



THE PRESENTER HOTLINE

North American Lutheran Marriage Encounter Presenter Newsletter

February, 2010

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How is God's plan working in YOUR marriage?
Take time to nourish this most important relationship!

Thank you, thank you!

Thanks again to all who have submitted the wonderful stories about your Weekends, Circles, and social activities for the presenter newsletter, "The Presenter Hotline." We encourage you to send your stories to us at fjschamber@comcast.net. You can now view all 2009 & 2010 Presenter Hotlines by going to: www.ilme.org and clicking on "Resources for couples who have been on a weekend" then on "Presenting Couples" and enter the password "LME/pc" and find the Hotline desired.



**The Winter NAR Meeting was held January 29-31, 2010
at the Comfort Inn Airport in Baltimore, MD**

(Couples are shown closing the meeting with "There's a New World Somewhere.")

Reports were heard from the task forces set up at the previous meeting. Break-out groups continued the strategizing. The areas of emphasis are:

- * Post-weekend Community
- * Publicity/Communication
- * Innovation & Leadership Empowerment
- * Finances

A lot of progress has been made in exploring possibilities for these areas. It was decided to continue those emphases into the next year.

Exciting news: District II has volunteered to host the family reunion following the 2010 Iceland one. This will probably be some weekend in **July, 2012**.

Next NAR Meeting: August 13-14, 2010 - Site to be determined. Elections for the new Lay and Clergy Execs will take place at this meeting. Watch for an email which will give information on the nomination process and time-line.

Some General Reminders from Deeper and NARPCC Report:

- The next Deeper will be held **May 21-24, 2010, in Houston**. Be sure that your couples have written both their Deeper questions and the first draft of the Self talk, part III: parts A, B, C, & D. All of this should be submitted to the APCC who then forwards the

- Deeper homework to the Deeper Coordinators (Dave & Elsa Larson). The Self talk parts are to be submitted to a workshopper who then workshops them and sends them back to the writers; however, writers do not need to do corrections before attending the Deeper.
- The guidelines for completion of first set talks are as follows: Following the couple's Deeper, the APCC and the couple work together to assign a time for their first presenting. If that weekend is missed, the APCC helps the couple set a second goal with the understanding that if they fail to meet the second goal they are regarded as voluntarily deselecting themselves. Extenuating circumstances, such as health issues, will be considered individually and should be discussed with the DPCC
- Reminder: Couples attending Deepers are also asked to make a financial pledge to Marriage Encounter. (They are encouraged--not required--to make a \$100.00/month commitment for the next year.) Some of us, being unaware of this, had misled couples headed to the Deeper regarding the financial request.

The following presenting couple statistics were reported at the January NAR meeting:

Presenter Couple Strength:

	Clergy	3 rd Set	2 nd Set	1 st Set	Total
District 1	7 + 2 writing	11+ 0 writing	8 + 2 writing	4 + 3 writing	37
District II	3 + 1 writing	7 + 1 writing	3 + 2 writing	0 + 4 writing	21
District III	3 + 0 writing	7 + 1 writing	5 + 0 writing	6 + 1 writing	23
District IV-V	5 + 1 writing	7 + 1 writing	3 + 0 writing	6 +2 writing	25
Total	22	35	23	26	106

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Proposed Outline Changes

An email was recently received by our leadership couples from the 2009 Outline Committee regarding the upcoming changes. Note that there still will be a second tier review of the talks, then they will be piloted around the country, and adjustments made. This then needs to be followed by the "Lutheranizing" of the talks for our weekends, so

the bottom line is that we may be talking years before we see a new outline.

Following is the Outline Committee description of the possible changes:

The 2009 Outline Committee would like to share with you the potential changes that are the fruits thus far of the committee that has been meeting over the past year. While there

will be some minor tweaks to many of the talks, those listed below represent that which is most different from our current outline. Please know that these are in no way final. They will be sent out to a second tier of couples/priests who will review these (and all of the talks) and offer feedback to the committee. Then, once all of the feedback has been received, evaluated and appropriately incorporated into the outline, the proposed new outline will be piloted around the country. More feedback will be obtained, evaluated and appropriately incorporated into the final product. The proposed changes then need to be approved by both the U.S. Board and the World Council, until finally it is distributed to all presenting teams. As you can see, writing to these changes is many months away. That is why it is most important that you continue writing and updating your talks. Even if you are writing a set of talks for the first time, the concepts you are learning will remain the same and it will be far easier for you to write to the changes if you have a good understanding of the concepts. But the most important reason for continuing to write and update our talks is that we all know how writing helps us to grow in our relationship. It is how we integrate the concepts into our lives. And as these concepts come alive in our relationships, we become better lovers to each other and more brilliant lights in our church and our world.

Finally, we want you to know that the Outline Committee has been working diligently to review the many thoughtful recommendations that we have received from all around the country, including from our interfaith family. We are also attending to the 2008 Outline Overview and merging helpful parts of this document directly into the Outline/Mentality so that the end result will be one complete document. So, without further ado, below is what we hope will be sent to our Second Tier readers in the next month or two.

Friday night:

- *Introduction and Communicating Our Feelings combined into one talk with only one dialogue on Friday night. Some of the 'nuts and bolts' will be printed on a hand-out that will be given to the participants when they check in Friday evening. This will cut down on time. The presenters will simply point to the hand-out and have them be sure to read it before Saturday morning.*

Saturday:

- *The transformation story is changed from "The Prince and the Rose" to Aldonza/Dulcinea. This will affect both Encounter with Self and Risking to Trust. The story will be well set up to be read as a narrative prior to the songs being played. This change will keep the U.S. in line with the Canadian outline and the Spanish outline, both of whom continue to use Aldonza/Dulcinea.*
- *There will be a second sample dialogue Saturday evening on an issue/area that has historically been difficult for the presenters to talk about. This will serve two purposes: it will allow them to hear a sample dialogue after having been experiencing it all day; and it will help them to see how to stay on the feeling even in difficult areas.*

Sunday:

- *Sunday afternoon will be combined into one talk. This talk (Living and Sharing our Sacrament) will include a section on being 'open and apostolic'. There will be some exercises in this afternoon and a couple of discussion questions, but there will be no further dialogues after the extended dialogue. The couples have had their peak experience in their extended dialogue.*
- *Keeping our Relationship a Priority will be moved to after the weekend. This will be considered the final talk of the weekend and will replace the current "weekend reunion" outline. It will be a written and workshopped talk just as the other talks of the weekend and will be presented by a presenting team couple. The five tools will be briefly introduced during the Sunday afternoon talk on the weekend, but it is the experience of the committee that the participants really do not hear these concepts and rarely remember them because they are so caught up in joy that they can't even think about 're-evaluation'. It might be a bit like trying to describe disillusionment to couple on their honeymoon. The thinking of the committee is to leave them with a desire for more. Once they return home and all the problems they left are there to greet them, and they experience some let-down, they will, we hope, be eager to come to our post-weekend talk and hear about these tools when they have ears to hear! It is hoped that this will encourage more of the couples to attend the closing talk one to four weeks after their weekend.*
- *A DVD of the KORAP talk will be created and mailed out to any couple who is unable to attend the Post Weekend KORAP talk. Everyone agrees that these concepts are too important for them not to have. We will not, however, tell the couples on the weekend about this option, as we obviously want them to come to the actual presentation and get them excited about community.*
- *With these changes in place, the weekend will end earlier on Sunday.*

This information is being shared with you so that everyone in the country has accurate information. It is hoped that this will lessen rumors and that it will also generate some excitement for what is to come.

We remain your faith-filled and hard-working servants,

Ron & Judy Pekny, Gene & Mary LeDuc, Paul & Rosa Saavadra, Jake & Catherine Griesbach, John & Wynne Simmer, Tony & Cathy Witczak, Scott & Karen Seabornby, Fr. Alex Ortiz, Fr. Emile Frische, Fr. Mitch Walters, and Fr. Tom Griffith

Editors note: We along with Presleys and Hillmans thank everyone for the feedback thus far and appreciate the patience, love and concern for making the Marriage Encounter Ministry the best it can be.

More details about the 2010 LME Family Reunion in Iceland



Iceland



Edda ML Laugarvatn Hotel

THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS NOW : MARCH 1, 2010.

The 2010 LME Family Reunion will begin on **Friday, June 25** with registration from 3-5 and the first session starting at 7 PM. It ends with a late lunch on **Sunday, June 27**. The website www.ilme-iceland2010.com is up and taking reservations. Other websites of interest are the Laugarvatn site: <http://www.nat.is/travelguideeng/laugarvatn.htm>, and the Iceland Tourism Board site: <http://www.icelandtouristboard.com>. The location of Laugarvatn is 57 miles or 1½ hours out of the capital city, Reykjavík. Kids are welcome. Transportation from Reykjavík will be provided. The organizers of the event are: Gunnar & Thora at gunnarthora@simnet.is. The costs listed on the registration form are:

- Hotel room with private shower and all meals: \$507
- Hotel room with shared shower and all meals: \$412
- Camping site with all meals: \$280
- Camping site with no meals: \$26
- Own accommodation with all meals: \$253
- Own accommodation with no meals: no additional cost

According to the ER Lay Executive couple, Gunna & Joi, they have numerous couples who have volunteered to host families some days before or after the family reunion. According to the website: the hotel is situated in Laugarvatn, a small village with a population of approximately 200. The hotel has 99 rooms -- 32 with en-suite bathrooms and 67 with in-room washbasins, so those who register early will have their choice. Laugarvatn is in the heart of the countryside of South Iceland and is a good base for touring the “Golden Circle” -- a triad of Iceland’s most popular natural wonders: Mighty Gullfoss Waterfall (18 miles away), Geysir

Hot Springs (12 miles), and Thingvellir National Park, ancient site of the world's first parliament (15 miles).

Following is the program for the reunion:



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER FAMILY REUNION PROGRAM -- ICELAND 2010

Friday, June 25, 2010:

- 3 – 5 p.m. -- Registration at Hotel Edda, Laugarvatn
- 7 p.m. -- Opening ceremony, introduction of the program, singing, and the first meeting of the “love groups.”

Saturday, June 26, 2010:

- 10 a.m. -- Lectures followed by love groups
- 12 noon -- Lunch
- 2 – 4 p.m. -- Break (hiking, swimming, bathing, sauna, etc.)
- 4 – 6 p.m. -- Lectures followed by love groups
- 6 p.m. -- Dinner
- 8:30 p.m. -- Evening ceremony
- 10:30 p.m. -- “Icelandic Country Dance” – dancing and enjoying ourselves into the night

Sunday, June 27, 2010:

- 10 a.m. -- Busses leave from Hotel Edda Laugarvatn to Thingvellir for Sunday morning worship followed by a guided tour
- Late lunch at Hotel Edda Laugarvatn and farewells

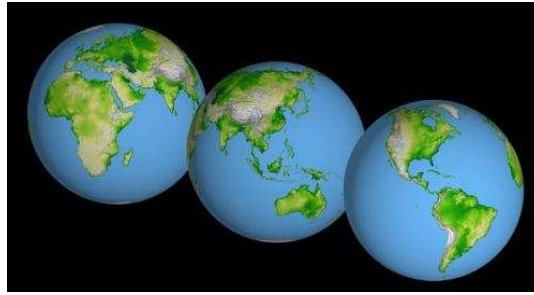
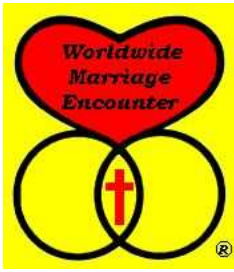
International Prayer Vigil



Many thanks to David & Jean Fell for investing a ton of time to update the international prayer scroll. The latest version is now available by going to: <http://erl.wvme.org> -- no password is required -- just supply your email and say that you agree to use the resources as intended. Go to the [Community Pillar section/tab](#). You will find 5 lists: the Greenwich Mean Time, and [a list for each of the 4 time zones in the U.S.](#) Whether you copy it in large print and make it up as a scroll to roll down, or put a copy on couples' chairs as they return from their extended dialogue or whatever way you choose to use it, couples on a weekend are always so impressed that couples all over the world are praying for them! See [sample of Eastern Standard Time Vigil](#) on the next 2 pages:

Time	Names of Pray-ers	Expression of Worldwide Marriage Encounter	City/State/Province/ Country other than USA
Friday			
8 am	Charlie ♥ Mary Copeland	Roman Catholic	Austin TX
9 am	John ♥ Nancy Orwig	Lutheran	Buffalo WY
10 am	Dale ♥ Debra Sands	Episcopal	Deer Park IL
11 am	Raul ♥ Silvia Assales	Roman Catholic	Buenos Aires, Argentina
Noon	David ♥ Jean Fell	Lutheran	Kent OH
1 pm	Dave ♥ Elsa Larson	Lutheran	Lincoln NE
2 pm	Brian ♥ Annika Piazza	Lutheran	Port Huron MI
3 pm	Tony ♥ Cathy Witczak Fr. Emile Frische	Roman Catholic	Philadelphia PA New York NY
4 pm	Ron ♥ Mary Jo Mohlmaster	Baptist	Akron OH
5 pm	Chris ♥ Noelma Lam Don ♥ Dianne Murphy	Roman Catholic Lutheran	Georgetown, Guyana Hudson FL
6 pm	Marty ♥ Lois Light	Lutheran	Venice FL
7 pm	(Dave ♥) Novie Cooke	Episcopal	Deltona FL
8 pm	Jon ♥ Bonnie Bell	Lutheran	Monclova OH
9 pm	John ♥ Barb Madden Paul ♥ Kathy Stanis	Methodist Lutheran	Tucson AZ Bethel Park, PA
10 pm	Kevin ♥ Raye Gynn Richard ♥ Catherine Lemons	Lutheran Episcopal	Mentor OH Eden Prairie MN
11 pm	Bud ♥ Cindy Amack Kevin ♥ Karen Mead	Lutheran Roman Catholic	Centennial CO Topeka KS
Saturday			
Midnight	Russ ♥ Ann Hillman	Lutheran	Gig Harbor WA
1 am	Frederic ♥ Jeanne Clifford Lionel ♥ Maria Nazareth Jim ♥ Detra Swenson	Roman Catholic Roman Catholic Lutheran	Dallas TX Mumbai, India Vancouver WA
2 am	Carl ♥ Dallas Presley	Lutheran	Seattle WA
3 am	Kari ♥ Anna Alander	Lutheran	Espoo, Finland
4 am	Gisli Jonasson ♥ Arny Albertsdottir	Lutheran	Reykjavik, Iceland
5 am	Joseph ♥ Anita Pragasam	Roman Catholic	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
6 am	Dale ♥ Ruth Mortensen	Lutheran	North Olmsted OH
7 am	Duffy ♥ Nan Guthrie	Lutheran	Conneaut OH
8 am	Tom ♥ Irene Vella-Zarb	Roman Catholic	Prairie Siding, ON Canada
9 am	Ibarir ♥ Ilka Cordeiro	Lutheran	Coritiba, Brazil
10 am	Clarence ♥ Roseann D'souza	Roman Catholic	Mumbai India
11 am	Arnie ♥ Sue Kaestner	Lutheran	Houston TX
Noon	Pat ♥ Judy Rogers Tony ♥ Win Phillips	Roman Catholic Roman Catholic	Shanklin, England Blackwood Gwent, Wales
1 pm	Ken ♥ Nichole Fouty	Lutheran	Waterford MI
2 pm	Jim ♥ Jill Serpe	Roman Catholic	Waukesha WI
3 pm	Dick ♥ Diane Baumbach	Roman Catholic	Merrit Island FL
4 pm	Jim ♥ Diann Daume	Roman Catholic	Cape Girardeau MO
5 pm	Fred ♥ Julie Schamber	Lutheran	Murrysville PA

	Chris ♥ Noelma Lam	Roman Catholic	Georgetown, Guyana
6 pm	Bob ♥ Darlene Kail	Lutheran	Canton OH
7 pm	Rich ♥ Jan Schleier	United Methodist	Peoria AZ
8 pm	Carlos ♥ Esther Poblet	Roman Catholic	Los Angeles CA
9 pm	Phil ♥ Paula Crow	Roman Catholic	Naperville IL
10 pm	Bruce ♥ Mary Ann Breslin	Lutheran	Canal Fulton OH
11 pm	Bill ♥ Lee Gill	Episcopal	Oxford CT
Sunday			
Midnight	Gary ♥ Ann Long	Presbyterian	Houston TX
1 am	Dave ♥ Ada Dorn Mark ♥ Kari Hooper	Lutheran Lutheran	Livermore CA Olalla WA
2 am	Dave ♥ Christine Sloan	Roman Catholic	Auckland, New Zealand
3 am	Harri ♥ Outi Helle	Lutheran	Viitasaari, Finland
4 am	Phil ♥ Trisha Friel	Roman Catholic	Portglenone, Ireland
5 am	John ♥ Brenda Levesley	Roman Catholic	Tamworth, England
6 am	Jan Torp Pharo ♥ Anne Gram-Larsen	Lutheran	Hvaler, Norway
7 am	Duffy ♥ Nan Guthrie	Lutheran	Conneaut OH
8 am	John ♥ Robin Legan Dick ♥ Jane Knecht	Lutheran Lutheran	Twinsburg OH Columbia MO
9 am	Milton ♥ Donna Kaufman	Lutheran	Wilmot SD
10 am	Don ♥ Judy Christiansen Brian ♥ Donna Zelner	Lutheran Lutheran	Saginaw MI Kalamazoo MI
11 am	Manfred ♥ Jutta Berndt	Lutheran	Hailey ID
Noon	Bob ♥ Sandy Cain Fr. Jim ♥ Donna Pappas	Lutheran Orthodox	Shelby Township MI Fresno CA
1 pm	Allen ♥ Jeannine Gray	Lutheran	Ft. Worth TX
2 pm	Dale ♥ Maureen Webber Steve ♥ Ellen Moulding	UCC/CC(DOC) Lutheran	Brunswick OH Hooper UT
3 pm	Roger ♥ Cindy Iverson	Lutheran	Tacoma WA
4 pm	Gary ♥ Mary Ann Harms	Lutheran	San Diego CA
5 pm	Chris ♥ Noelma Lam	Roman Catholic	Georgetown, Guyana
6 pm	Doug ♥ Debbie Miller	UCC/CC(DOC)	Brunswick OH



Please continue to check the website for encountered couples: www.ilme.org for lots of great information, and if you know of something that should be added, contact Jake Rabatin at jakenjune@citlink.net Note that under: "Resources for couples who have been on a Marriage Encounter Weekend" you can find the following:

- * Dialog Helps
- * Dialog Questions
- * Love Circle Presentations
- * Inviting Material -Bulletin notices, Temple Talks, etc.
- * Old interests-- Back copies of "Call to be Family"
- * Miscellaneous -- LME Graphics, Bylaws, Community Handbook, Stories, Skits, etc
- * Presenting Couples: Click on "Presenting Couples" and enter the password "LME/pc" for:
 - o Recent NAR Board Meeting minutes and reports
 - o the latest version of the talk outlines
 - o the current workbook and a replacement pages document
 - o the NAR/District/Presenter Rosters
 - o Admin documents
 - o Deeper materials
 - o Kickoff materials for KO 1, 2, & 3 plus Progression and Deselection procedures
 - o Weekend materials including the Weekend PowerPoint
 - o Copies of "The Presenter Hotline"

