## **OUR INTERNATIONAL**

# Call To Be Family

SPRING/SUMMER 2002 Volume 25 Number 1



Tacoma, WA USA

Pacific Lutheran University

August 9, 10 & 11

"Dreams Have No Boundaries"



Dear Loving Companions on the Journey,

Our lives have taken some pretty drastic twists and turns since the last issue of "Call to be Family!" We have relocated back across the country from Phoenix, AZ and have "come home." Kay has been trying to get her "land legs" for her third job transition in less than two years. She is very grateful to finally have the chance to live out her passion for nurturing small faith sharing groups with her position as Faith Formation Director at First Lutheran Church in Troy, Ohio. Bill is coming out of retirement to do part time pastoral ministry with the people there as well.

As to be expected, these huge transitions have taken their toll on both of us-emotionally, physically, mentally and maritally! Thankfully, our unconditionally loving and faithful God has kept us dialoguing and pulling together as a couple. God has also kept us surrounded with supportive care, prayers and much needed tangible help from couples in our family—that is, our Lutheran Marriage Encounter Family. These couples have not only read about or merely talked about being "family," they have been and continue to be real life examples of being "Christ" to us in the very ways that we have prayed to God for direction and help. You know who you are, our beloved and precious Marriage Encounter "family." Be assured that God WILL reward your faithfulness in reaching out with unconditional love and no strings attached giving to at least two of God's children. We know that you have also done this for MANY in response to real needs from real people.

For ALL of our sisters and brothers who are faithful to God's Call to be Family, we remind you of God's promise as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, the 25th chapter: "... 'Come, you that are blessed by God! Come and possess the kingdom which has been prepared for you ever since the creation of the world..." etc.

God promises that as we are faithful, God will be faithful—and we can stake our lives on it!

With Easter Jov.

Kay & Bill





At first I saw God as my observer, my judge, keeping track of the things I did wrong, so as to know whether I merited heaven or hell when I die. He was "out there" sort of like a president. I recognized his picture when I saw it, but I really didn't know Him.

But later on when I met God, it seemed as though my life was rather like a bike ride but it was a tandem bike and I noticed that God was at the back, helping me pedal.

I don't know when it was that he suggested that we change places, but life has not been the same since. When I had control I knew the way. It was rather boring, but predictable. It was the shortest distance between the two points. But when God took the lead, he knew delightful long cuts, up craggy mountains and through rocky places at breakneck speeds. It was all I could do to hang on! Even though it looked like madness, God said, "Pedal!" I worried and was anxious and asked, "Where are you taking me?" God laughed and didn't answer. And I started to learn to trust. I forgot my boring life and entered into the adventure. When I'd say "I'm scared," he'd lean back and touch my hand.

He took me to people with gifts that I needed; gifts of healing, acceptance and joy. They gave me gifts to take on my journey, and we were off again. God said, "Give the gifts away; they're extra baggage—too much weight." So I did, to the people we met, and I found that in giving I received, and still our burden was light.

I didn't trust God at first—in control of my life. I thought we'd be wrecked, but God knows bike secrets, knows how to make it bend and take sharp corners; knows how to jump to clear high rocks and knows how to fly to shorten scary passages. I am learning now to shut up and pedal in the strangest places, and I'm beginning to enjoy the view and the cool breeze on my face with God as my delightful constant companion. When I'm sure I just can't do anymore, God smiles and says . . . "Keep on Pedaling!"

-anonymous

#### ATTENTION

Love Circle, Love Spiral, and LME Community LEADERS . . .

At your next love circle or Community meeting, we suggest asking couples that have not renewed their subscription to "Call To Be Family" to give their donations at the meeting and the circle leaders can send a list of names and addresses with the checks to:

Bill & Kay Morrissey

800 Branford Road Troy, OH 45373

#### Dear Members of the Lutheran Mavriage Encounter Family,

What a joy it has been over these past months to begin to work with you as North American Regional (NAR) Executive Couples. So far we have found the position to be exciting, challenging and transforming.

We have been excited about the wonderful people with whom we have had contact. These couples have been in varied parts of our country, of varied denominations (through the Interfaith Board), and with a variety of personalities and points of view. The really exciting part is that with all that variety,



Ted and Marty Hartman & Jim and Anita Tollefson North American Region Executive Team

there is a common bond of love through our Marriage Encounter experience and commitment.

We have seen the challenges in front of us as a marriage-centered movement. You have shared with us your frustrations with the world's agenda for mediocre relationships. You have shared your fatigue when it sometimes seems as though you are the only one who cares whether a weekend happens or not. You have shared your hopes for how things can be, and the obstacles that seem to stand in the way.

But most of all, the four of us have experienced the power of transformation. We have been transformed from being intimidated by what was expected, into being absolutely excited about what we can do together as a family. We were transformed with expectation as we drew strength and renewal from the NAR Board as we met for strategic planning in January. We were transformed with confidence as we experienced the enthusiasm and commitment of our District and Staff leaders.

Perhaps our greatest transformation has come in recognizing where the Lord is leading us in "Renewing the Vision" of Lutheran Marriage Encounter. We clearly see opportunities to transform the world through Marriage Encounter weekends as we:

- Develop relationships with our spouse, our God and each other;
- Minister to the world with our self-giving action; and
- Strengthen our commitments to our spouse, our God, and our Marriage Encounter ministry.

We are honored to be your "point couples" in this ministry of transformation. We ask for your prayers and your investment with us. We pray for you as the Lord blesses your portion of the Lutheran Marriage Encounter family.

With great love and enthusiasm,

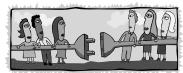
Jim & Anita Tollefson

Ted & Marty Hartman

P.S. We look forward to seeing you at the International Family Reunion in Tacoma, Washington, in August and personally share our vision for the future.

# Interfaith Adventures

"Getting Connected . . .



. . . It Only Takes A Spark"

by Jim and Detra Swenson

We, Jim and Detra Swenson, were blessed to be a part of the revival of Presbyterian Marriage Encounter in Portland, Oregon on November 2-4, 2001. It had been a dream of Jerry and Dorothy Allin, a Presbyterian presenting clergy couple since they retired to the Portland area several years ago. The facility was secured and the inviting began.

In putting together the presenting couples, they did not have a Set 2 couple. The Allins called us, as they

knew we presented the Lutheran expression of World Wide Marriage Encounter. Our NAR executives, the Hartmans and Tollefsons, and our Presenting NAR Couples Coordinators, Jake and June Rabatin gave their approval present on this weekend. The other

"The greet-off was
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presenters were Joe and Leslee Paquette (Set 3) and Kurt and Faye Morley (Set 1) both couples from the Seattle, Washington Presbyterian Community. We felt their love from the beginning and that closeness continues to grow.

We could feel the excitement mounting as we kept in close contact with the Allins. Since there was only one other active community couple available, the presenters were responsible for all of the setup, bag carrying and clean up. The couple who hosted the weekend are Jim and Karen Wilson. They are one of the true pillars of PME and have been involved for over twenty five years.

We arrived early and began the weekend. Sixteen couples arrived on Friday evening ready for the journey of their marriage encounter weekend. Most had been married for more than fifteen years and were excited about the weekend and the facility. It was a Methodist retreat center in the forest east of Portland. This quiet, peaceful place was ideal for experiencing a marriage encounter.



The presenters from left to right:

Jerry & Dorothy Allin, clergy; Joe & Leslee Paquette, set 3;

Jim & Detra Swenson, set 2; Kurt & Faye Morley, set 1.

The power of the Holy Spirit led us all to a deeper realization of the power of love in our relationship. The couples were very moved by the praying couples on the worldwide prayer vigil that hung in the conference room. Thank you all for your prayers.

The greet-off was especially meaningful as prayer couples came from Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist and Presbyterian expressions. What a wonderful experience to see five couples from our own love circle come into the room to greet their couples. It was truly an ecumenical weekend!

The good news is that the journey continues as Allins have begun new love circles. The seven year dormancy of the Presbyterian expression in Portland has ended as the revival blooms forth with new couples encouraged to encounter the world!

Where do I stand on ecumenism? HDIFAMA?



By David and Jean Fell

Newly Elected District I Lay Executive Couple

Greetings! We're David and Jean Fell from the Ohio Area of District I. It would take too much time to explain all the changes in "boundary lines" of ILME here in Ohio as areas have cycled through ups and downs. As of 2001, the area long known as North Central Ohio combined with Toledo, Ohio to become just plain Ohio! Areas known as Columbus, Ohio Valley, and South Central Ohio have come, gone and now been embraced.

In all these changes, the commitment of Ohio Lovers to change the world through Marriage Encounter has not diminished. From pioneering couples in the '70's who planned with Lutheran and

Catholic couples in Pennsylvania our current thirty-pluscouple Loving Task Board, we mean business! A few years ago channeled we enthusiasm through a strateplanning gic process and aimed for six weekends a year, clergy education,

"A few years ago we channeled our enthusiasm through a strategic planning process and aimed for six weekends a year, clergy education, clear follow-up and ecumenism."

clear follow-up and ecumenism. Now we have the added commitment to head south again. As Ohio's Inviting and Publicity Coordinators, we are in for more adventures as new couples and even already encountered couples will be invited to bless their marriage, some to "taste it again for the first time"—like Corn Flakes!

We can't do this without a commitment to and blessings from other faith expressions. In 2000,

invited other communities sponsoring weekends in our area to meet regularly: Baptist, Mennonite, Methodist, Worldwide's two areas and United Church of Christ / Disciples of Christ. The World Wide Marriage Encounter (Catholic community) has sponsored a mass and dinner/dance on World Marriage Day that has been attended by over 700 people in the past. Such events make news! Lutherans sponsor campouts. We hope to hold combined community and presenter enrichments this year and have shared serving couples at romantic dinners. (And—if your community hasn't tried "romantic dinners" as inviting tools, you are missing out!)

Our ILME Community has sponsored an information booth at the Great Geauga County Fair—the oldest, and possibly largest in the state. We mix up

couples from different faiths to man the booth two couples at a time. In 2001 we introduced three community fairs to the schedule, plus two parades and will definitely book more parades next year. They are a much better "bang for the buck." We handed out half-page fliers listing all weekends and contact infor-



Jean and David Fell

mation. We're gearing up to investigate local fashion and house-builder shows.

Ecumenism shows in the faithfully led M.E. Couples Retreats held annually for over 20 years. The excellent themes, presentations and fellowship bless 20-35 couples each year. Y'all come and join us some third weekend in March!

Ohio is also committed to follow up of couples after their encounter. Our super APCC's Steve and Sue Rufe keep us on task. We continue to have potluck dinners and prayer couples attending the singoff. They are matched up geographically wherever possible for better "absorption" into community. We borrowed Phoenix' idea of delivering a little gift in person last October and most couples were thrilled. Ahead of a weekend, all local presenters divide up follow-up responsibility: to make personal calls within 7-10 days for general encouragement and to invite them to informal "coffees" at our homes. All these post-weekend details are on an "Important Dates" sheet in their Care Packet. We always offer

"How do I feel when I hear God calling us to help our community grow Lutheran Marriage Encounter?" DFILD.

#### "Ohio Area," continued . . .

inviting opportunities for the newly encountered, usually 2-3 romantic dinners scheduled a few months out. Could we do a better job? You bet—and we're trying new ideas all the time.

As a rule, the Area has been very active in inviting all newly encountered couples to listen for God's Call. We include a 10 minute "Invitation to Ministry" talk at our Renewals. We encourage dialogues on Jeremiah 29:11 and John 15:5-17 and questions such as: Do I hear God calling us into this particular ministry in any way? What special qualities do we have as a couple? How do I feel about sharing our relationship with other couples in order to help Marriage Encounter change the world?

Ohio leadership is also committed to sharing the



Nan and Duffy Guthrie are currently Registration Couple for the Ohio Area. They also serve nationally as NAR Resource Couple and are one of those couples who have done LME loving tasks for MANY years. Thanks, Duffy and Nan!

load and has been blessed with many couples who keep doing their loving tasks for years. In 2001, a Task Force gathered to study developing the pan-Ohio area. Thev recommended that committees carry out Prayer Couple coordination, set up, take down and potluck/renewal jobs. These are ready to go for

2002. Inviting and Publicity couldn't happen without the five couples who coordinate temple talks and romantic dinners.

Since we arrived back to Ohio in 1988 the Area Lay Contact post has been filled by a succession of very able couples—five in all. So you can see that Ohio leadership is committed to "new blood" infusion into leadership positions. Three year terms for ALC, ACC and APCC works very well here. As you read this, Ohio will be thanking God for fourteen presenting couples! Ohio lovers have a strong sense of family in ILME—flying or driving hundreds of miles to help other areas hold weekends and sharing some of our excitement.





By Steve & Carol Spieker Wisconsin/Upper Peninsula Area Lay Contact Couple.

Dear Lovers,

WOW! That pretty much sums it up! What an event this past weekend has been for everyone involved. From the area board, to the presenters, to the weekend participants, to the community!

When preparations for this weekend first began last fall, the board members brainstormed on ways to encourage participation and inviting for the weekend and foster a renewed community spirit. The consensus was to lovingly support one another and to put our concerns in the hands of the Lord through prayer. Anyone involved with the weekend could see the results!

Prior to the February weekend, the sound of one ringers could be heard by the community offering us support. In addition, songs from the weekend frequently were heard on our favorite radio stations. There were 15...than 20...22, 23...then 25 couples registered until there was no more room at the "inn" and we had to start a waiting list at 30 couples! Then there was the concern of getting a prayer couples. We again put it in the hands of the Lord and they were provided! Everything continued to fall into place. Even the weather cooperated which helped 30 eager couples and the presenters to arrive safely on Friday night.

The weekend was fun, hard, joyous and filled with struggle but the participants persevered until the moment of the jubilant sing off!

This weekend demonstrated what we can all do when we band together and support one another to carry on the ministry we call Lutheran Marriage Encounter. We want to thank each and every one of the loving couples in our area that make a weekend happen. It takes all those that plan the weekend, those who buy and make needed items, present, invite, take registrations and serve as Prayer Couples. Weekends could never happen without the generosity of each couple in our area.

We love you! Steve & Carol Spieker



By Pastor Todd A. Biermann Calvary Lutheran Church, Parma, OH

My wife Heather and I recently spent a weekend with some of the most dynamic and inspirational evangelists we have ever met. I'm not talking about a group of professionals who have been through years of training or have had years of experience on some TV Program. I'm talking about a group of ordinary people including Lisa, the special education teacher, David, the shipyard worker, Melissa, the O.R. nurse and Justin, the nursing student. They were ordinary people with an extraordinary gift to give to the world. Every one of them was on fire with the love of God which they had discovered in their marriage relationship. They were filled with a zeal to share that love with the world so everyone could experience their same joy.



The group I am talking about was a gathering of ten couples, ourselves included, who were all preparing to be presenters for the Lutheran Marriage Encounter. Their only prior qualifications were that they had attended a Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend and they had gone home with a new understanding of the tremendous joy that can be experienced in a Christian marriage. They had answered a call from God to share the gift they had received. So, along with Heather and me, they were

all gaining new insights and inspiration for how to enjoy and show the blessings of a marriage centered on the love of Jesus.

This weekend filled me with a BOLD 10 excitement on a 1 to 10 scale because I saw in action what I've been preaching about for my entire ministry. I saw Christians who were actively witnessing to salvation in Jesus Christ with their lives. They weren't trying to be something or someone they were not. They weren't giving up their previous occupations. They were all using their real life as a way to show true life to others. Each couple had received tremendous joy and blessing from God as they had learned to openly communicate and truly love like Jesus in their marriage. Each couple was now living with a light in their lives which couldn't be hidden. The sparkle in their eyes and the warmth in their smiles was contagious. They obviously had a gift which others would crave. And, they were committed to sharing that gift with others.

We challenge everyone reading this article to remember that you ARE a witness every day as you simply put your faith into action in all your relationships. The unconditional love of Jesus you receive through His Word and Sacraments can flow through you to others as you love them unconditionally. You don't need professional training or experience. All you need is the willingness to let God's Holy Spirit inspire, motivate and direct you to a life of joyous living. God's Spirit will do the rest

Heather and I thank God for the privilege we had to see this great group of evangelists in action. We pray that you will all have the opportunity to see this same kind of enthusiasm and BE filled with this kind of spirit. Learn from others who are already showing the love of Jesus in their lives. Let this God love make your marriage and all your relationships be the best they can be. As we live out the joy we come to know, we will be able to show the world true life in Jesus Christ.

## We love you! Todd and Heather

[Ed. Note: Two of these November, 2001 Deeper couples have presented weekends; two are ready to present and three are in the process of writing talks.]



# Dreams Have No Boundaries...

...they reach to Siberia and beyond!

We have received the exciting news that Pastors Michael and Stevie Fendler, Abakan, Siberia, Russia, have accepted District V's invitation to attend the NAR Family Reunion at Pacific Lutheran University, August 9-11 in Tacoma, WA. This couple from Germany went on a weekend in Vancouver, WA, when Stevie was doing her theological internship at First Lutheran, Poulsbo, WA. They are writing the clergy set of talks in English. They have an excitement and a deep commitment to Marriage Encounter for themselves and for Russia where they are now serving as missionaries under the Hermannsburg Mission.

Our LME District V needs to raise about \$3,000 to pay for their round trip airfares. Contributions of any amount are most welcome from individuals and circles. As a thank you for any gift of \$25 or more, Otto Tollefson will send you a copy of the book he edited, "Seed Falling on Good Soil," sixty stories from Brazil to inspire faith and commitment. Perhaps your LME circle/group might consider having a fund raiser! Become part of this exciting opportunity to help the Fendlers share the dream that has no boundaries.

Make checks payable to: Lutheran Marriage Encounter; mark them for "Fendler Fund" and mail them to Clarence and Darlene Ochsner, PO Box 2127, Ferndale, WA 98248. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope for your written receipt. Questions? Contact Otto and Barbara Tollefson by phone: 360-438-0552 or email Otollefson@aol.com. Or Ron and Pat Olson by phone: 425-774-3094 or email Oskaro@aol.com.

"I want us to go to the Family Reunion in August."

How does saying this make me feel?

## Train Ride to Heaven



I woke up one morning and couldn't believe That it was now time to get ready to leave. My very first train ride! It was time to depart, The places we'd visit would touch both our hearts.

There was not a conductor and no railroad track, Just a spiritual journey to take there and back. This beautiful journey to all God-filled places Put tears in our eyes and all over our faces.

We knew that awareness was something we'd find Of marriage and love and knots to unwind. But we had no clue that we'd find all that gold Inside of our hearts as they began to unfold.

The beautiful people that showed us the way And the one special couple for us did they pray Were angels from heaven I have no doubt They gave us it all, they left nothing out.

They spread out their wings and gave us a ride To places from heaven, we went side by side. They shared many stories that we both knew so well. We've been there and now it was our turn to tell.

So we wrote our love letters and in them we said Words from our heart and then both of us read Each other's letters, so gentle and true And before we knew it, the weekend was through.

We learned to sort through the things left undone, To trust and to honor our most precious one. But mostly we learned that in caring we gain New love, God's presence, less sorrow, less pain.

In honor and love we salute you, dear friends,
Our hurts and our sorrows you taught us to mend.
Now we tap the glass and it rings like a bell
New wings for more angels like you are—farewell.

May God's Peace Be With "Y'allways," (You always, ha ha!) All Our Love, Leonard and Margaret Malina

"What are my feelings when I recall the closeness we felt immediately following our M.E. weekend? How do I feel sharing this with you now?"



Hear Ye! Hear Ye! You are being Called to be Family and invited to attend . . .

#### The 2002 International

# Lutheran Marriage Encounter REUNION August 9-11, 2002

held at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA, USA (30 miles south of Seattle)

This will be an International gathering of Encountered Couples
Who seek and share what God can do when . . .

"Dreams Have No Boundaries"

It will be a weekend filled with — TIME to be with your spouse,
TIME to meet new friends or visit with old friends, TIME to experience the Beautiful
Pacific Northwest, GREAT CELEBRATIONS, PRESENTATIONS and 10/10's !!!

Also, a simultaneous children's program is available.

We would LOVE to see YOU there! Look for our "Reunion" website at <a href="ilmereunion2002.org">ilmereunion2002.org</a> to find out more details, extra reservation forms and other resources. Hosted by DISTRICT V of the North American Region of ILME which includes Washington, British Columbia, Idaho, Wyoming, Oregon, N. California, N. Utah, Montana, Alberta, Alaska and Siberia.



# "Dreams Have No Boundaries" International Lutheran Marriage Encounter 2002 Reunion Registration Held at Pacific Lutheran University Tacoma, Washington – August 9, 10, 11

Please fill out completely and legibly.

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Last Name:	·
First Name: (His)	(Hers)
Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:	E-mail:
Wedding Anniversary:	Encounter Date:
Beef Salmon Vegetarian Any Special Needs?:	
☐ We DO NOT have access to the web site – please ☐ We request information about lodging with ILME Indicate desired cities	couples on the drive to the reunion
Interested in Alaska cruise after Reunion	
SEE PAGE 2 TO SELECT OPTION	NS AND COMPUTE YOUR COST
	Total \$
Less De	eposit (\$50 or more enclosed) \$()
	Balance due by May 31, 2002 \$
Make	e checks payable to: Lutheran Marriage Encounter.
Please fill out each section completely and mail ent Mark♥Kari Hooper, 2315 – 21 <sup>st</sup> Ave. Ct. NW, Gig Mark.Hooper@gte.net	Harbor, WA 98335, (253) 858-9021,

- If you do not have an e-mail address, please enclose a stamped self-addressed business size #10 envelope for written confirmation.
- Payment in full due for late registrations (after May 31, 2002).
- Cancellation policy: \$50 of your deposit is non-refundable for cancellations after May 31, 2002.

Questions? See our 2002 Reunion web site at www.ilmereunion2002.org

#### **Registration Plan Details:**

<u>Plan A</u>: PLU dorm rooms (unairconditioned/communal bath/twin beds/elevator access/linen & towels/uncarpeted floor) available on first come first serve basis. Children under 13 can bring a sleeping bag and stay in their parent's room at no cost. Limited number of rooms with 3 twin beds.

<u>Plan B</u>: Dorm rooms may be reserved for extra nights to accommodate early arrival or late departure. Also, additional rooms may be provided for children to have their own separate rooms. Please refer to the web site for further information or call the Registration Couple (phone number on reverse side).

Plan C: Contact hotels directly for reservations and cost information mentioning "ILME Reunion" for reduced rate and to find out selection of room sizes. 50 Rooms reserved at Best Western Park Plaza [888-204-5804] and 50 rooms at Holiday Inn Express [253-848-4900] both of Puyallup (10 minutes from PLU campus). Available on first come first serve basis. No shuttle to PLU: rental car or car-pooling required. Hotels can arrange handicapped-accessible rooms if requested. Included are continental breakfasts, pool, group socializing room, access to Bali's Health Club. See 2002 Reunion web site for other hotel choices and more details.

Plan D: RVs may be parked on the PLU Campus, but must be <u>fully</u> self-contained.

Registration Plans (Choose One Plan):	
Plan A Dorm plan: dorm room (2 nights), reunion fee and all meals \$285 per couple \$	
Plan B Additional dorm rooms  double occupancy: rooms x nights x \$31 per night \$	
single occupancy: rooms x nights x \$24 per night \$	
Plan C Off-campus plan: reunion fee, lunch and dinners only \$210 per couple \$	
Plan D RV plan including RV parking, reunion fee and all meals \$235 per couple \$	
Reunion T Shirts - see www.ilmereunion2002.org for design (indicate quantity per size)	
Adult S _ M _ L _ XL _ 2XL _ 3XL _ 4XL _ Total Qty x \$15 ea= \$	
Reunion Polo Shirts- see <a href="www.ilmereunion2002.org">www.ilmereunion2002.org</a> for design (indicate quantity per size)  Adult S _ M _ L _ XL _ 2XL _ 3XL _ Total Qty x \$25 ea= \$	
Airport shuttle service: Fri and/or Sun from/to SeaTac Airport:	
Number of one-way trips per person x number of people x \$15 per trip per person= \$	
Would like to play in the Friday Golf Scramble: (note: club rental extra cost)	
Need rental clubs? (#) Number of players x \$35 per player= \$	
Child activities available for children ages 4 and older during the Reunion – activities vary by age (see website for details). Child costs include meals, activities/care & T shirt (specify T shirt size: youth sizes: 6-8, 10-12, 14-16, 18-20; adult sizes: S M L XL)	
Name Age M or F T shirt size Cost by age group:	
Under 4: Nbr 4–12 yrs: Nbr x \$110=\$ 13–18 yrs: Nbr x \$130=\$	
4–12 yrs: Nbr x \$110=\$	
13–18 vrs: Nbr x \$130=\$	
Late registration fee (if postmark will be later than May 31, 2002): \$25 \$	

Total \$\_\_\_\_



#### The 2002 International

## Lutheran Marriage Encounter REUNION

#### General Information

The meeting will begin Friday, August 9th with registration from 3-7 PM. Our first meal together is from 5:30-7 PM and first gathering at 7 PM. The weekend will feature five presentation times with a combination of Encountered Couple and Guest Speaker presentations to Enrich your marriage. This

is followed by Dialog and Small Group Sharing times.

Our featured guest speakers will be Dr. David and Theresa Ferguson of Intimate Life Ministries (<u>ILMinistries.org</u>). They are full of Texas personality and humor and will inspire you to new heights as they touch on topics like "What God wants from your marriage" and "Needs behind feelings." They have authored many books and conducted many workshops, like "More Than Married" throughout the USA.

We have planned many social events for before, during and after the Reunion such as optional Golf Scrambles, family swim times, a Saturday evening dinner celebration, a post-Reunion cruise to Alaska and time to just visit. We will host a Silent Auction with items brought by many of the Reunion couples with proceeds to benefit couples who would not normally be able to attend a Marriage Encounter weekend.

In order to involve the whole family, there will be a simultaneous Children's Program for children 4 years and older. The children will be divided into three groups and experience a well-supervised, fun and exciting age-appropriate program of crafts, vacation Bible school, field trips or activities such as swimming.

The Reunion will be held at Pacific Lutheran University with lodging options including PLU dormitory rooms, nearby RV parking of the Best Western Park Plaza and Holiday Inn Express hotels in nearby Puyallup, Washington, just a 10 minute drive from PLU. We will conclude with lunch at 1:30 pm on Sunday, August 11. See our Reunion website via the <a href="ILME.org">ILME.org</a> website or go directly to <a href="ilmereunion2002.org">ilmereunion2002.org</a> for full details or contact Mark & Ginny Sims, Reunion coordinators at <a href="simskortes@aol.com">simskortes@aol.com</a> or call 253-941-4520.

#### Cruise Alaska! Voyage of the Glaciers

You are invited to join your friends on a post Marriage Encounter Family Reunion Alaska Cruise, Voyage of the Glaciers, offered by LME's District V.

We'll cruise from Vancouver, BC, on the Dawn Princess (Princess Line) on *Monday, August 12* and return by air from Anchorage to Seattle on *Monday, August 19th*.

Arrangements can be made to stay Sunday night at Pacific Lutheran University at the close of the Family Reunion. On Monday we'll transfer by special motor coach from PLU to Vancouver, BC.

Fifty cabins have been reserved for LME couples, families, and friends. Cruise prices range from our special group price of \$1,129 per person to \$2,099 per person, double occupancy. For greater savings ask about the availability of staterooms at the "limited time rate."

Daily devotional and marriage enrichment times will be offered. If interested, please contact the tour hosts: Otto and Barbara Tollefson—email: <a href="https://doi.org/10.2016/journal.o