

Marriage and Family Ministry (MFM) Newsletter



MARRIAGE AND FAMILY MINISTRY

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Marriage Seminar on on May 9 and 10 at MWC

Discipleship Classes on Bringing Up Boys

After the successful discipleship classes on the "Five Love Languages", the Marriage and Family Ministry, in cooperation with the Adult Christian Education Ministry headed by Pastor Dave Bucci, would like to invite you to the DVD-based classes on "Bringing Up Boys" by Dr. James Dobson of Focus on the Family during the Spring semester (April-June). Andrew Edwards, a member of the Marriage and Family Ministry, will facilitate the classes.

Parents, teachers, and others involved in shaping the character of boys have many questions:

Are boys fundamentally different from girls? • What role does competition play in a boy's development? • What is a father's unique contribution to parenting a son? • What about a mom's role? • How can grandparents contribute to raising a healthy grandson? • What's the best way to educate boys? • What advice is available for single parents of sons? • What causes homosexuality? • Can it be prevented? • What should we be doing to shape the next generation of men?

In "Bringing Up Boys," Dr. James Dobson tackles these questions and offers advice and encouragement based on a firm foundation of biblical principles.

MFM table decor at Ministry Fair

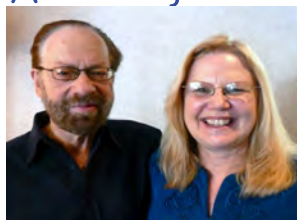
This cake topper decoration at the Marriage and Family Ministry table during the recent ministry fair attracted much attention. There was much discussion on whether the groom was running away or the bride was pushing the groom. The heading read: "Loved the wedding. Invite me to the marriage." - God. Let Him in and prevent yourself from running away from your marriage when the going gets tough!



25th Wedding Anniversary



David and Rosann Abbott
February 25, 1983



Michael and Pat Smolanoff
March 12, 1983

The Marriage and Family Ministry invites you to a marriage seminar on "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage," a DVD-based series by Mark Gungor (senior pastor of Bayside Church in Wisconsin, speaker, author, musician and producer) to be held on **Friday, May 9 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 10 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the church sanctuary.** Please mark your calendars. **Participation is FREE;** purchase of the book "Laugh your Way to a Better Marriage" is optional but highly recommended. Participation is encouraged not only of married but also engaged couples, single adults and even those from outside the church (particularly family and friends who need or will benefit from this seminar).

A brief description of "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage" seminar from www.laughyourway.com states that unlike many traditional marriage seminars that tend to be overly serious, technical and emotionally taxing, the "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage" seminar is different because it helps couples deal with tough issues in a way that is fun and non-threatening. Through the two-day seminar, couples will laugh, learn and be able to make real positive changes to their marriage. Why a "laughter" approach to a marriage seminar? For one simple reason: to overcome the male objection to a seminar. Let's be honest, a marriage seminar isn't the first thing a guy thinks of when he thinks of "a fun way to spend the weekend." Familiar with the fact that women are usually much more open to discussing marital problems than their spouses, this seminar is designed with an element of humor that appeals to couples, but is especially well-received by men. By making the seminar fun and non-threatening, more men are open to attending and both husband and wife end up having a fantastic time. However, while this event is fun, it is anything but light and ineffective. Mark's great content and unique approach to troubled marriages has yielded one of the highest success rates in the country. Sessions include the "Tale of Two Brains", "Why Does He/She Do That (the Flag Page)", "How to Stay Married and NOT Kill Anybody" and "The #1 Key to Incredible Sex!"

Sanctity of Life Speaker at Prayer Night



Lorrie Erli (fourth from left), Executive Director of Solutions Health and Pregnancy Center, was our guest speaker during the Sunday prayer night on January 27. It was the culmination of a week-long celebration of the sanctity of human life. This year it was celebrated from January 20-27 and marked the 35th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion in the United States.

"Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it." Psalm 127:1

Valentine Dinner-Dance: A Huge Success

It was an evening to remember for MWC saints! A total of 102 singles and couples attended the Valentine Dinner-Dance at Sunny Palace on February 9. It was a night of great food, fellowship, fun and dancing. Never-before-seen dance moves from MWC saints were unleashed that night. The romantic side of couples were unveiled during the games for couples, which won for Tony Wilkinson the title of "Most Romantic Man of the Night" and Grace McKeown as the "Most Romantic Woman of the Night." Karen Worthy won the game for the singles. Our very own Dr. Dave Abbott, the featured speaker, delivered a powerful presentation to remind everyone of the importance of integrity in any relationship, particularly in marriage.

Donated prizes were given away with the top prize (a Garmin Nuvi 260 GPS navigation system and a gift certificate for a fully-paid registration at any Weekend to Remember marriage conference) going to Ken and Paulette Schulte. Ken gave a touching testimony as he and Paulette received the prize, which they said showed God's continued provision and faithfulness in their lives.

The evening grudgingly ended at 11 p.m. for the MWC church family and friends, who are already looking forward to next year's Valentine event! Many thanks to all who participated in and helped organize this event! See you next year!

