

TAIZÉ – Pilgrimage of Trust and Reconciliation East Asian Meeting of Young Adults 2nd – 6th October 2013, Daejeon, Korea

The Taizé community is an international ecumenical monastic community in France. Each year, tens of thousands of young adults from every continent, Catholics, Protestants, Orthodox or others, (regardless of their religious backgrounds,) visit Taizé (which is the name of the village in Eastern France where the community is located) to attend weekly meetings held there.

The Taizé community wants its life to be a sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and between separated peoples. It organizes the "Pilgrimage of Trust" in every part of the world together with young adults. Nevertheless, it does not attempt to create an organized movement, but instead encourages young people to carry on their lives in their own homes and communities, their churches and universities in harmony with others, keeping peace and trust at heart.

Taizé is also well known for its meditative singing and silence in prayer as a way of worship; the beauty of the Taizé songs lies in the simplicity and repetition of the singing, which gives it a very meditative character.

Some Taizé brothers have been living for more than 30 years in Korea, a country still technically in war since the armistice of 1953. In the past few years, the number of Koreans visiting Taizé in France has increased, and likewise, Korean churches have shown a great interest in the meditative prayer of the Taizé community in recent years. In response to their growing interest, the "Pilgrimage of Trust" will be held in Daejeon, a city located in the middle of South Korea, in the coming autumn. Young Koreans of different denominations and regions will participate and welcome friends from abroad. By living together for some days, the participants will express their yearning for peace and reconciliation in the region. For the young people from different countries in East Asia this meeting will a chance to get to know each other better, and to build friendship and trust.

This meeting in Korea will offer young people a space and time in a calm place surrounded by mountains to come close to God in prayer and meditation, to (re)discover the meaning of life and to find new vitality. Those who participate in the meeting will have a chance to think over their faith in a new perspective while communicating with others from different backgrounds, and encourage each other to live as genuine Christians and responsible citizens in society and in the church.

Dates: From 2nd October (Wednesday) evening to 6th Oct (Sunday) morning 2013

For whom: Young people aged between 18 to 35 (Up to 300; first come first served.)

Venue: Natural Youth Training Center, Donggu, Daejeon (대전동구청소년자연수련관)

Accommodation : simple dormitories, 6-20 persons each

Approximate Cost: 100,000 Won for students, 130,000 Won for adults with income. Those who can may add a bit as "solidarity fee" for those who cannot afford the full fee.

Program: A typical weekly program as at Taizé, France (prayer three times a day with Taizé songs and time of silence; a Bible introduction followed by sharing in small groups; workshops with various spiritual and social themes; choir practice).

Unlike other youth programs with hactic schedules, the "Pilgrimage of Trust" seeks to create the atmosphere and give enough time for personal reflection so that one can look deeply into him/herself and listen to God and to one another.

Registration: From 10th June 2013 till 31st August 2013. http://bit.ly/taize-daejeon_en

Individual registration is welcomed but registration in groups (three to ten persons or more) is preferred.

For those who don't speak Korean: an interpretation service will be provided into English, Chinese and Japanese

Preparation: Prospective participants may meet beforehand for prayers and reflection on the Bible together. Groups preparing for the meeting may ask for a visit by young people who have stayed at the Taizé community as volunteer workers to give a brief introduction about the "Pilgrimage of Trust".