



Lovelinks

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Reformed Expression August 2007

Greetings from the North American Executive Couple



Dear ME Couples,

We have recently accepted God's call to be the North American Executive Couple for the Reformed Expression of Worldwide Marriage Encounter. We are very excited about the opportunity to serve in this capacity and work with all couples actively involved with this awesome ministry.

It is our hope as you think back to your weekend and remember the positive impact that it had on your relationship, that you will also hear God's call to help further this ministry by encouraging your friends and family to attend a weekend, by becoming involved in or starting a circle in your area to help you continue to live out the Marriage Encounter concepts, by doing a behind the scenes job to help the weekends be successful or by doing all three. We would love to hear from you and have you get involved in this ministry with us. You can contact us by calling us at 616-392-3417 or e-mailing us at brit@egl.net.

Also, we have available a wonderful resource that you can use to promote the weekends at your church or with friends and family. It includes a video of Gary Chapman (author of the Five Love Languages) encouraging couples to go on a Marriage Encounter Weekend and a video that tells enough about the weekend to entice couples to come, but does not give away anything. If you would like a copy of this DVD use the contact information above to get hold of us.

Do you have a sense of being part of something 'worldwide'? We just returned from the Interfaith Board Meeting. Each denominational Expression that is a part of Worldwide Marriage Encounter meets twice a year to support the work we all do. We gleaned a number of great ideas from the other Expressions and gained a broader understanding of this ecumenical ministry. We truly are worldwide.

Hugs,

Mike and Beverley Rannow

Dialog Sharing

Dialoging does not always have to be about a serious topic, so here is a fun one from Kevin and Christine Sall:

What is my favorite pet name that you call me? How do I feel about it?

[Kevin's love letter to Christine]

Sthweetie, ☺

Okay, I think it has to be your phrase: "That's MY MAN!" when I do something well. I like it because it gives me a sense of "macho-ness" – the BMOG (big man on campus). ☺ I feel heroic, like a type of superhero (The Homerun King - especially when the ball lands on the other side of the fence and I hear those familiar words: "That's MY MAN!")

I also feel reassured like being hugged that you love me for me – even during my not so heroic times. On the days when we don't see each other at all, I think about hearing you say "That's MY MAN!" I get a shiver down my spine when I hear the pride in your voice which leaves me feeling more and more secure in our relationship.

Finally, I feel **bold** to share our couple love with other people especially when people say to me, "Your wife is quite the fan!" I am excited to respond with, "She's MY #1 fan – MY companion."

All my ♥ goes to you!
Love always,
Kev – Your Man!
xo xo

[Christine's letter to Kevin]

Sexy,

My favorite pet name you call me is a toss up between two. I love it when you call me "sthweetie". It brings back so many memories and with those come feelings of warmth, assurance and tenderness from our "early years". It's like I am swept back on a wave that once came ashore and now is receding to the sea from which it came.

I also love it when you call me "babe". This doesn't happen very often but there is something very sexy and possessive about 'Babe' that leaves me dizzy with giddiness and desire. It sounds like you are proud and pleased that I am yours. I am thrilled when you use that pet name like I am your "hot to trot woman" rather than a stay-at-home mom of four! (Not saying I don't enjoy motherhood!)

I am delighted we could share on such a fun topic. I don't think I ever would have thought it important prior to our weekend. ☺

Love you the most,
Chrissy
xo

Here are a couple of other fun dialog questions:

If I was a flavor of ice-cream what would I be and why? HDIFAT?

If I were a stuffed animal, I'd choose to be a _____. HDMAMMF?

What was the silliest thing I ever did with you? HDIFAT?

Additional Sources for Dialog Questions:

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: <http://www.wwme.org/already.html>

Lifetime List of Dialogue Questions: <http://www.cs.bgsu.edu/maner/dialogue/>

The Dialog Companion: <http://www.wwme.org/companion.html>

Start inviting your friends and family to the weekends scheduled for the next ME season:

United States

October 12-14, 2007 Holland, MI
February 8-10, 2008 Holland, MI
March 7-9, 2008 California
March 28-30, 2008 Sioux Falls, SD

Canada

November 2-4, 2007 Kingston, ON
February 15-17, 2008 Niagara Falls, ON
May 2-4, 2008 London, ON

Register ON-LINE for these great weekends by going to www.reformedme.org or see the area contact information for registration couples below. Has it been 5 years since you attended a WWME weekend? Then it is time to give yourself the gift of attending again! Sign up today!

Mark Your Calendar for these Upcoming Reformed Marriage Encounter Events:

United States

West MI Circle: The last Sunday of each month @ 7:30 PM. The first meeting of the fall will meet at Mike & Beverley Rannow's home at 1054 Cobblestone Rd, Holland, MI.

Canada

Ajax-Whitby Circle & Oshawa Circle will be starting up again in September after summer break.

Sharing

Do you have a story about the difference that your WWME weekend made in your relationship that you would like to share? Then please send it to Beverley Rannow at brit@egl.net to fill this spot in the next addition of LoveLinks due out in October.

Are you willing and able to fill the following ministry needs?

West Michigan

Here in West Michigan we have an urgent need for people to fill the following positions to help with the smooth execution of Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends. We need a **Prayer Couple Coordinator**, **Supply Couple** and **Luggage Carriers Coordinator**. Please contact Kevin & Christine Sall to sign up, 616-772-5658.

Tri-State Area

There is a need to fill the **Booking Couple** position. Please contact Leon and Karen Schuitman to sign up, 712-722-0004.

Reformed Expression Contact Information

North American Executive Team

Mike & Beverley Rannow- Lay Executive Couple: 616-392-3417, brit@egl.net

Clarence & Hennie Van Essen- Clergy Executive Couple: 605-337-3349, yessen@aol.com

Al & Pat Tysen- USA Finance Couple: 269-375-7429, aptysen@sbcglobal.net

Harold & Diane Westerman- Canada Finance Couple: 905-623-7147, dwesterman@canada.com

Rob & Rachel Van Dam- NA Board Secretary: 616-218-8299, [rvandam1211@hotmail.com](mailto:r vandam1211@hotmail.com)

California Area

Herm & Marti Minnema- Local Exec Couple & Clergy Couple: 559-734-0918, meminnema@sbcglobal.net

Roger & Edie Dornbush- Registration Couple: 530-662-5632, redornbush@sbcglobal.net

Tri-State Area

Leon & Karen Schuitman- Local Exec Couple: 712-722-0004, leokaren@mtcnet.net

Nolan & Dorenda Van Gaalen- Registration Couple: 712-722-4022, vngaalen@mtcnet.net

Heartland Area

Les & Katrina Veenstra- Local Contact & Registration Couple: 641-628-4028

West Michigan Area

Al & Pat Tysen- Local Exec Couple: 269-375-7429, aptysen@sbcglobal.net

Jim & Kathy Molenkamp- Registration Couple: 616-538-2749, kalinefan6@yahoo.com

Ontario

Gary & Carina Oosterhof- Ontario Local Exec Couple: 613-541-3943, Oosterhof@sympatico.ca

Chris & Cindy Otten- Registration Couple: 519-393-5163, theottens@quadro.net



Newsletter Editor- Beverley Rannow: brit@egl.net

We hope you have enjoyed receiving this E-Newsletter. If for some reason you would like to discontinue receiving this E-Newsletter please e-mail the newsletter editor.