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November 2015 Volume  
5.11.1

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## Happy Thanksgiving to you all!

The Pilgrims gave thanks for the harvest in 1621 and President Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a day of rest and a National holiday in 1863.

Did you say "thank you" to someone today?



Giving thanks doesn't need to be saved for the big things and surely doesn't need to be saved for one official day of the year! Meister Eckhart, a 13th century Christian said "if the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is 'thank you' – it will be enough."

For your couple 10 and 10 this week consider taking a moment and writing, personal reflection and couple dialogue to each other "What am I grateful for?" ... and then on Thanksgiving when you sit down with family, friends and guests, share what you are thankful and grateful for.

Take a minute today to say "thank you" to your spouse and be thankful for each other. We are certainly thankful for each of you! Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Hugs, Mike and Joni

## 2016 NME Conference Correction

We will meet you in **Stevens Point Wisconsin** (not Stephens Point as mistyped in the previous conference update) for the summer conference: August 4-7, 2016! You will find conference information in



### South Central Region

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### North Atlantic Region

Open

### Southeast Region

Open

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### National Marriage Encounter Website:

[www.marriage-encounter.org](http://www.marriage-encounter.org)

### Faith Community Leaders

Dr. Gary Chapman  
Baptist Church

Bishop Robert Morneau  
Roman Catholic Episcopal  
Moderator

### Mindful Marriage Moments



See Mike and Joni's 10/10  
suggestion in their  
introductory message.

monthly updates called *The Gift  
of . . .*

If you haven't seen them, drop us  
an email message and we will  
personally forward copies of the  
August, September, and October updates.



### NME News Team

## Weekend/Event Testimonials

*"I loved it! It has been both  
hard and rewarding. And just  
what my husband and I  
needed at this place in our  
marriage. I think it will be  
more meaningful and  
ever-lasting than renewal of  
vows could ever be."*  
Chippewa Valley



Send us your personal testimonials or ones from past or current  
weekends. We will only identify them by location as above. If your  
upcoming weekends don't appear on the list below, send us the dates  
asap. - **NME News Team**

## Weekend/Event Dates

### November

November 6-8 – Green Bay ME  
November 7-8 – Jefferson City  
November 21 – Twin Cities (Engaged)

### December

December 5-6 – New Mexico  
December 12-13 – Twin Cities ME

### 2016 Dates

### February

February 6-7 – North Texas  
February 10-12 – Central Texas  
February 13-14 – Jefferson City



## Board Tools for Affiliates

The NME Board is working on



In addition, consider the question below from Dr. Gary Chapman; also found on the NME Facebook page, July 8, 2015 as you go through these pre-holiday weeks. Share what that quote, saying, or proverb means to you with your spouse.

What quote, saying, or proverb do you try to live by on a daily basis?



### Prayer Network

Please pray for encountering couples and the presentation teams on the fall NME weekends listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

To submit your name to be on the list to pray, or to make a prayer request, send an email to: Mike and Gene Vander Heyden [mikengene@gmail.com](mailto:mikengene@gmail.com). Put Prayer Network in the email subject line.

some exciting initiatives. You will find more information in future newsletters and at the 2016 NME Conference. If there are any issues that you would like the Board to address at the conference and/or in their meetings, please contact your regional trustees or the Executive Team. See the column at the left for contact information.



One of the current initiatives is the use of Zoom for Board meetings. This option might have implications for weekend teams, small group sessions, regional meetings, and education events for affiliate leaders. **Any more ideas...?**

## NME is Thankful for Donations

Thank you for your past donations through the 2015 NME Conference and/or directly to NME using one or more of the options below. As you consider your end-of-the-year charitable contributions, please remember NME and its



mission to *celebrate, enrich, and support marriages and families*.

1. Use the [Donate Button](#) on the national website. It's easy, it's quick, and it's secure. Now you have two options. The PayPal one offers automatic recurring donations.
2. Write a check made out to National Marriage Encounter and mail it to Kent and Jeannette Babcock, 3922 77th Street, Urbandale IA 50322
3. Designate NME as a recipient of AmazonSmile Foundation when you shop at Amazon. Check the [NME website for details](#).

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