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Here is your monthly update from National Marriage Encounter (Detroit area). The primary purpose of this email distribution is to promote National Marriage Encounter events. **This email database of over 7,500 contacts covers the Detroit, Flint, Toledo, and Lansing areas.** We can also help promote marriage enrichment activities in your community which are open to the public. Please notify us at least four weeks prior to your marriage enrichment event so our Board can consider your request. Click this [LINK](#) to view other events in March 2010 and beyond. If your event is not listed yet, let us know! [EMAIL US](#). Thank you for your ongoing support of marriage!

- You may [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.
- Please [ADD](#) me to this monthly email from National Marriage Encounter (Detroit area)

**[NATIONAL MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER](#)**

**Monthly Announcements for Marriage Enrichment**

**(Southeast Michigan Area)**

**January 2010**

**Upcoming National Marriage Encounter Weekends (Detroit area)**

**[Manresa Retreat House](#)**

Bloomfield Hills

**March. 12-14, 2010**

17 of 21 rooms reserved

**Sept. 24-26, 2010**

3 of 21 rooms reserved

**[Capuchin Retreat Center](#)**

Washington Twp.

**August 6-8, 2010**

5 of 18 rooms reserved

Only 1 of 2 wings open

**Nov. 12-14, 2010**

2 of 31 rooms reserved

BOTH wings open!

Monthly Enrichment Gatherings for all Couples  
**[DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)**

View, print, and share our:

Dear [Name\_Title],

**2010 - Wishing You Peace in the New Year!**

*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you."* (John 14:27-31)

In unsettling moments, most of us are able to find peace in quiet pastimes such as gardening, writing or music.

This Spring, many will find peace amid the sounds of nature - in the gentle peep of songbirds, the faint rumble of thunder or soft tapping of rain that brings with it serene visuals like vibrant rainbows, dazzling white buds and lively hues of yellow sprouting up from under cold, cracked soil. Others find peace in vigorous outdoor activity, like mountain climbing, skiing, hiking, biking, hunting or fishing.

Some of us find peace through our own inventiveness; in creating the unexpected out of nothing, as in painting, woodworking, or baking. On occasion, my kitchen becomes a place of retreat where I find solace in dry ingredients - my peace can be seen later on a cake plate or in a tart pan after giving rise to something fabulous out of the plainness of flour, salt and a little leavening.

These are all wonderful examples of how inner peace comes to us through "the world," but no matter how we find it, it's always short-lived.

Fortunately, Jesus' peace is "not as the world gives", (John 14:27-31). Rather, it is endless; it is rewarding, steady and dependable – it is the gift of salvation. His peace takes away our sins and protects us from evil. So when we're troubled or afraid, we can always find comfort where evil has no power - in the sanctuary of Jesus' Sacred Heart, where there is love, grace and freedom for those who seek it.

**What brings you peace?**

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**Can you donate a [video projector](#) to National Marriage Encounter?**

**We are now sharing a special video on our weekend encounters. We**

[CONTACT CARDS](#)  
or [BROCHURE](#)

We value our:  
[SUPPORTERS](#)

[OUR NATIONWIDE  
NME WEBSITE](#)

[WORLD MARRIAGE  
DAY - 2010](#)

also have a need for this video projector during World Marriage Day and many other presentations. Your donation would be a blessing to our marriage ministry.

We are happy to extend to you an invitation to the February 14, 2010 World Marriage Day event! You may want to consider giving this dinner and dance as a gift to your loved one this New Year. Just register at [WorldMarriageDay.org](http://WorldMarriageDay.org). Or complete and mail in the bottom of this [flyer](#). Questions can be emailed to [Mike & Donna](#).

Please join us for this special event; we look forward to seeing you!

World Marriage Day Committee

Don't miss the opportunity to share a National Marriage Encounter weekend with your spouse and discover God's plan for YOUR marriage! Since personal referral and bulletin announcements are our most popular forms of advertising, we sincerely thank all those "encountered" couples and church staff members who recommend our beautiful weekend experience!

The below marriage enrichment events, listed in order by date, are **not sponsored by National Marriage Encounter**. These events are open to the general public. Please help promote these events by publishing them in your church bulletin or forward this email to family and friends. We thank you for supporting marriage enrichment!

### [RETROVILLE PROGRAMS](#)

#### **A Lifeline for Troubled Marriages**

**DATES & LOCATIONS:** January 15-17, Metropolitan Hotel in Troy  
February. 19-21, DeWitt, [Bethany House](#), [MAP](#), [Lansing's webpage](#)  
March 5-7, Troy, [Ramada Plaza Hotel](#), [MAP](#)

**CONTACT:** Call 800-470-2230 (Troy area) & 517 290-5596 (Dewitt / Lansing area)

**MORE:** If your marriage is tearing the two of you apart, if there is little or no meaningful communication, if you are considering separation or divorce, Retrouville can help you. [MORE](#)

### [Marriage: God's Love Made Visible Series](#)

**TOPIC:** "Communication in Marriage – Creating a Haven"

**SPEAKERS:** Gary & Mary Straffon

**DATE:** Friday, January 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Troy, [St. Anastasia Church](#), in the Davidson Center [MAP](#)

**COST:** FREE

**CONTACT:** Loretta Wilbur at 248-689-0732, [EMAIL](#)

**MORE:** Light refreshments will be served (Freewill donation is welcomed) [MORE](#)

### [DYNAMIC MARRIAGES!](#)

**DATE(S):** See below – Eight weekly class sessions (2 hours each)

**COST:** \$130 for the material from Family Dynamics

**MORE:** Are you ready for your marriage to go from -:Good to Great? Mediocre to Magnificent? Hurt to Healed? Then you're ready for **DYNAMIC MARRIAGE!** See below for class

dates and locations:

- Jackson, Jan 17, [Grace Church](#), [MAP](#), [Regan & Leslie Puckett](#), 517-789-6155 x203
- Port Huron, Jan 26, [Port Huron CoC](#), [Dan & Anne Bateman](#), 810-982-0691 or 586-484-3164

### [Couple Prayer Weekend Retreat](#)

**DATE:** Friday, January 22, 7:30pm through Sunday, January 24, 12:30pm  
**LOCATION:** Birmingham, [Manresa Retreat House](#)  
**CONTACT:** Call toll-free: 877-626-7372  
**MORE:** This special weekend retreat will help you experience firsthand how so many couples are becoming lifelong soul mates simply by learning how to pray together safely, comfortably and consistently. Facilitators are: Deacon Bob and Kathy Ovies who created the [Couple Prayer](#) series.

### [Marriage and Family Unity Conference](#)

**DATE:** Saturday, January 30th at 7:00pm  
**LOCATION:** [Clarkston K of C Hall](#), - [MAP](#)  
**COST:** FREE - Drinks and appetizers will be provided. Just show up!  
**CONTACT:** Tim Mauro-Vetter, [EMAIL](#), (Sponsored by the Clarkston K of C)  
**TOPIC:** **Parenting our Children in Today's Culture.**  
**MORE:** All couples are welcome to join us for this informative meeting on this very important topic. Our mission is to discuss, share resources, and promote what "unites" our marriage and family unity. To eliminate what "divides" us from God, Marriage, & Family. There will be an event moderator who will ask questions to a panel of 3 married couples that have children in different generations and situations. The balance of time will be open to everyone for general Q & A. A fun and informative time will be shared by all! See this [web page](#) for more details.

### [Weekend Valentine Retreat for Couples](#) **The Three Intimacies of Marriage**

**DATE:** Friday, February 12 – Sunday, February 14, 2010  
**LOCATION:** Detroit, [St. Paul's Retreat Center](#), [MAP](#)  
**COST:** \$225 per couple; reservations are necessary.  
**CONTACT:** Marcia Guerra, Events & Marketing Coordinator, 313 535 9563 ext. 202 [EMAIL](#)  
**MORE:** [FLYER](#) Come and experience an inspiring weekend retreat for couples. Rediscover the couple you once were and enhance the couple you can be. Learn to explore the three basic foundations of intimacy in marriage: emotional, sexual and spiritual. We are pleased to have Fred Cavaiani present this program. Fred is the Founder of the Marriage Growth Center in Troy, Michigan, and has presented programs in over 190 parishes and at three major retreat houses in the area.

### [St. Valentine's Day Dinner & Evening for Married Couples](#)

**DATE:** Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 6pm  
**LOCATION:** Lake Orion, [St. Joseph Catholic Church](#), [MAP](#), in Marian Hall  
**COST:** Click [HERE](#) for further details!  
**CONTACT:** [Kathy Hasty](#), 248.693.0440  
**MORE:** Mark your calendars! Join us for a lovely Valentine's Day dinner and an inspiring message on marriage by specially chosen speakers.

### [WORLD MARRIAGE DAY - 2010](#) **Dinner, Dancing & Prayer Celebration**

## Make a Date to Celebrate Valentine's Day!

**THEME:** "Men Are from a Galaxy Far, Far Away; Women Are from Heaven-Knows-Where"  
**DATE:** Sunday, February 14, 2010, 3:00-8:00 p.m. (Doors open at 2:30)  
**LOCATION:** Troy, [San Marino Club](#), [MAP](#)  
**COST:** \$55 per couple  
**CONTACT:** Rich & Fran 586-838-4447 or Mike & Donna [EMAIL](#)  
**MORE:** Guest speakers Dominick & [Teresa Tomeo](#) Pastore and couples from marriage ministries will give short and sometimes humorous testimonies about their "differences". Some topics include: Communication, Couple Prayer, Intimacy, Parenting, etc.  
**Entertainment provided by:** [Rennie Kaufmann](#) - musician & vocalist

## [COUPLE PRAYER SERIES](#)

The Couple Prayer Series involves six evening sessions (one per week). Couples learn to pray together safely, comfortably, and consistently. Sessions scheduled in the Michigan area include:

- St Johns, [St Joseph](#), [MAP](#), Saturdays: 6:30-8:30pm starting Feb 13, 2010
- Fowlerville, [St Agnes](#), [MAP](#), Saturdays: 6-8pm starting Feb 20th, 2010
- Livonia, [St Michaels](#), [MAP](#), Sundays: 7-9pm starting Feb 21st, 2010

**DETAILS:** Experience the deep spiritual intimacy of praying with your spouse in lovingly safe, close, comfortable, and consistent ways. Experience the joy of having a soul mate. Listen to this short audio about the [blessings of Couple Prayer](#).

**[Home Edition:](#)** Couples without access to the Couple Prayer Series through a church or small group can now experience the same series with print, audio, and video at home.

**[Facilitator's Package:](#)** This package enables you to offer the Couple Prayer Series to your own church or small group!

## [FIREPROOF MOVIE NIGHTS](#)

**-with Follow-up Discussion Groups-**

### **LOCATIONS AND INFORMATION:**

- Saint Clair Shores, [St. Joan of Arc](#), [MAP](#), [Sr. Carol Juhasz](#), 586-777-3670

**MORE:** What is [Fireproof](#)? This powerful film hit the theatres for a surprising four to five week run and was in the top five for two weeks. It is an excellent movie about a fire chief and his wife who are in the midst of marital problems. The focus is not only on their situation but also on their relationship with God. Find out more about how love and forgiveness can help build or rekindle a lifelong, enduring marriage.

**Contact us by [EMAIL](#) so we can list your Fireproof related events at your church community!**

## [Focus on Marriage - Live via Simulcast Conference](#)

[Presented by Focus on the Family](#)

**DATE:** February 27, 2010

- Novi, [Crosspointe Meadows Church](#), [MAP](#), 248-669-9400, [Dan Range](#)
- Ann Arbor, [Christadelphian Ecclesiastic](#), [MAP](#), 734-997-0361

**Registration Questions: 888-952-4806**

**MORE:** Join thousands of couples all across the country as we celebrate God's design for commitment. At this marriage strengthening simulcast we will tackle Christianity's biggest

challenge—empowering you and your spouse to stay faithful, committed, and encouraged in your marriage. **Please let us know if you plan to host this event and we will help spread the word!**

## [Marriage Resource Center](#)

### [A listing of many marriage enrichment events in Wayne County, Michigan](#)

**PURPOSE:** To promote healthy marriage throughout Wayne County.

**MISSION:** To improve the quality of marriage relationships and family life for adults and children alike. We are challenged to raise awareness of programs and services available to individuals and couples at every stage of pre-marriage and marriage with a mind to strengthening marriages and reducing the divorce rate throughout Wayne County.

**CONTACT:** [Julie Bock](#), Director, 313-278-4400

**MORE:** This is a well organized site that is current and includes great resources for all kinds of marriage enrichment events and more.

Please consider these special and unique **2010 New Year resolution** ideas:

- A National Marriage Encounter Weekend getaway in March!
- An invitation to the World Marriage Day event in February!
- Any of the 3 resources below which donate proceeds to NME!

## [Order Your DVD Now!](#)

### **“A Hedge of Protection – Safeguarding Your Marriage & Family”**

10% of all sales will help benefit [National Marriage Encounter!](#)

Four powerful and motivational talks addressing the dangers of pornography and how we can combat it. For complete event details and updates, please use the following link: [BandofBrothers.biz/](#). This fantastic [Band of Brothers](#) event was hosted by three different men’s groups from St. Fabian, St. James, and Our Lady of Sorrows. Professional event taping and DVD production was done by [Saint Michael’s Media](#). A sincere thank you to all those involved. The four speakers include:

- **Dr. Dennis Sugrue**, clinical psychologist and Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Michigan’s Medical School. Dr. Sugrue serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Sexual Addiction & Compulsivity. He discusses the **psychological** effects of “Pornography & Sexual Addiction in Today’s Society”. [MP3 AUDIO sample.](#)
- **Lieutenant Ray White** of the Oakland County Sheriff’s Department. Lt. White presents “Our Children at Risk” in the electronic age of internet and cell phone/text messaging, physical and sexual abuse. He highlights the importance of parental awareness and prevention. His talk will include the **prevalence** of pornography happening all around us! [MP3 AUDIO sample.](#)
- **Tim & Ann Mauro-Vetter**, President Couple for National Marriage Encounter (Detroit Affiliate). They cover the **relational** impacts and share their testimony of “One Couple’s Journey” from darkness to healing, forgiveness, and freedom! [MP3 AUDIO sample.](#)
- **Fr. Brian Chabala**, Pastor of St. Fabian Catholic Church, discusses the **spiritual** effects on our souls and eternal salvation.

Click [HERE](#) to download the [Family Research Council's](#) 30 page report just released on Dec., 2010. This report covers the [Effects of Pornography](#) on Individuals, Marriage, Family and Community.

## **Shop at [OrganicByTheCase.com](#)**

Buy wonderful organic products by the case, save \$\$, and help us serve marriages! Order and use the promo code "marriage", and 10% of the total sale will be donated to National Marriage Encounter (Detroit Area)! **THANK YOU** - Kevin and Yvette! (NME alumni)

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below the "TOTAL" field, you may select [National Marriage Encounter](#) with your purchase. Esthers will contribute \$1 for every pound of coffee that you buy.