

WOW!! Christmas has come and gone, New Year has come and gone. At this rate it will be 2018 before we know it.

I greet you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I pray that you all had a blessed Christmas and a restful festive season.

According to Ecclesiastes 3 “There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens....” so there is a time for change. The new year has greeted KZN Emmaus Board with a number of changes. Changes in personnel and changes in structure. Board members may only serve for 3 years so we have had to say thank you and farewell to a number of stalwarts who have served our community selflessly. I’m sure their legacies will guide us into the future. We also have to thank those that continue with their tenures of servanthood and thank those that have volunteered to begin their time on the Board. Details of the Board members guiding our community are listed on the website www.kznemmaus.co.za.

Changes in structure came about through decisions made at the EMSA Indaba and AGM held towards the end of 2016 in White River. KZN Emmaus was represented by a number of Board and non-Board members. Thanks must go to those who contributed time effort and money to attend the events. The major decision to come out of the AGM was to streamline the administration of the various Upperroom ministries in the country. Instead of tying people up in Boards for each ministry it was decided that a single board, in each geographic region, would administer all ministries in that area. So it means that KZN Emmaus will be responsible for Emmaus Walks, Chrysalis Flights and Face to Face Encounters in the region.

In order to ensure that each ministry receives its required share of attention, 3 new board positions have been created; ALD Emmaus, ALD Chrysalis and ALD Face to Face. This creates a wonderful opportunity for those people who are passionate about the various ministries to contribute towards each ministry’s success. We are therefore appealing for members of the community to volunteer to fill these new positions. If you, (or someone you know), feel that you would be able to contribute then please download the “Board Nomination” form from the website, fill it in and send it to me. Don’t forget that we are also actively trying to fill the Supplies Portfolio on the Board.

Two Walks and two Face to Face Encounters have been scheduled for 2017. Negotiations have begun regarding holding Flights for the youth this year. (Watch this space). The walks are #110 for Men – 20-23 April and #111 for Ladies – 27-30 April, both held at the Retreat House, Mariannahill Monastery. Lay Directors Winston French and Wendy Landsberg have already been very busy training and preparing teams. Team Formation Day 1 for the walks is on 28 January 2017. Please keep these activities in your thoughts and prayers as the teams prepare to be God’s hands and feet on these walks.

It’s time to put your creative thinking caps on and praying about sponsoring those good friends at churches in your area. Remember that fire that you felt on your walks/encounters/flights. Well now it’s your turn to let others experience the love of Christ that you felt. Don’t leave it to the last minute. Keep an eye open for the prayer vigils on the website. These will appear as soon as they have been registered. I’m sure you all know how important it is to flood our walks in prayer.

The Face to Face Encounters are scheduled for June and October. Details are available on the website. Rather than wait for a call, why not apply to be a member of the teams. Remember that there is an age limit for team on Face to Face – 60. (minimum age limit). The June Encounter will be held at Trinity Methodist Church in La Lucia.

I pray that you will all have a wonderful year in 2017 and that you will feel the Love and Grace of God in your lives this year. Let's share that Love and Grace throughout our community.

De Colores

Tony Benschop

CLD KZN Emmaus.

tony.kznemmaus@gmail.com