



PME CONNECTIONS

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PME National Executive Couples
Bill & Carolyn McQuiston Mike & Kim Moreland

Bill & Carolyn McQuiston will attend the winter Interfaith Board Meeting in Houston, Texas from January 14 - 16.

IFB meets twice a year, usually in Houston. Members of the Interfaith Board are the National lay and clergy leaders for each Worldwide Marriage Encounter faith expression are.

Spending two days in meetings and sharing meals with other leadership couples provides opportunities to learn what other WWME communities and faith expressions are doing that works or doesn't work as we build and support our ME families.

Please keep the McQuistons and the Morelands in your prayers as they travel to and from IFB and as they sit in meetings for those long days. Pray also for all of those who will be traveling to that meeting. This would be a good weekend to light a candle as a reminder of your own ME Weekend and the difference it made in your life.

2011 PME Weekends

Invite your friends and family to attend a Marriage Encounter Weekend. Aren't you glad someone invited you? Pass it on. Online Registration links are on the PME website: www.presby-me.org.

Brandywine, DE
(Mid-Atlantic)
February 18-20, 2011
February 24-26, 2011
(Church & Clergy Professionals)

Houston, TX
April 29 - May 1, 2011
October 14 - 16, 2011

Spokane, WA
TBD



If these PME dates and locations do not fit your schedule, go to WWME.org. Most Weekends for other faith expressions are listed on that website, along with many other useful links.

Dialogue Questions

1. Is Marriage Encounter relevant in today's world? HDIFAMA?
2. Am I a good friend to my spouse? My neighbors? My community? HDIFAMA?
3. HDIF when I read Romans 12:12 (NIV) "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer"? HDIFAMA?



Mission Statement

"Presbyterian Expression of Worldwide Marriage Encounter's mission of renewal in the church and change in the world is to assist couples to live fully intimate and responsible relationships by providing them with a Christian experience and ongoing community support for such a lifestyle."

Marriage Encounter, the Gift That Keeps on Giving



On your Marriage Encounter Weekend, you listened to a presentation titled, "Areas for Reaching out to Each Other". It was the second presentation on Saturday afternoon and maybe you were wishing you were watching the game on TV. Then you heard some startling words from one of the presenters, "How do I feel about being separated from you by death". If you are like most of us, you really didn't want to think about that! We didn't either but later we were glad we did.

We attended our first PME Weekend in 1990 and the following year we went on an Encounter Enrichment Experience Weekend. Not long after the EEE we were invited to discern on becoming a presenting team couple for PME. Our biggest concern was about what would happen when one of us dies if we built our future around a couples' ministry. A PME clergy wife pointed out that God would certainly have a plan for using which ever one of us was left. Now I'm learning the truth of her words.

Gene firmly believed that so long as he was here, God had work for him to do and when he finished all of those tasks, God would take him to his heavenly home. On May 7, 2010 Gene was diagnosed with multiple myeloma, an especially aggressive cancer. For the next three months we lived with cancer as best we could and as we interacted with medical professionals, patients, and their families, we saw that God was still using us in the lives of others. One nurse asked what our secret is for a long, happy marriage; on another day we were asked how important did we think a shared faith is to marriage. We shared tears, prayers, good days, setbacks, laughter, and love with many old and new friends. We realized we were sharing what we learned in ME and, smiling, said, "He's still using us." On August 10, 2010 Gene went to his heavenly home, his earthly tasks completed. And I am the one still here.

I'm not going to tell you that being the one left behind is easy. However, I can assure you that Marriage Encounter in general, and particularly that Saturday afternoon presentation, have made this transition easier than it would have been without the shared discussions, love letters, and living as an Encountered Couple. Weekend music on the radio and an ME sticker on a car bring me comfort as do the emails and hugs from ME friends. You can bet I'm glad we went on a Weekend.

CYH, Nancy Robinson

PME National Board Meeting

This board will meet via Skype throughout the last weekend of January. Meeting electronically keeps down expenses while staying in touch with each other. Board members meet at a central location for the summer meeting. The location of the 2011 summer meeting is an agenda item. Other agenda items are reports from each executive board member and from each PME region.

Members of this board include the National Executive Board: Lay Execs Bill & Carolyn McQuiston; Clergy Execs Michael & Kim Moreland; Secretary Couple Jack & Penny Runyan; Treasurers Herb & Jean Ward; Regional Executive Lay and Clergy Couples. Webmaster,

Newsletter, Supply, Outline, Outreach Couples may be included by request.

Sitting at home talking to friends on your computer may sound like fun and it is. However, it is also mentally and physically tiring. Making decisions and plans that affect encountered couples (past; present; and future) can be daunting. Every decision made and prayer said before, during and after this meeting is important to our future.

Please join us by adding your prayers for this meeting and the couples who will be present electronically. This is another occasion for lighting a candle as a reminder - January 29 & 30.

We are still changing the world, one couple at a time.