

Our Love Connection



From our Ecclesial Team

Dear Loving WWME Community,

Your M.E.Q. is all your warmth and enthusiasm for WWME!

What a month October turned out to be, full of life's ups and downs!

It was with great sadness that we had to cancel yet another Weekend this year. The October weekend was canceled due to low registration counts. We hope you and your WEDS group are working extra hard on the Inviting challenge for this year. We need everyone to do their part to keep the dream of the WWME Weekend alive and well. Seems like everyone has taken some time off (including us) to watch the Detroit Tigers as they made it to the World Series! See miracles can and do happen. Let's use some of that enthusiasm in our inviting efforts!!

One of the "ups" for October was seeing so many of you at the Day of Romance. The place was full. This has personally become our annual Sweetest Day tradi-

tion! It's nice to see how many of you also have made this an annual enrichment for your relationship too. Thank you to our hosts, the Oakland Zone, for a wonderful day!

Another chance to be with the WWME community will be on Saturday November 18th, when the Macomb Zone will host Community Night. It's already marked on our social calendar! Dec. 3rd please bring your families to our annual Family Christmas Mass & Social. What a wonderful way to enter into the Holiday season celebrating God's greatest gift, "Jesus." After Mass, we will share homemade cookies & milk, and fellowship together. Look for the details for these and other upcoming activities elsewhere in the Newsletter

One of the "downs" of our October was Fr. Edmond's decision to step down from his duties as part of the Detroit Area Ecclesial Team. He writes the fol-

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ONLINE DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR MARRIED COUPLES

In praise of God on our 24th wedding anniversary, Kim and I are starting up a yahoo group to send out brief daily reflections for married couples. Being the best married couple we can be is a daily decision, so it is important to nourish our marriages on a daily basis.

Today's reflection is:

One of the primary roles of both a husband and a wife is

to help each other get to heaven.

To begin receiving reflections daily, send an e-mail (no subject or text required) to:

Daily_Reflections_for_Married_Couples-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

This yahoo group is open to all married couples, so please share it with anyone you think might be interested. It's easy to unsubscribe if you don't like it, so there's no harm in giving it a try. Go ahead and send the e-mail now!

Love & Hugs, Dave & Kim Lauzau

Columbus, OH

WEEKEND DATES

2006

♥ *November 10-12*

2007

♥ *Feb 16-18*

♥ *Mar 16-18*

From Our Ecclesial Team, continued....

(Continued from page 1)

lowing to the Detroit Area WWME Community:

After 2 years in the position of Ecclesial Priest for Detroit WWME, I find it is time to step down. My religious community is growing and we celebrate as a family. I have taken on another ministry at school and I need the time to give to both of these. I will continue to be a Team priest and give as many Weekends as I can. The weekend for me is the real ministry and the priority of my life.

Fr. Edmond DesForges OFM Conv

Please join us in thanking Fr. Edmond for everything he has done for our Area, and continues to do as he presents so many life changing Weekends. We're sure many of you have had the privileged of hearing him speak, or just talking with him. He is truly a blessing from God to our WWME community. ***We love you, Fr. Edmond!***

Another "down" for us was seeing our 5+ years of daily dialogue come to an end. We didn't stay down

long and jumped right back into our pattern of writing those special love letters everyday. We couldn't believe the pain of just one day without that special connection we grown to love and look forward to in our personal relationship. We wrote on the question HDIF as we began again in our daily dialogue?

I (David), feel disappointed that our long record was broken, but more strongly I feel optimistic. I plan to write everyday and get in touch with your feelings as well as my own.

My optimistic feeling is similar to planning a picnic on a warm afternoon. It's like an unexpected birthday present for me to open. The smell would be chocolate chip cookies coming out of the oven. It's about an 8 out of a scale of 1 to 10. The sound is the crack of a baseball bat as my favorite Tiger hits a homerun. There is a quickness to my step and an excitement in my voice.

So many feelings come to mind when I (Jane), think about beginning our daily dialogue again. I still feel a sadness or sense of failure from our long string ending. I feel hopeful, eager and determined as we

are beginning again.

The strongest of these feelings is determined. It's like trying to get everything ready for a major celebration. In nature it's a beaver building it's dam to keep the water where he wants it. My determined feeling is a strong 9 on a scale of 1 to 10. it's like a teenager working on getting their drivers license. It's a fisherman spending all day waiting to catch the big one. The color is a green light that I plan on getting through. My eyes are focused and my head is held high ready to take on whatever I face.

We pray that your daily dialogue is an important part of your relationship! God has blessed us all with the gift of the Weekend, such precious gifts are hard to come by.

As always PRAY for the couples on Weekends everywhere, and PLEASE KEEP ON INVITING!! Don't keep the Dream of the weekend to yourselves!

We're going places with God in the driver's seat!

*Love & prayers,
David & Jane Dewald*

WWME SUMMER CAMPOUT

The Larsens (Scott and Mary) and the Larsons (Larry and Jean) hosted a WWME campout at the Proud Lake State Park on Father's Day weekend June 16th to the 18th. Overnight campers included Scott and Mary and their children, Larry and Jean, and Walt and Joyce Gomulinski. The Gomulinskis brought their granddaughter and her friend. They also brought another couple, John and Maxine Sobetski. We enjoyed a wonderful game of Bocci ball after our evening meal on Friday. It was the "Lars" against the "Skis." The Lars managed to show the Skis how to play the game even though they said they had never played before.

The Day campers on Saturday included Chris and Rene Pall and their family and Roland and Judy Gamicchia. Saturday morning the Larsons got everyone together to work on a craft, making magnetic buttons. Everyone got a chance to be creative. That evening, after the pot luck super, the Larsens gave a wonderful presentation. We dialoged on the question - 'What do I think is the best thing about camping? HDMAMMF?' We are looking forward to next years camping trip. Keep an eye out for information on when and where.

Inviting

The Ashe's and the Larson's hosted a romantic Italian diner for the Downriver Love Birds. They were the winners of last years inviting challenge. They managed to present the most pulpit talks for the year. The menu included a wonderful Chicken Parmesan, Lasagna, Italian Salad, Canoli, several types of wine, ice tea and gourmet coffee. And the couples were serenaded with Italian music during the meal.

This years inviting Challenge is called "Bring them to the Weekend". The goal of this year's challenge is to be the WEDS group that brings the most couples to the WWME Weekend.

Each month from now until the dinner dance, count how many couples you personally brought to the Weekend

and tell your Area Coordinator.

The WEDS group that can claim the most number of couples brought to the Weekend gets a special basket to share at a WEDS meeting. The basket will be awarded at the Christmas Diner Dance.

Keep Inviting,

Love you all; Larry & Jean Larson

Dialogue Questions:

We are waiting to sing our song at a walk in. What is my strongest feeling as we are about to meet the couple we prayed for during the weekend?

We invited our friends to a weekend and they have registered. HDIFAT?

We haven't invited our friends to a weekend yet. HDIFAT?

Have you attended Post Encounter? If not (or if it's been awhile) then why not give it a try? **There is a post group starting after every weekend.** Usually there are 4 sessions starting a week after the weekend. Often it's on Sunday afternoon or evening.

Have your weekend memories started to fade? Is the commitment you made to each other on the weekend to really give dialogue and your relationship a boost starting to be just a distant memory?

Call **Rick and Miriam Mikulak** to find out the details of a post group that will fit your needs.
313-563-4079 mikulak@sbcglobal.net

The next group will be starting up after the November weekend.

MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW, SO YOU DON'T MISS OUT.

WORLD PRIEST DAY

The Detroit Worldwide Marriage Encounter community held their annual World Priest day celebration on Sunday, September 17, 2006. The event was held at St. Columban's Catholic Church in Birmingham and was hosted by the Macomb Zone. In preparation for the event the community dialogued on the question "Name a priest that has had the most influenced on you. DILD.

We held a Pot Luck for priests around the Archdiocese. Thanks very much to Bob and Barb Sheldrick who provided the music. They are both very talented and we are lucky to have them as part of the WWME community.

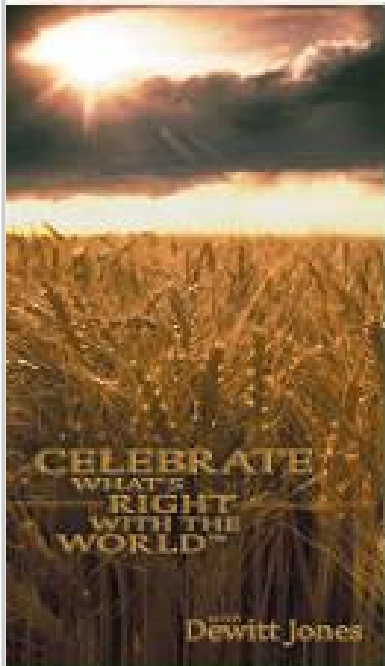
We were off to a rocky start and began to get a little worried. The Dinner was from 2-5 pm and by 2:45 the only priest that was there was Fr Syl Taube, the pastor of St Columban's and a former WWME presenting Priest. However, thanks to the Holy Spirit the invited Priests started to arrive. We ended up with Five Priest and eleven couples.

We started out with music, hugs, and conversation. Then a terrific homemade dinner was served which included salads, cheesy potatoes, chicken and ribs, and some very great deserts such as pies and strawberry shortcake. And this was just a few of the goodies, believe me no Detroit WWME event goes without good food.

We ended our meal by having each couple introduce their Priest with a MEQ (most endearing quality). Then we asked the Priest to tell us something about themselves, things like why you decided to become a Priest, who influenced you the most, and a little about your ministry. It was very educational and entertaining. The Priests laughed at each other and told jokes about one or the other. The event ended with lots of hugs.

We would like to thank all who participated and invited Priest. The food was great and the conversation was enjoyable, what more could one ask for.

The Macomb Zone.



Come and Celebrate
What's Right With
The World

We have a wonderful evening planned, featuring a video presentation by Dewitt Jones. He is one of America's top professional photographers and has spent his twenty-year career with National Geographic. The video focuses on the gift of God's beautiful creation, the ordinary made extraordinary, when seen from a different perspective. Stunning photography and powerful dialogue also help us see how we can approach our lives with celebration, confidence and grace.

Macomb Zone Community Night
November 18, 2006
at St. Rene Goupil on
35955 Ryan Road
(North of 15 Mile on the west side of Ryan)

Hugs - 7:15 P.M.
Presentation - 7:30 P.M.

**Any questions contact:
Ron and Pat Anderson at: thecityhouse@comcast.net

**WWME
CHRISTMAS MASS AND SOCIAL**

**JOIN US FOR OUR
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MASS AND SOCIAL**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2006
MASS AT 3:00 P.M.**

**HOLY INNOCENTS
26100 RIDGEMONT ST
ROSEVILLE MI 48066**

*Homemade Cookies, milk & coffee,
served after Mass in the Parish Hall*

*Make plans to bring the whole family!!!
No registration necessary!
No cost to attend!*

Please bring a dozen of your favorite homemade Christmas cookies to share.

WHY MARRIAGE?

by Mari Nichols

Because to the depths of me, I long to love one
person,

With all my heart, my soul, my mind, my body.
Because I need a forever friend to trust with the
intimacies of me

Who won't hold them against me
Who loves me when I am unlikable
Who sees the small child in me, and
Who looks for the divine potential of me
Because I need to cuddle in the warmth of the
night

With someone who thanks God for me
With someone I feel blessed to hold

Because marriage means opportunity

To grow in love, in friendship

Because marriage is a discipline

To be added to a list of achievements

Because marriages do not fail, people do

When they enter into marriage

Expecting another to make them whole.

Because, knowing this...

I promise myself to take full responsibility

For my spiritual, mental and physical wholeness.

I create me, I take half of the responsibility of my
marriage

Together, we create Our Marriage,

Because of this understanding,

The possibilities are limitless.

Happy Huggers

What's Happenin' with the HAPPY HUGGERS?

Our first October WEDS meeting was hosted by one of our new couples, Rob and Erica Olmstead, who made their Weekend in June 2006. Rob & Erica gave an inspirational presentation on "Why Marriage?" Rob shared his thoughts and feelings on why he chose Erica as his marriage partner and Erica emotionally read a poem by Mari Nichols (see page 5). After listening to their 'wedding song', we dialogued and shared on the question, "Why did I, and still do, choose you as my Marriage Partner?" Our second October WEDS meeting will be attending the Day of Romance ('Theology of the Body') facilitated by one of our Happy Huggers couples, Kelly & Lindsey Luttinen.

Our WEDS meetings are generally held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, at 6:00 p.m. (Gathering/Hugs at 5:45 p.m.), except when there is a Community Night, which we often attend as a group in place of our WEDS meeting. We welcome any couple that would like to join us for fun and laughs.

Upcoming Happy Huggers WEDS meetings:

November 5 at Frank & Debbie Pascoe's

November 18 at Macomb Community Night

December 3 at WWME Christmas Mass & Social

December 10 at Jerry & Fran Ashe's home (bring an ornament to exchange)

If you are interested in joining our WEDS Group, please contact, Joe & Pauline Rzepecki at 248-589-8067 or jrzepecki@Ameritech.net.

Hugs,
Jerry & Fran Ashe

2008 Calendar Pix Needed

In a message dated 9/19/06 Tony & Cathy Witczak wrote:

Dear ME couples,

Would you like to see your picture in the 2008 ME calendar?

Our theme for 2008 is Passion. To tie this in with the 40th Anniversary of Marriage Encounter, we are asking couples to send us two pictures. The first picture should be a romantic or passionate shot from the early years of your marriage. It could be a wedding picture, a honeymoon picture, or a picture from a milestone such as the two of you holding your first child or admiring your first home. Keep the idea of passion in mind: we want pictures that show emotional highs in your marriage.

The second picture should be a 'now' shot. It might be a picture of you surrounded by kids and grandkids, enjoying the reward of a long marriage. Perhaps a picture from a second honeymoon, a renewal of wedding vows, or the two of you enjoying an activity you're passionate about. It

should be a picture that expresses what you as a couple are passionate about...each other, your marriage, your family, your faith, a shared hobby.

ALSO, if you have any pictures in your archives reflecting the 40 year journey of WWME that might be great in an anniversary calendar, please send them as well.

We would love the pictures to be close-ups so that we can see faces. Also remember we can't use anything with a copyright on it. Pictures can be emailed to Sandee at sandee@cinci.rr.com, or they can be mailed to Sandee and David McAlpine, 514 Duane Drive, Mason, Ohio 45040. If you are sending us standard photos, please send us copies, not the originals. We will try to return anything sent to us, but old pictures are treasures so please make copies. Finally, please include names, marriage date, Encounter date, and contact information.

Deadline is December 1st, 2006.

With thanks from the 2008 Calendar Committee



2007 WWME

Little Christmas Dinner Dance

Join us for a night of Fellowship, Fun, Food and Dancing on:
Saturday, January 6, 2007 at 7:00 pm

TUCCI'S RISTORANTE
5633 ALLEN ROAD, (ALLEN & SOUTHFIELD)
Allen Park, MI 48101

**Italian food , beer, wine & soft drinks
followed by D.J. and Dancing**

Cost:\$55.00 per couple before Dec.1st /
\$65.00 per couple after Dec.1st (Priests Free)

We welcome all
Encountered Couples, Priests, Widows/Widowers
from:
WWME, NME & Retrouvaille

MAIL this form along with a check made out to *Worldwide Marriage Encounter* to:
Tom & Laura Baptist -WWME, 7426 Emerson Dr., Canton, MI 48187,
For more information: Dan & Joyce Hurley 313-388-4441 joyceanddan@hurleyhome.com

NAMES: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

WEDS GROUP: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____ Additional Contribution: \$ _____ ***

***Additional contributions are to help sponsor a couple who would otherwise not be able to attend. Any additional contribution is completely tax deductible.

Canton Kissers

The Canton Kissers met on Saturday September 23rd and the home of John and Laura Cavicchio. At that meeting, they learned about a couple who on their own, learned to write to each other in journals. A practice that they kept up for years. Even after the husband came down with Alzheimer's. They used writing as a form of communication. We reflected on what kinds of blessing that we have gotten from Dialogue. Due to busy schedules, the October 14th meeting was canceled.

As of this writing, the Canton Kissers are planning to have a meetings on October 28th, hosted by Tom and Laura Baptist. In November, we will be meeting at Mickey and

Bernie Tucker's home on the 11th. We encourage everyone to attend the Macomb Community night on November 18th, The Christmas mass and social on December 3rd, and the Little Christmas Dinner Dance on January 6th. Locations of meetings are subject to change. Give us a call and we will be happy to tell you where we are meeting. If you are looking for a vibrant WEDS group, the Canton Kissers is always open for new couples. We meet on Saturdays and try to have two meetings per month.

Call Tom and Laura Baptist on 734-453-1533 with any questions.

Detroit Area

Ecclesial Team:

David & Jane Dewald
313-274-7162

Janedave2me@peoplepc.com

Fr. Edmond DesForges, OFM Conv
(see Weekend Priests)

Post Encounter:

Rick & Miriam Mikulak
313-563-4079
mikulak@sbcglobal.net

Finance Couple:

Rick & Cindy LaFond
734-421-8690
rclafond@wwnet.net

Inviting Coordinators:

Oakland Zone:

Chris & Renee Pall
248-374-0760
retreat@thepalls.com

Macomb:

Larry & Jean Larson
586-323-9054
jmlklarson@yahoo.com

Wayne/Monroe Zone: OPEN

Other Faiths or Other Areas:

1-800-795-LOVE

Weekend Priests:

Fr. Edmond DesForges, OFM Conv
313-278-5129 x21
edmondofmc@aol.com

Fr. Chuck Kosanke
248-683-0311
ckosanke@SSCMS.EDU

Reservations:

Bill & Carol Higgins 248-528-2512
1843 North Lake, Troy 48083
birdhaus@wideopenwest.com

Dan & Debbie Waring 586-286-5524
17830 Keucken, Clinton Twp 48038
wufl@flc.org

Websites:

www.rc.net/detroit/wwme
www.wwme.org
www.ematrimony.org
http://erl.wwme.org

iBlast/Bulletin Coordinators

Rich & Jan Schnur 586-775-1205
richardschnur55@hotmail.com

Prayer Requests

Scott & Mary Larsen
ismelarsen@comcast.net

M.E. Gifts & Supplies:

East: Walt & Joyce Gomulinski
586-772-8075

wnjgomulinski@wowway.com

South: Steve & Roberta Troher
734-421-2687

no email address

Facility Couple/Webmasters

Skip & Fran Ryder
734-420-0024
skipryder@comcast.net

Zone Coordinators:

See next page

Prayer Couple Coordinators:

Oakland—

Rick & Diane Kelley—248-863-7709

Wayne/Monroe—

Rick & Cindy LaFond
734-421-8690 clafond@wwnet.net
*Macomb—*Jeff & Jennifer Freeman
586-754-4266 cloakedbook@yahoo.com
jeffafreeman@yahoo.com

St. John's Youth and Family Center

44011 Five Mile Rd.
Plymouth Mi 48170-2555
734-414-1111

Newsletter Editorial Policy

We welcome and encourage submissions from our readers!! We accept articles that support the values of the Marriage Encounter Weekend. Articles should fall into one of the following categories:

1. An incident or a period of your life that was strongly affected by living the Weekend values.
2. Teaching articles that provide support by citing personal experience, to couples, priests and religious

3. Articles about upcoming Marriage Encounter events or reports about community and sharing group events that have already taken place.
4. Poems or prayers or stories that relate to marriage and family life.

Please note: articles from other sources including the Internet must have permission to reprint included.

Articles for submission to *Our Love Connection* should be submitted no later than the 15th of the month to be included in the next month's edition.

Send all submissions to:

Mike & Kim Potter

59100 Topping Ct.

New Hudson MI 48165

byrdshot@ameritech.net

248-446-0915

We Encourage Dialogue Support Page

Oakland Zone:

Charlie & Dairdre McGlothlin
248-535-2231
dairdremc@comcast.net

Rochester (Hearts of the Hills):

Charlie & Dairdre McGlothlin
 248-535-2231
 dairdremc@comcast.net

Southwest (Happy Huggers):

Joe & Pauline Rzepecki 248-589-8067
 jrzepecki@ameritech.net

Northcentral (Lakes Area Lovers):

Jeff & Sue Bruck 248-682-3855
 sbruck@ameritech.net

Oakland West (West Side Lovers):

Paul & Amy Scheidler 248-669-5698
 amybscheidler@comcast.net

Macomb Zone:

Ron & Pat Anderson
248-601-3919
thecityhouse@comcast.net

Southern Macomb (Dream Keepers):

Walt & Joyce Gomulinski
 586-772-8075
 wnjgomulinski@wowway.com

Warren/Sterling Hts

(Passionate Partners):
 John & Sandy Palazzolo 586-826-9599
 jrpal456@yahoo.com

Warren/Centerline (Loyal Lovers):

Jerry & Dolores Papak
 586-573-0369
 no email address

Utica/Shelby/Washington

(Northern Lights):
 Pat & Cathy Clinton
 586-752-2609
 Campground6565@hotmail.com

Warren/Madison Hts

(Laughing Lovers):
 Mike & Donna Jankowski
 248-399-1817
 dmjoyfull@aol.com

and

Gary & Margie Graham 586-415-9373
 gandmgraham@comcast.net

Wayne/Monroe Zone:

Dan & Joyce Hurley
313-388-4441

joyceanddan@hurleyhome.com

Monroe (inactive): none

Downriver (Love Birds):

Eloy and Martha Vasquez
 734-692-2405
 vasquez@dwsd.org

Livonia/Westland

(The Honeymooners):

Dave & Chris Costyk
 734-464-9587

Davidcos@sbcglobal.net

Dearborn/Garden City/Inkster/Wayne (Soulmates):

Jim and Sharon Kavanaugh
 248-476-5261

Jkavanaugh@srob.com

Plymouth/Canton/Belleville

(Canton Kissers):

Tom & Laura Baptist
 734-453-1533

tbaptist@yahoo.com

Redford/Detroit (Forever Lovers):

Dan & Joyce Hurley
 313-388-4441

joyceanddan@hurleyhome.com



**Worldwide Marriage
Encounter—Detroit Area**

Editors: Mike and Kim Potter
59100 Topping Ct.
New Hudson MI 48165

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Nov 18 Community Night

Dec 3 Christmas Mass/Social

**Jan 6, 2007—Little Christmas
Dinner Dance**

www.rc.net/detroit/wwme



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.