

The Spirit

... Is Moving in Iowa

Issue 149

Jan/Feb/Mar 2008

Dialogue is an important part of our relationship! Here's this issue's "Top 10":

What did I look most forward to today? HDI FSTWY?

What is my biggest challenge right now? HDI FSTWY?

What is my dream for tomorrow? HDI FAMA?

What was the center of my life today? HDI FAMA?

What am I grateful for today? HDI FAT?

How am I like the weather? HDI FAT?

What do I remember most about our wedding day? WAMFAMA?

What do I remember most about my ordination day? WAMFAMA?

What weeds are growing in my life? HDI FSTWY?

Today was like a game of _____. HDI FSTWY?

HDI FAT: How Do I Feel About That?

HDI FSTWY: How Do I Feel Sharing This With You?

HDI FST: How Do I Feel Sharing This?

HDI FAMA: How Do I Feel About My Answer?

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.

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Iowa WWME Weekends - 2008

2008 Weekends

May 30 – June 1 Dubuque

May 30-June 1 Des Moines

October 10-12 Cedar Rapids

October 10-12 Des Moines

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Iowa Retrouvaille Weekends

Contact:

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

How many of you have checked out these websites?

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

To view our local website for news / information from **Marriage Encounter in Iowa**, check this website: www.iowa-wwme.org

Here is a great vacation idea for this summer:

Spend June 27 – 29 in Ontario, California. It is the 40th anniversary of Worldwide Marriage Encounter and this is an international convention. It is a family friendly convention and besides the convention, you might be able to find one or two other things to do or places to see in California or along the way. To find out more information and to register, just go to www.wwme.org and click on the convention logo.

Great Gift Ideas

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.wwmegifts.com

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:

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Fill in The Blank

1. The key to communication is daily _____.
2. In writing a love letter, describe your _____.
3. The best way to get a couple or a priest to go on a weekend is to personally _____ them.
4. A group of encountered couples, priests or religious usually meeting on a monthly basis is a _____.
5. Our official song is “There’s a New _____ Somewhere”
6. A Marriage Encounter weekend consists of a presenting team of ____ couples and a priest.
7. The person who has the power to change the world and renew the church is _____.

Answers

1. **dialogue**
2. **feeling**
3. **invite**
4. **community**
5. **world**
6. **3**
7. **me**

From The Executive Teams:

From Our Des Moines/Sioux City Area Execs.....

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

Alleluia! He has risen. Happy Easter to all! We are an Easter people, and we celebrate new life. Winter is over (we hope!), and we see signs of new life all around us. We see the robins returning and the flowers beginning to come up, and the grass turning green again. We welcome all these signs of new life. We also hope and pray for these same signs of life in your dialogue. We encourage you to strengthen your dialogue during this time of new life, if it has been a while or if your dialogue has been in winter hibernation, now is a great time to bring it new life!! We can begin again. The weekend in February was a great success. We had 20 couples complete the weekend. As always it was awesome to see God at work in these couples! The next weekend is May 30-June 1 at Shalom Retreat Center in Dubuque. Please invite for this weekend. Shalom is a very peaceful setting. As always, if your parish is willing to have a Mass talk we would be willing to help you write one, or find a couple to present one.

As we told you in the last edition of the Spirit our section selected new leadership in January. They are Rene and Joann Lusser from the St. Louis area. They are a faith filled couple who bring energy and spark to our section. Please keep them in your prayers as they lead us in section seven.

Love, Fr. Lou, and Dennis & Deb

Des Moines Community Corner Cannon Fodder

On the prayer list. Beth Muenchrath's mother died.

Deacon Bill Smith had a close call. He went to Dr. Ianone's Nurse Practitioner March 25th and was told she had discussed his situation with Dr. Ianone. They thought he should have an angiogram so the doctor could determine what was going on. The angiogram showed Bill had a 90% blockage in a previous graft. The doctor told Bill and the family he had two choices and he did not need to rush into a decision.

“One choice was to do nothing and go home not knowing when the inevitable would happen,” says Pat. “Second, he could have an Angioplasty to insert stent(s) and using the balloon to open the rest of the blockage with the possibility he might not recover. The doctor said doing the procedure was like working with an old rusty pipe and particles could result in Deacon Bill not making it out of the procedure. **BOTH WERE HIGH RISK!**”

For various reasons Deacon Bill opted to go with the Angioplasty procedure in spite of the risk. “We, the family, are so glad he did!” says Pat.

After the procedure the doctor told the family all went well. Bill stayed one more night at the hospital, then went home and is doing fine. His only restriction is not to lift over 10 pounds the first week since he is on Plavix and had an opening in each groin. He is wisely resting when he needs to but he is driving, etc.

“He is a walking miracle and the answer to oh so many prayers from a number of people,” says Pat.

Lots of people had had the flu. We pray God will be with these people and their families

Snowed out. The February St. Joe's community night got called off because of snow. Dennis & Sarah Luft had been on deck to present. They hit a home run at the rescheduled March meeting.

Looking for leaders. After we don't recall how many years of ably guiding the St. Joe's community, Joe & Evie Nemec want to pass that opportunity onto to another couple. If interested, give them a jingle. They'll be glad to fill you in on what's involved.

Happy birthday. Isabel Mendoza celebrated her second birthday at the end of February. If you think you've read about her on these pages longer ago than that, you're right. You got it, she was born on Feb. 29. We can imagine how an eight year old only celebrating her second birthday could be a bit disheartened over let's just say lack of attention, or not wanting to be perceived as a mere toddler. However, as the years pass, we anticipate she will have great fun only having a birthday every four years. That will be especially true as those around her advance in years while she maintains her girlish youth.

Some of you old timers will remember Herb Plambeck, WHO radio farm broadcaster. He and Isabel shared Feb. 29 as their birthday.

Maria and I had the opportunity to attend Herb's 21st birthday party. Let's just say he was the "youngest" person there. Now turning 21 is a big event. One becomes of age. It used to be you'd earned the right to vote. You can legally buy liquor by the bottle or by the drink.

In recognition of Herb becoming of age, I rounded up a pair of shot glasses. That was the hard part. On the way to his party we stopped at the HyVee store. I bought a bottle of 100% prune juice. At an opportune moment during Herb's gala, I poured us each a stiff shot and proposed a toast.

Being born on Feb. 29 should provide Isabel with ample opportunity to preserve her youth—a characteristic that only 0.0685% of Americans can claim.

Welcome

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

Cedar Rapids, Iowa February 8-10, 2008

Presenting Team

Monsignor Francis Friedl Ron & Pat Milder

Dennis & Deb Jones

Bill & Sandra Gruman

Participants

Brian & Robin Abbott

Antonio & Mayra Banuelos

Charles & Jodi Braun

Tim & Vicki Cursforth

Todd & Elizabeth Dalton

Dan & Lisa Edwards

John & Julie Ely

Jim & Kathy Fossum

Steven & Julie Johnson

Peter & Jay Kambhu

Brad & Laura Klaes

Al & Penne Koeppel

Joe & Mary Kobliska

James & Amy Larsen

Ken & Shelley Lauritsen

David & Deb Marchesani

Mark & Mary Mauk

Dan & Pat McCall

Brad & Felicia Pecinovsky

Bryan & Peggy Russell

Aaron & Karla Schmidt

Jeff & Michelle Wilson

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

***** IMPORTANT SPIRIT RENEWAL INFORMATION *****

If you know of Encountered Couples who wish to start receiving The Spirit by either

Email or U.S. Postal mail, please have them contact us.

For those who still want to receive The Spirit via U.S. Postal mail, please check the section below for how many issues remain on your subscription. If it says "0", this is your last issue unless you renew your subscription. Subscription has been reduced to \$5 for 4 issues or \$10 for 9 issues. The Spirit is planned to be published 4 times per year

(March, June, September, and December).

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Send to:

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Marshalltown, IA 50158