of the manuals are done. They will be revised in 2016. With launch in the U.S. in 2016. They have had several test Journeys this year. There was one held at Pfeiffer University and one at Syracuse. Both were well received. The one at Syracuse was definitely interdenominational and worked through some issues with the protestant and catholic clergy involved. Was an eye opener for the clergy involved. To find out more go to www.jouney.upperroom.org

Face to Face--

In 2015 there have been 6 encounters with the first one being done outside of Nashville. In 2016 training will continue and more encounters are planned.

State of Ministries Internationally—

Africa

Ghana—is helping Nigeria to set up a new Community

South Africa—is working hard with Kenya, Democratic Congo and Uganda. They want to Use Emmaus/Chrysalis to stop ISIS from moving further south in Africa.

Latin America/Caribbean

Bolivia—is planning their first walk in 2017. They have had 21 pilgrims far.

They are working on potential Communities in Peru and Chile.

Australia

They have 21 communities and are helping the developing communities in New Guinea and Fiji.

Europe

The Ukraine has 2 walks each year. Poland and Bulgaria are moving forward. They have had 23 pilgrims so far. Language barrier is a bit of a problem.

Thank you for your support through your prayers and financially for me as I participated on the International Advisory committee these past three years. I will truly miss it.

Decolores,