

**LUTHERAN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER DISTRICT 4 REPORT  
FOR JANUARY 27, 2018 VIRTUAL NAR MEETING**

**ROSTERS:**

*Please attach current rosters to your report (date as of January, 2018).*

*See attached Roster*

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTERS SCHEDULED:** *(By Area within your District)*

<u>Dates</u>	<u>City/State</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Additional Information</u>
TBD-Summer?	Phoenix, AZ	Checking	
April 13-15, 2018	Colo Springs, CO	Glen Eyrie	CPO WE w/Methodist
April 13-15, 2018	Renton, WA	Red Lion	Jeff♥Amy Spencer – 1 <sup>st</sup> time Clergy presenters
October 19-21, 2018	Colo Springs, CO	Glen Eyrie	CPO WE w/Methodist

The N CA N NV Area is looking into the possibility of a Destination Weekend. It is hoped that a suitable opportunity will be found for sometime the Fall of 2018 or Spring 2019.

**5 POINT-GOLD STAR THRUST TO THRIVE UPDATES:**

*What are you doing/planning in your District/Areas to thrive in the following 5 areas. Include applicable personal, couple, Area, and District endeavors.*

**Prayer:** *Include specific prayer plans/activities/other.*

*Mid Rockies- We have a telecom monthly with the Methodist Community and prayer is always a vital part of the call. All of our decisions are covered in prayer.*

*WA-OR- Couple prayer for NAR and ER Weekends and God's will for LME in Northwest be visibly clear.*

**Personal Development:** *What kinds of things are you doing/planning/do you recommend we incorporate in order to thrive in leadership in LME and in life?*

*Mid Rockies- We have mostly been using the two (Lutheran and Methodist) websites for advertising.*

*WA-OR- Dialogue encouragement monthly circle/group meetings.*

**Pre-Encounter Excellence:** *Include inviting/recruiting/publicity/Pre-Encounter Contacts, etc.*

*WA-OR-No specific activities at this time.*

**Encounter Excellence:** *(This meeting's focus).*

*What are you doing /planning to insure excellence in the Encounter Experience?*

*Mid Rockies- Not sure.*

*N. CA- We have had success in having the Participant couples read many of the written portions of the Workbook to each other rather than the Presenters reading them to the couples. This seems to have enlivened their interaction. We have also adopted the combined Workbook Notebook that the CO Area pioneered. Also their source for the printing is cost effective. We have also followed their lead on shortening the LOC presentation and believe it has brought the Weekend to closure on a higher note.*

*WA-OR- No specific activities at this time. Updating our talks.*

**Post-Encounter Excellence:** *What is being done/planned to engage/support the newly encountered?*

*Mid Rockies- We are intentionally are making email contact w/the couples after the weekend (1 day, 15 day, 30 day, 45 day, 60 day, 75 day and 90 day). We send them a dialogue suggestion and let them know about any local events in our community. We also do a 90 day challenge and take them to dinner or send them a gift card if they make it. Our local flame this year is doing the Mark Gungor tapes.*

N. CA- This has been an ongoing struggle.

**ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS/PROJECTS/BEST PRACTICES:**

*Include things you are piloting or plan to pilot. If tried, please include observations/results.*

WA-OR- Developing an approach to the use of Facebook to help publicize Weekends.

**ENRICHMENTS/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES:**

Mid Rockies- We have 3 area circle/flames that meet on a regular basis. We also invite community to meet and do the weekend prep.

WA-OR- No specific activities at this time.

**CPO ACTIVITIES:**

*In what ways are you connecting with other WWME Faith Expressions?*

*Mid Rockies- Everything our local community does is with the Methodist community.*

N. CA- We plan to be more proactive at notifying other faith expressions of our Weekends and encouraging them to send their prospective Participants.

WA-OR- Past contacts with the Catholic community have not drawn much interest. No other faith expressions are active in this area that we know of.

**VARIETY OF MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER EXPERIENCES:**

*If you're holding or considering anything other than the traditional Weekend, please include here.*

*Mid Rockies- The Methodist community just completed a 3RE weekend in Wyoming.*

WA-OR- No specific activities at this time.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:**

WA-OR- we request prayers that our outreach & publicity efforts will reach willing hearts which will respond to a call to attend a Weekend and "continue the journey."

**OTHER UPDATES TO SHARE (Optional):**

**STRENGTHS AND HOW WE APPLIED THEM:**

AZ- We have tremendous District support and encouragement.

Mid Rockies-: probably not very well

WEAKNESSES AND HOW WE ADDRESSED THEM:

Mid Rockies-: probably not very well

SUCCESSSES / PROBLEMS SOLVED / OBSTACLES OVERCOME:

CHALLENGES WE FACE / PROBLEMS THAT NEED SOLVING:

AZ- facility costs, no community

Mid Rockies- trying to get others engaged – burnout of an aging community

WA-OR

- Continued rising facility costs at all viable Weekend facilities
- Overcoming distance and interest constraints when encouraging couples to “continue the journey” following a Weekend.
- Couples not registering for weekend until last minute and/or cancelling after registering.

Lovingly Submitted by:

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