

Love Notes

Newsletter of Mennonite & Brethren Marriage Encounter

SAVE THE DATE!!

Marriage Encounters

October 28-30, 2016
Kenbrook Bible Camp,
Lebanon, PA

November 11-13, 2016
Southern Ontario

February 10-12, 2017
Kenbrook Bible Camp,
Lebanon, PA

March 2-4, 2017
Interdenominational Clergy
Marriage Encounter,
Havre de Grace, MD

Engaged Encounters

Held at Kenbrook Bible
Camp, Lebanon, PA:

November 18-20, 2016
January 6-8, 2017
March 17-19, 2017
May 5-7, 2017

Held at Twin Pines Camp,
Stroudsburg, PA:
February 17-19, 2017

Romantic Night Out

February 4, 2017



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Marriage Encounter**
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Blessed in Belize

“For us, ME (Marriage Encounter) was like ice cream on a hot summer day!”

“We have been very blessed by the ME weekend. Our love has grown deeper and with it came growing self-confidence and a closer relationship with our Lord Jesus. We are so thankful for what God has done for us. We pray God’s blessing on you for caring for marriages.”

“We can never repay you for what you’ve done by coming and sharing with us.”

As I reflect on our days in Belize, I feel grateful and blessed for this opportunity for Don and I to help present a Marriage Encounter for couples from the Spanish Lookout area. We, along with Emory and Idella Otto, Mark and Barb McNally, and our support couple, Matthew and Cindy Rennie, arrived in Belize City on Thursday, August 17. The weather was hot and sticky and as we waited in the long hallway without ventilation to go through customs, I began wondering how I was going to handle the heat. It was refreshing to be met by Kenton and Norma Reimer and their daughter who had a large air-conditioned van. It was also good to get cold, bottled water soon after we left the airport.



After driving around the Spanish Lookout Community a bit, we were taken to the Cahal Pech Village Resort in San Ignacio, Cayo, where the Marriage Encounter was to take place. It was a beautiful place and each of us couples had our own Cabana to stay in. Friday we spent preparing for the couples in the presentation room as well as their private rooms.

With prayers and anticipation on my heart, the couples began to arrive on Friday evening. By starting time all 29 couples were in their seats and ready to start the first session of ME. That in itself was another sign of God at work. What a joy to meet these dear couples of all ages who were there to work on improving their marriage and to apply themselves to dialoging throughout the weekend.

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Administrators: Coming and Going

We welcome Marla Hooper as new administrator to Marriage Encounter. She and her husband, Lin, have been married for 22 years and were able to attend their first Marriage Encounter this past April. They live in Manheim, PA, with their 3 children: Jared (15) and Kate and Sara (13). Marla homeschools Kate and Sara while Jared is a sophomore at Lancaster Mennonite School. Lin has worked for over 12 years as a service representative at Choice Books in Manheim. You can also find them every Tuesday at Root's Country Market as they have a stand there where they sell books. As a family they enjoy camping, sports, games, and being with family and friends. They had been praying for some type of part-time work for Marla and so when she was approached about this position, it really seemed like an answer to those prayers and also a way to help impact marriages and families. Lin and Marla are excited to be a part of Marriage Encounter and hope to be a blessing to other engaged and married couples in the future.



For the past three years, Emily Bucher has been the administrator for Marriage Encounter and she and her husband, Kenton, have also faithfully served on the board. Emily has done an excellent job of keeping things running smoothly behind the scenes at Marriage Encounter. With the birth of her third child in the past year, however, Emily has realized it is time for her to step back from her duties to be able to devote more time to her young family. While she was sad to have to 'say goodbye' to ME, she is excited about the possibility of having more quality time to spend with her young children. Thank you, Emily, for your many hours of work and effort on behalf of Marriage and Engaged Encounter. Blessings to you and Kenton as you continue to serve Christ with your family wherever and however He leads you.

(continued from *Blessed in Belize*)

Another highlight was singing together as a group. Our team worked hard together throughout the weekend, but it was so rewarding to hear the sharing on Sunday about how this ME has brought positive changes to their marriages and how grateful they were to have us come. By Sunday evening after the couples had left we felt drained, but praised God for His hand over it all. We were so cared for by this community. This land and people are precious and I even shed a few tears as we said goodbye to Kenton and Norma at the airport on Tuesday morning. We had set out to minister to the marriages in Belize and through our being there our marriage and life was greatly enriched as well. God is so good and we are thankful for all the prayers. A special thanks to Nevin Boll for taking us to the airport at 4 a.m. on Thursday and 5 days later being there to pick us up at midnight. Many helped this ME to happen and we were blessed!

~ Twila Sauder



Romantic Night Out 2017



Saturday, February 4, 2017, at Yoder's Restaurant, New Holland

Join us as we welcome *Piercing Word* to our 34th annual Romantic Night Out. For more information about Piercing Word, visit their website at www.piercingword.org. We look forward to having you with us for this celebration of marriage. Banquet sponsors can receive information about sponsorship by emailing doris@marriageencounter.org. Reservations can be made by calling 717-284-2744 or by emailing terryann2@juno.com. Don't miss this opportunity for a great date with your spouse. See you all there!