

## **PROGRESSION GUIDELINES FOR WEEKEND PRESENTING COUPLES**

### **THE GOAL IS TO ENCOURAGE COUPLES TO BE HONEST ABOUT THEIR STRENGTHS & INVOLVED IN LOVING TASKS THEIR STRENGTHS CAN REASONABLY SUPPORT.**

With an awareness that it is the responsibility of ILME Leadership to lovingly guide our weekend presenting candidates, to aid them in their decision to be weekend presenting couples, and to support them in progression of their talk writing, the following guidelines are established for the area leadership.

For clarification, in the following statement, the words "presenting couples" refers to a couple who has committed to being a weekend presenting couple and who has attended a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Presenting Couple Deeper Weekend.

### **I. PROCEDURE FOR ASKING PRESENTING COUPLES TO WRITE THE NEXT SET OF TALKS**

A couple should be asked to write the Second or the Third Set of talks by their Area Presenting Couple Coordinator (APCC). If the candidates are the Area Presenting Couple Coordinator, then the District Presenting Couple Coordinator (DPCC) should do the asking. In new areas, the District Presenting Couple Coordinator should be consulted about presenting couples writing and should make the final decision about couples writing the Second or Third Sets. No couple shall write talks without a workshop couple assigned by the Area Presenting Couple Coordinator or designee.

### **II. CRITERIA FOR ASKING A COUPLE TO WRITE THE NEXT SET OF TALKS**

It is recommended that a couple give the First Set of talks before being asked to write the Second set and a couple give the Second Set before being asked to write the Third Set of talks.

A Presenting Couple must be considered for writing the next set of talks within at least two years of the first presentation of their current set. This consideration does not mean they are necessarily asked to write the next set of talks.

To write the next set of talks, a Presenting Couple's growth in understanding the Weekend concepts, the flow of the Weekend, and their duties during a Weekend should be progressing at a reasonable rate. Also, the Presenting Couple being considered should have a supportive attitude and a mature relationship with other Presenting Couples and the Lutheran Marriage Encounter Community at large.

Before asking a couple to begin writing the next set of presentations, the Area or District Presenting Couple Coordinator may consult with the Area Lay & Clergy Contact Couples and other Presenting Couples who have given Weekends with the Presenting Couple under consideration. Writing the next set of talks should involve an open and ongoing discussion between Presenting Couples and their Presenting Couple Coordinators.

The writing of the next set of talks should begin not later than three months after the couple has been asked and has agreed to accept the writing commitment. The couple should clearly understand they will be expected to have the next set of talks written and Weekend-ready within 12 months of their agreeing to accept this writing commitment.