

Spring 2024 Edition

# Love Notes

Newsletter of Mennonite & Brethren Marriage Encounter

## SAVE THE DATE!!

2024

### Marriage Encounter

November 1-3  
Christian Retreat Center  
East Waterford, PA

### Engaged Encounter

April 26-28  
Christian Retreat Center  
East Waterford, PA

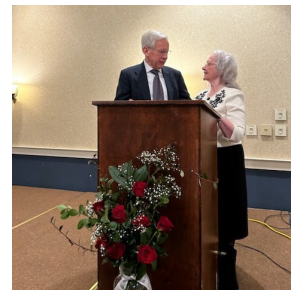
September 13-15  
Kenbrook Bible Camp  
Lebanon, PA



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## Romantic Night Out 2024

*Cherish: Treasuring Your Spouse Above all Others* was the topic of this year's banquet at Yoder's Banquet Facility in New Holland. In addition to a delicious meal, we were treated to beautiful music by harpist Joanna Marini Dindinger before Emory & Idella Otto shared with us on the theme of the evening.



What does it mean to *cherish* our spouse? To cherish someone means we go out of our way to notice, honor and appreciate them. When we cherish our spouse, our marriage goes from an obligation to a delight. Cherishing our spouse creates a marriage that is more connected, precious and satisfying.



Every conversation that we have with our spouse can take us closer or farther away from a cherishing marriage. It is easy in marriage to get in a cycle which starts with disappointment, then frustration, bitterness, and then contempt toward our spouse. However, if we call to mind Philippians 4:8, then we will focus on "what is true, pure, worthy of respect, lovely, excellent, and worthy of praise" in my spouse.

Try every day to cherish your spouse more than he or she cherishes you!

**Thank you!!** Because of your generosity through sponsorships and the offering, Marriage Encounter raised \$10,815.47! We thank God for those of you who gave so that this ministry can continue helping to enrich marriages!

Mark your calendars for Romantic Night Out 2025!  
February 1 @ Yoder's Banquet Facility

## Why attend a Marriage Encounter?

*“Refreshing. It opened avenues of dialogue for us”*

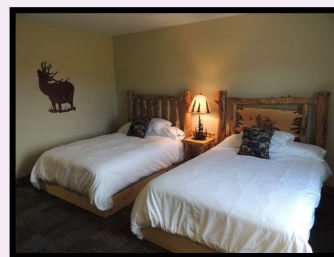
*“It gave us time to think and communicate about things in an undistracted environment.”*

*“It has deeply impacted the quality of our marriage. We were so blessed!”*

Consider making an impact on *your* marriage.



November 1-3  
Christian Retreat Center  
East Waterford, PA



## Thank You, Ottos!!



Emory & Idella Otto have recently retired from Marriage Encounter after 40 years of service. They began as a presenting couple in 1984 and have blessed numerous couples over the years with their wisdom and vulnerability in sharing their own marriage story. In addition to being presenters, they've been an integral part of the PA board for 22 years and have also served many years on the World Wide Interfaith Board. Their desire to impact marriages has been evident in their commitment both as presenters and board members over the span of many years.

Thank you, Emory and Idella, for the giving of your time, energy and gifts as you've faithfully served the ministry of Marriage Encounter!