



# Engaged Encounter Notes



Diocese of St. Augustine

November 2007

Volume 14, Issue 10

## A Love Letter From Our Leaders

Dear Lovers,

Its hard to believe that the Holidays are knocking on our doorstep already. We really enjoyed seeing everyone at our early Thanksgiving feast and we look forward to the Christmas part on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

As a community, we have had a very good year and we look forward to an even better 2008. Our community has had the opportunity to minister to approximately 190 couples this year. The community has been blessed with

the addition of some very loving and dynamic new couples.

As we celebrate this season and God's gift of Jesus to us all, it is a reminder that the Christmas Season is a time for giving and we would like to thank all of you for the gifts that you give the Engaged Encounter Community and all the engaged. Thank you for your gifts of time, talent, and most of all your prayers. We feel so blessed to be surrounded by such loving, caring and giving cou-

ples. We feel especially blessed to be your local coordinators. As we shared with those at the last meeting, other EE communities are not as blessed as ours financially or with as many wonderful couples. Thank you again for all your support.

Take some time this holiday season to enjoy your family and friends and try not to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of it all.

Love to all,  
Jamie ♥ Dawn

## Prayer Requests

- ♥ For the Day family as deal with complications in her pregnancy.
- ♥ For the Preston family.
- ♥ For all of our priests.
- ♥ For all vocations.
- ♥ For Anne Storch as she continues to receive therapy for her hip.
- ♥ For the Widener family.
- ♥ For Bri's 2 1/2 year old niece and family as they cope with her leukemia.
- ♥ For the Engaged.
- ♥ For all the other Communities in our Unit, especially those who are struggling with difficult times and those who are trying to start new communities.
- ♥ For the Pendletons, as they mourn the loss of Patty's mother.

## Contact Info

Thanks to those who have given me your updated info. If you notice anything that still needs to be corrected or need a new copy of the roster, please let me know.

Thanks,

**Jamie Behmann**

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## October Meeting Recap

EE Meeting Notes - October 2007—by Camille & Denver

Thanks to everyone who joined us for a wonderful early Thanksgiving feast! Jamie & Denver treated the community to wonderful deep fried turkeys & everyone brought yummy side dishes to share.

We started our meeting in prayer for the Pendleton family as they mourn the loss of Patty's mother. We were also informed of a new addition to the EE community – congratulations to Bryan & Erin on the upcoming addition to their family!

We were also excited to welcome Bill & Judy Joyce to our community. They are a senior presenting team that vacation in St. Augustine for the winter – they are from the NJ area. We are so happy to welcome them to our community as their home away from home.

While everyone finished eating, we started the meeting with a weekend recap from the Brodeur's, the Klusman's, & the Hutchinson's. It was easy to feel the excitement that Andrew & Julia had on their first weekend presenting as a junior team. The 16 couples that attended the weekend had a wonderful experience & gave so much back to the team as well.

The community was reminded that 2008 dates have been set & everyone is encouraged to sign up for weekends as soon as possible. Two weekends in 2008 will be held in the pod. We then reviewed a report from the Kelly's concerning convention hotel locations. It was decided as a community to select the downtown Riverwalk location. A discussion was held regarding potential themes for the weekend & we voted on "Bridge to a Stronger Marriage / Community".

Jamie & Dawn then shared their experience at a recent Unit meeting in Tallahassee. Part of their sharing included a new activity that we decided to incorporate into the weekends. If you missed it, just remember that we may each look at a picture but we all tend to see something different from the same picture. For additional information please see the weekend box – directions & photos will be there.

There is an opening for a District Newsletter Team – this couple would be responsible for assembling 4 newsletters a year based on information received throughout the district. If you are interested, please let Jamie & Dawn know.

Our community had an opening for a Priest liaison but we were so excited when Andrew Klusman jumped right up & offered to fill that position...congratulations and thank you Andrew.

A reminder that the Christmas party will be held at Manny & Yvonne's on December 1<sup>st</sup> – official invitation to follow. The community decided that they would like to continue our tradition of the gift exchange. If you would like to participate please bring 1 gift per couple valued no more than \$20.

We also decided to collect funds for struggling EE communities within our Unit as well. If you would like to take part in this, please bring cash or a check payable to Engaged Encounter to the Christmas party. We are hoping that perhaps the community can match our individual donations. During the Christmas party, we will have a prayer service at which time we will burn any prayer letters received on weekends marked for heaven.

Our Cup of Love for the evening was based on the proposal story for each couple – following is a condensed version of each story:

**Bryan & Erin** – drove 3 hours for a picnic at Boc Tower Garden where Bryan proposed; after which they visited the night of lights in St. Augustine.

**Matt & Bri** – under duress, Matt got dressed & proposed... then off to Walmart they went to share their news with anyone & everyone they could at 3am!

**Manny & Yvonne** – we will all think of the chapel as the "scene of the crime"! How awesome is it that Manny proposed at the end of their EE weekend!

**Andrew & Julia** – Julia requested an intimate proposal...so of course Andrew decided to propose in front of a large group at the EMMAUS meeting! Of course, Julia never actually gave him an answer...just kidding!

**Harry & Norma** – after the Korean War they were driving around Boston & they stopped to talk & Harry realized that he never asked Norma if she wanted children...he asked her & she said of course. They started planning their life together...

**William & Marie** – talk about Divine Intervention...their priest proposed for them! After which they flew to Chicago so Marie's parents could meet William!

**Denver & Camille** – knowing how important dates are to Camille he knew that he would need something easy to remember the date...so he decided on March 1<sup>st</sup>...be the 1<sup>st</sup> to march down the aisle with me. But the 1<sup>st</sup> just didn't seem right so he proposed on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Kevin & Laurie** – It was a rainy evening in July when Kevin blindfolded Laurie & drove her to St. Augustine. He proposed to her at the Cross at Our Lady of La Leche.

**Joe & Judy** – he proposed on 9/9/66 on the Staten Island Ferry. She said no – he almost threw the ring overboard but luckily kept it & asked again...this time she said yes!

**Jamie & Dawn** – in 1996 Dawn told Jamie that he could propose anytime because they would get married during the summer of 1998. He bought the ring in July & it burned in his pocket for 2 whole days before he proposed on the beach.

# Christmas Party

## Love Taps

*On a cold night, two under the same blanket can gain warmth from each other. But how can one be warm alone?—Ecclesiastes 4:11*

*A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength.—Proverbs 17:22*

*It's dangerous to promise something to God too quickly. After you've thought about it, it may be too late.—Proverbs 20:25*

NOTE: There is **NO November meeting**. The next get-together is the Christmas Party.

This year, our Christmas party will be at Manny & Yvonne Granados' house in Mandarin at 7pm on December 1st. We will do a gift exchange. If you would like to participate, please bring 1 gift per couple valued no more than \$20. We will also collect funds for struggling EE communities within our Unit. If you would like to take part in this, please bring cash or a check payable to Engaged Encounter. Watch your mailbox for your invitation with directions.

## Excerpts of Love

Our Engaged Encounter weekend has been a true blessing to us. We learned so much from the married couples about how they view their marriages, as well as, learning that the "picture perfect" couple still has arguments and doesn't always agree.  
Ira ♥ Michelle—October 2007

This weekend was very challenging and informative. We knew coming into this we were very strong as a couple but it was not until we arrived here that we realized how close and compatible we are. We really enjoyed all the stories we heard and hope to have the same successful marriage with the Lord as our guide. Thank you very much for an enlightening weekend.  
Claudia ♥ Steven—October 2007

This weekend was a very eye-opening experience. We learned several things about God, ourselves, and our relationship. One thing we learned was that love is a decision; especially during challenging times. Another point is we must always remember to give 100% not 50/50. Love has no cut off point, and we should always strive to do better and better in our relationship.  
Stella ♥ Adam—October 2007

## Weekend Schedule 2007

Weekend	Priest	Senior	Junior	BTS	Registration	NFP	Prayer Coordi-	Follow Up Mtg
October 12-14	Fr. Sullivan	Brodeur	Klusman	Hutchinson	Helgeson	Schretzmann	Graves	10/19/2007
November 16-18	Fr. Bernie	Gibson	Oehmann	Wilkey	Hutchinson	Schretzmann	Graves	NO MEETING
December 1st	Christmas Party - home of Manny & Yvonne Granados 7pm							

## Weekend Schedule 2008

Weekend	Priest	Senior	Junior	BTS	Registration	NFP	Prayer Coordinator	Follow Up Mtg
January 11 - 13	Fr. Donal				Klusman	Schretzmann		1/18/2008
February 15 - 17	Fr. Murphy	Kelly	Anderson	Granados		Schretzmann		2/29/2008
March 28 - 30						Schretzmann		
April 25 - 27			Klusman			Schretzmann		4/4/2008
June 27-29		Kelly				Schretzmann		
July	Beach Party - TBD							
August 8 - 10	Fr. Lozier		Oehmann	Granados		Schretzmann		8/22/2008
October 17 - 19			Klusman	Hutchinson		Schretzmann		10/24/2008
November 14 - 16			Schretzmann			Schretzmann		11/21/2008
December	Christmas Party - TBD							