

The Spirit

... Is Moving in Iowa

Issue 153

Spring 2009

Vision and Mission

Of Worldwide Marriage Encounter

VISION: "Love one another as I have loved you."

MISSION: Worldwide Marriage Encounter's mission of renewal in the Church and change in the world is to assist couples and priests to live fully intimate and responsible relationships by providing them with a Catholic "experience" and ongoing community support for such a lifestyle.



Iowa WWME Weekends

2009 Weekends

October 16-18 Des Moines

To Register For an Upcoming Weekend - Contact

Roger & Marsha Luensmann Phone: (563)-927-4352

Email: RLUENSMANN@IOWATELECOM.NET

Iowa Retrouvaille Weekends

Contact:

Mike & Lisa Jackson Phone: (515)-956-4205

Email: mike.jackson@hotmail.com Website: www.retrouvaille.org

Time is Running Out – Make Your Plans Now

The 2009 Section 6 & 7 Marriage Encounter Convention will be July 10-12, 2009 Notre Dame, Indiana.

There will be couples and priests from Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan & West Virginia.

If you have not received any information from your community, there is a link on the Iowa Marriage Encounter website with information on the convention as well as registration and lodging information.

The official website for **Marriage Encounter in Iowa** www.iowa-wwme.org

Worldwide Marriage Encounter at www.wwme.org

When you visit this website, be sure to double click onto the picture for already encounter couples to explore the many different Marriage Encounter resources.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Resource Library Website:

<http://erl.wwme.org>

Lots of great resources: dialogue questions, topics and outlines for presentations, inviting and community ideas, gifts, etc. Be sure to share this with your community!

EMatrimony: this is another website that can be very helpful for resources

www.ematrimony.org

Unique Gift Ideas

Full Circle Wood at

www.fullcirclewood.com/pages/marriage.htm

are custom woodworkers and have designed numerous products, using God's natural colored woods of the world in creating wood pieces in the likeness of the WWME logo.

Mailing Address:

Attn: Norway

Full Circle Wood, LLC

291 Smith Street, Suite 301

South Windsor, CT 06074

Email: wayne@fullcirclewood.com

Telephone: 860-648-9114

[Gifts From Your Heart](#) offers affordable merchandise for all your Worldwide Marriage Encounter needs - candles, jewelry, supplies and more.

Gifts From Your Heart

PMB 210

2900 Government Way

Coeur d' Alene, ID 83815

(208) 676-0267

Visit our on-line catalog and ordering site at www.wmegifts.com

Welcome To Our Marriage Encounter Family

Cedar Falls Weekend February 13-15, 2009

Joe & Lori Dunham

John & Jacquelyn Fedeler

Doug & Jessica Foreshoe

Scot & Diane Fynaardt

Andy & Joni Gammon

Adam & Cathi Grier

Chris & Anne Hennessey

Nathan & Jeanette Hoppes

John & Mary Koresh

Edward & Inez Kruse

James & Delia Ralston

Arnold & Sharon Schares

Steve & Linda Schrader

George & Linda Slusher

Bret & Sara Walker

Eugene & Mary Wallingford

Jamie & Sara Walters

Al & Jill Weber

Welcome To Our Marriage Encounter Family

Dubuque Weekend May 29-31, 2009

Nathan & Lisa Akers

Gaylen & Judy Eilderts

Dan & Elizabeth Harden

James Hoeger & Maricelle Pinto-Tomas

Brian & Darlene Kaskie

Steve & Kim Lorig

Gary & Lisa Meyer

John & Lili Mikan

Mark & Kim Mirr

Shawn & Janelle Roach

Scott & Kimberly Rubenacker

From The Executive Team:

From Our Dubuque/Davenport/LaCrosse/Des Moines Area
Execs.....

We hope that your summer is off to a great start. We hope and pray that you and your families will be able to spend some quality time relaxing and having some fun!

As we write this article we are winding down our term as leaders for the Iowa/Southwest Wisconsin WWME. We have had some awesome experiences, and have had the opportunity to meet some great couples. Leadership has been a good experience for us and we have grown as a result of it. We ask you to keep the presenting teams in your prayers during the month of June, especially on June 27th, when we will be meeting to select new leaders for the next two years.

We recently had a WWME weekend at Shalom Retreat Center in Dubuque, on May 29-31st. We had 11 couples complete the weekend. The next weekend will be October 16-18th in Des Moines. Please help us by inviting for this weekend. Give someone close to you're the opportunity to experience WWME. As always, if you would contact your parish priest, and they would allow a Mass talk, we would be MORE than happy to do it!! Our email is ddjones_9116@msn.com. We would love to hear from you.

We pray that your dialogue is strong! Don't miss this time each day to spend some time with the most important person in your life! If you have gotten away from dialogue, get those books out and start fresh. This is your time to get in touch with each other and share your feelings.

We also want to encourage everyone to consider attending the WWME convention on July 10-12th, in Notre Dame, Indiana. Please visit the Iowa website for all the details <http://www.iowa-wwme.org>. This is close to us so hopefully many Iowa couples will be attending!

Love, Fr. Lou, Dennis & Deb Jones

2009 Marriage Encounter calendars are available – Contact a community coordinator or the executive team couple to purchase one. The executive team couple for Iowa is:

Dennis & Deb Jones – ddjones_9116@msn.com

If for some reason, you no longer wish to receive this quarterly newsletter or if your e-mail address has changed, please e-mail us and let us know.

Thank you.

craigloridiggins@msn.com

Des Moines Community Corner Cannon Fodder

On the food front. Joe & Evie Nemecek were seen at St. John's serving at lenten fish fries.

On the prayer list. Maria Otte fell. Banged up her knee. Took X-rays. No broken bones. Pain continued. Took her for MRI. Came home from that. She fell down in front of the refrigerator. On this dive, she broke her wrist.

As a result the March community night chili feed that was supposed to be at John & Maria's house moved to Terry & Jean Smith's house.

Movie night. At May's community night, Bernie & Kristi Evans showed Fireproof on the small screen. It's a movie about a fire fighter whose parents helped save the lad's and bride's marriage. Terry & Jean Smith, Beth Muenchrath & Roger Erpelding and John Otte viewed the flick and ate popcorn. Maria was worn down from getting ready for their trip to Brasil.

Corpus Christi procession. Bill & Pat Smith and John & Maria Otte turned out for the Corpus Christi procession at St. Anthony's Church May 17. We carried the small ME banner, not the boat sail. More than one person remarked, "This is the coolest Corpus Christi procession I've ever attended." Temperature was about 50.

Picnic possible. We're thinking about having a picnic. If we do, it will most likely be in September. Figure it should be a bit cooler by then. Plus we'll be rested up from visiting the kin folk in Brasil.

Community Highlights

From your Community Coordinators. Lvle and Lynn Ries



Hello Everyone,

We thought we would share a few ideas for community presentations as we know this is an area many communities struggle with and why couples are hesitant to present. Some of these ideas came out of our Section 7 Community Coordinators meeting.

“Fireproof” A Movie A Marriage A Movement



The main theme of the movie “Fireproof”, starring Kirk Cameron and Erin Bethea, is to never leave your partner behind. It was in the theaters last fall and has been out on DVD for a few months.

Many ME communities are viewing the movie together at one of their meetings. The Charles City Community gave it a real theater atmosphere by having popcorn in bags and passing boxes of candy. We know Osage and one of the Cedar Rapids communities have watched the movie as a group. Osage is using clips from the movie along with “The Love Dare” book featured in the movie for their monthly presentation/dialogue guide. Some of the other ME Areas in Section 7 (Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, and NE Indiana) have purchased the rights to show the movie and at the end of the movie give a Witness talk about Marriage Encounter. The Rockford/Madison/Milwaukee Dioceses Area has had great success with using the movie as an inviting tool.

Here are some websites for the movie and for outreach that you might find helpful:

<http://www.fireproofthemovie.com/>

<http://www.outreach.com/print/DetailPage.asp?sid=496A88004994617F&N=41%2B114&R=10064>

http://www.foryourmarriage.org/interior_template.asp?id=20398733

“Love Never Ends” which is a communication resource for married couples. The author of the book is Dr. Frank W. Nelson. This book is published by TalkPoints, Inc., Box 25727, Woodbury, MN 55125, TalkPoints@aol.com. You can purchase the books on line at www.TalkPoints.com or email the author. You will need one book per couple as there is a worksheet for the husband and the wife for each chapter. From each book you will be able to present 10 different presentations. The cost of the book is \$9.95 which is only \$1.00 per presentation per couple. If you go to this site, Lee and Jan Kramer, have created an outline for each talk.

<http://www.citrisurf.com/community/Love%20Never%20Ends%20for%20Community/>

These are also good topics to use for a Parish Enrichment for married couples. Kramer's also have outlines on their site for using this book as enrichments.

<http://www.citrisurf.com/community/Parish%20Marriage%20Enrichment/Love%20Never%20Ends/>

Community/Circle Handbook

Each community should have one of these. There is a section on presentations in this handbook

Songs – almost any song that holds a special place in your heart can be worked into a presentation

A couple of song ideas that have been shared are:

Something That We Do by Clint Black

Walking Her Home by Mark Schulz

Picture Book

Older Love by Warren Hanson

Encounter Electronic Resource: <http://erl.org>

This site also has some ideas for presentations and enrichments as well as a wealth of other resources

To go directly to the community page go to: <http://erl.wwme.org/cp/index.php>

Websites

<http://www.foryourmarriage.org/>

<http://www.ematrimony.org>

Here are some ideas you could build a presentation from:

Hugs – The basic essentials of life – air, food, water, shelter, clothing – **HUGS!**

What Makes a Marriage Last? - It is the everyday choices that you make.

Surviving a Crisis as a Couple

The List of Unfinished Tasks

Our Gifts of Ministry

Attitude of Gratitude

Please share with us other ideas/sources used that have made a good presentation. We will share these in upcoming issues. lyleries@iowatelecom.net

Hope everyone has a great summer! Hugs, Lyle and Lynn Ries

