August 2015, Vol 5.8

#### **Board of Trustees**

#### **Executive Team**

Mike and Joni Stallings 650-291-1120 exec-couple@marriageencounter.org

Rev. Robert Rhyner 340 W. St. Joseph St. #5 Green Bay, WI 54301 920-437-3256 exec-clergy@marriageencounter.org

#### **Great Lakes Region**

Larry & Patti Cooper 203 Penry Road Delaware, OH 43015 740-369-0832 greatlakestrustee@marriageencounter.org

## **Heartland Region**

Steve & Peggy Steinbronn 4012 78th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322 515.278.8574 heartlandtrustee@marriageencounter.org

Britt and Candy Smith 215 Boonville Road Jefferson City, MO 65109 573-636-3712 heartlandtrustee@marriageencounter.org

# Welcome from the NME Executive Couple



Fantastic, amazing, treeemendous!

Congratulations are in order for the Jefferson City volunteers and community for a wonderful 2015 National Marriage Encounter Conference - including a new definition for our 90/90... 90°

heat with 90% humidity! We witnessed daytime lightning shows and wonderful programs and facilities, and many wonderful new and renewed friendships.

Please put our 2016 Conference on your agenda. It will be held at Stevens Point, August 4-7, 2016. Conference Committee Co-chairs are Danny and Jeanette Mace and Ron and Jane Brown, with their fantastic committee... already looks like a fantastic event. Check out marriage-encounter.org/conferences/ if you'd like to register, or contact the Browns at ronjanebrown@msn.com if you'd like to volunteer.

We want to thank each of you for your support and encouragement in our first year as your executive couple. You have an awesome executive board that is "moving us forward". Our community presenting teams have done a wonderful job of providing us our first "bakers dozen" video talks/presentations to make available to communities.

Please forward this newsletter to your friends and family. The new format has been getting good reviews! We hope you are enjoying it. Thank you, News Team!

We feel the NME prayer hour (Wednesdays at 7:00 a.m.) is an

### **South Central Region**

Spence & Shawn Jones 2843 Old Colony Line Road, Lockhart, TX 78644 512.764.2410, southcentraltrustee@marriageencounter.org

### **Golden West Region**

George & Elaine Work 75903 Ranchita Canyon Rd San Miguel, CA 93451 805-467-3233 goldenwesttrustee@marriageencounter.org

## North Atlantic Region Open

## **Southeast Region** Open

National Office Kent & Jeannette Babcock 3922 77th St., Urbandale, IA 50322 515-278-8458 nmebabcock@mchsi.com

# National Marriage Encounter Website: www.marriage-encounter.org

#### **Faith Community Leaders**

Dr. Gary Chapman Baptist Church

Bishop Robert Morneau Roman Catholic Episcopal Moderator

## Mindful Marriage Moments

As the conference is over and summer winds down, reflect and dialog on the following questions from Gary Chapman's *Love Talks for Couples* calendar. important part of our ministry. Please pray for marriages around our world! And email Gene and Mikell at mikengene@gmail.com to be added to future prayer notifications!

We are here for you! Email us with how we can help YOU! Hugs,
Mike and Joni
exec-couple@marriage-encounter.org

# **Look What You Missed**



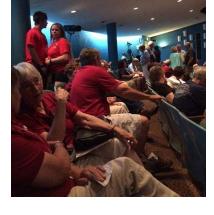
If you didn't attend the 2015 NME Conference in Jefferson City, MO last month you missed a lot of Marriage Encounter information and fun.

NME Board members led four workshops giving those who attended many new ideas to

enliven their affiliates – brochure and tract card templates, alternative schedules, new team ideas, and presentation video options. This newsletter features two of them – see Board Tools for Affiliates (in this newsletter). Future newsletters will include other ideas with links to more details.



Central Iowa ME couples (Babcocks, Steinbronns, & Holsts) share about their alternative to the weekend format.



Conference attendees waiting for the Keynote speaker to begin.





What famous person (deceased) would you like to have met?

What nonbiblical event would you like to have witnessed?

For more dialoging, you might expand it to any famous person, place, or event you would like to meet, visit, or witness.

Do you have a "favorite" dialog question? We are looking for ideas for future Mindful Marriage Moments to use in upcoming NME Newsletters. Send them to the NME News Team.

## **Prayer Network**



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

Put *Prayer Network* in the email subject line.

### **Marriage Prayer**





Dancing the night away as famous couples-see anyone you know?



Meeting up with good friends.

Want to see more photos from the conference?
Check it out at this link:
Memories

# **Weekend/Event Testimonials**

"Words cannot express how wonderful this experience has been for my husband and I. We mainly came because we thought we had a communication barrier but come to find out it was more of the emotional support that my husband and I were missing from each other. We often get busy with the daily activities of life and were missing out on what marriage is truly about."

Jeff City ME 2015

# **Fall Weekend Dates**



Please pray for these events, the teams, and the encountering couples.

### **August**

August 15-16 - North Texas August 22-23 - Twin Cities

# September

September 12 – **Central Ohio ME** September 19 – **Twin Cities** (Engaged)

#### **October**

October 3-4 – Central Ohio ME October 10-11 – Twin Cities October 16-18 – Central Texas October 23-25 – Central Coast, CA October 24-25 – Chippewa Valley

For more information about any of these weekends/events, click on the affiliate name here or go to **Weekends 2015** for the full calendar.

# 2016 NME Conference



Make plans now to attend the

Dear Heavenly Father,

Little things can make the biggest difference in our lives—the way that we hold each other, a kiss on the forehead, offering a gentle word of encouragement, a phone call during the day, a friendly smile after work...

We have a chance to fill each other's lives with joy. We have the opportunity to express our love day after day, and to build each other up.

But it's also the little things that can hurt: a discouraging word, the silent treatment, insensitivity, not communicating, distancing ourselves, ignoring each other...

Forgive us for the little things we've done without thought. Forgive us for the times we've torn each other down, and for the days we chose to follow our pride regardless of how much we hurt one another.

Help us to do better, Lord, and thank You for Your grace.

In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. – Luke 16:10

- See more at marriageprayers.today



2016 NME Summer Conference.

When: August 4-7, 2016 Where: Steven Point, WI

Registration Form (pdf)

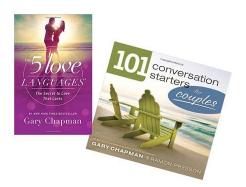
# **Board Tools for Affiliates**

The NME Board introduced a newly designed *Brochure for Professionals* over a year ago. If you would like to share brochures with professionals in your circle, we will send three copies of the brochure by postal mail to you upon request (email, phone, or letter). Send your request to Kent and Jeannette Babcock at nmebabcock@mchsi.com



Shortly after that, the Board introduced new *Public Service Announcements (PSAs)* for affiliate use. If you can help spread the word about National M.E. and want more information about the PSAs, please contact Mike and Joni Stallings at exec.couple@marriage-encounter.org.

# **Books by Dr. Gary Chapman**



Dr. Gary Chapman is a strong supporter of National Marriage Encounter. Check out these new titles whenever you have a chance. Perhaps you can use these in your Image, Circle, or community night events in your local affiliate.

# The 5 Love Languages, the Secret to Love that Lasts

Between busy schedules and long days, expressing love can fall by the wayside. We forget to compliment, to give gifts "just because," to linger in our embrace. The things that say "I love you" seem to either not get said or not get through. This is a book about saying it—and hearing

it—clearly in your spouse's language.

#### 101 Conversation Starters

Best selling author and marriage counselor Gary Chapman has developed this handy tabletop resource to get you and your spouse talking. With 101 probing questions, couples will find their relationship enhanced, their intimacy deepened, and their romance ignited. It makes an excellent Valentines Day, wedding, and anniversary gift. It helps you and your spouse get the conversation flowing.

Both of these books, and more by Dr. Chapman, can be purchased through **http://smile.amazon.com/**. And remember, National Marriage Encounter gets a donation if you purchase things using Amazon Smile.



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