

HAWAII INTERFAITH MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

WEEKEND APPLICATION
(PLEASE PRINT)

LAST NAME _____ HUSBAND _____ WIFE _____
ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ WEDDING DATE: MONTH _____ DAY _____ YEAR _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

WE WERE INTRODUCED TO MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER BY: _____

WE WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE WEEKEND OF: _____

WE HAVE _____ HAVE NOT _____ ATTENDED AN INFORMATION SESSION

CHILDREN'S NAMES AND AGES _____

BABYSITTER'S NAME AND PHONE NUMBER _____

PLEASE MAIL THIS APPLICATION PLUS A NON-REFUNDABLE REGISTRATION FEE OF \$75 TO:

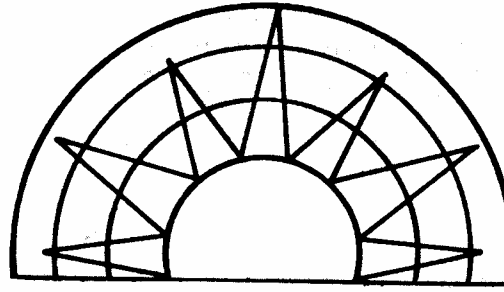
HAWAII INTERFAITH MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

P.O. BOX 30532

HONOLULU, HI 96820

PHONE: (808) 422-5474

www.hawaiiinterfaithmarriageencounter.org



MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER IS:

An Interfaith ministry based on Judeo-Christian concepts open to couples of all faiths and cultures. A Marriage Encounter (M.E.) Weekend gives married couples an opportunity to reactivate, improve and grow in their couple communication. It is a special weekend program offered in a comfortable setting designed to give couples a chance to get away from the everyday routine of life and to spend time together exploring their marital relationship.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER IS NOT:

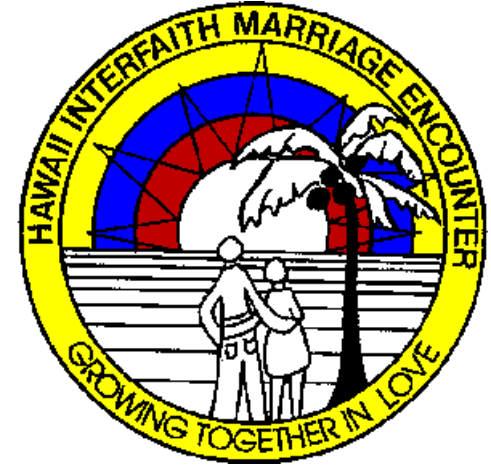
A sensitivity group. There is no group discussion or dialogue—no group dynamics. There is no counseling by the team couples. It is not a weekend of quick remedy for your marriage concerns. It is not a time to go over mistakes of the past. Things discussed are those that are important to the moment. It is not a retreat—in the sense of a withdrawal from the world. What is taught is applicable to everyday life from this weekend on.

WHAT IS THE COST?

A \$75 per couple registration fee is requested to confirm your reservation. At the conclusion of the weekend, you will be encouraged to make a free-will donation. A Team Couple will explain to you the approximate per-couple cost for the weekend. However, no one has ever been refused an Encounter based on lack of funds.



**FOR MARRIED COUPLES
BELIEVING IN LOVE...**



...MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

WHAT IS MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER?

The Interfaith Marriage Encounter is a private weekend, designed to give married couples the opportunity to examine their lives together - their weaknesses and strong points, their attitudes towards their families, their hurts, desires, ambitions, disappointments, joys and frustrations and to do so openly and honestly in a face-to-face, heart-to-heart encounter with the one person they have chosen to live with for the rest of their life.

The emphasis of the Interfaith Marriage Encounter is on COMMUNICATION between husband and wife, who spend a weekend together, away from the distractions and the tensions of everyday life, to concentrate on talking deeply with each other.

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER?

Through a series of presentations by teams of married couples, an opportunity is given for a husband and wife to look at themselves and their lives; to look at their marriage and their relationship with each other; to look at their relationship with God; to look at their marriage and their relationship with society.

After each presentation, a period of time is allowed for personal reflection on a question relating to the presentation topic. This is followed by a period of time for each couple to exchange their answers and to dialog about their feelings . . . IN PRIVATE.

With the help of the questions and the periods of personal reflection and conjugal dialog, each couple is offered time to experience the joy of deepening their relationship. How each couple benefits from the weekend is a direct result of how much they put into the weekend.

The team couples are trained in the dynamics of the weekend and their responsibility is to set the atmosphere for husband and wife to re-discover each other.

HOW DOES MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER HELP A MARRIAGE?

The Marriage Encounter does not end with the conclusion of the weekend. By continuing the communication process learned over the weekend, husbands and wives are empowered to live more joyful and purposeful lives



WHO IS IT FOR?

Marriage Encounter is for ALL marriages. It is for any couple desiring to better their marriage; those with good communication, to deepen it; those with poor communication, to improve it; those with no meaningful communication, to learn how to communicate effectively. For all who are willing to be open to this particular method, it is a means of restoring or reawakening their love for each other. Newlyweds as well as couples married over 50 years have participated in Marriage Encounter.

INVENTORY QUESTIONS (OF WHO SHOULD ATTEND)

- ♥ Do you and your spouse have trouble being understood? Yes () No ()
- ♥ Do you wish to get more out of your marriage? Yes () No ()
- ♥ Do you want to deepen your respect for each other? Yes () No ()
- ♥ Do you wish you could communicate effectively? Yes () No ()

If you answered “yes” to any one of the above questions, then Marriage Encounter may be able to help you put your marriage on the right track



THE HISTORY AND GROWTH OF MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Marriage Encounter is a program developed in the mid 1960's by Father Gabriel Calvo and the couples with whom he worked. He brought it to the United States in 1967, and since then, it has spread rapidly across the U.S. and in many other countries. Hundreds of thousands of couples have made a Marriage Encounter. It is given at retreat centers, in church facilities, private homes and schools, as a ministry to married couples to help them grow together in love.

WHAT IS THE SECRET?

There are three basic reasons why encountered couples are able to be honest with each other:

1. They see other couples working to develop a deeper understanding, and they feel the strong support and concern for them to privately reveal themselves to their spouses.
2. The presenting teams set the atmosphere for open and loving communication. They share a method of, and provide the opportunity for a truly deep husband-wife communication. The sharing of deeply personal real life experiences from their own lives make it easier for the couples to develop trust, confidence, and understanding in their marriage dialogue.
3. Husband and wife share themselves—their hopes and fears, frustrations, joys and sorrows, at an ENCOUNTER. The weekend presents the gift of time, free from the tensions, pressures and interruptions so often present at home. In the encounter atmosphere, the ability to share feelings can take root.

WHAT DO COUPLES WHO HAVE BEEN TO MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER SAY?

- ♥ “We gained a feeling of closeness and let down barriers that blocked communication.”
- ♥ “M.E. allowed reaffirmation that we’ve been doing an awful lot of things right in our relationship.”
- ♥ “We gained the ability to open up to each other and to get out some feelings that we have kept in for a long time.”
- ♥ “We fell in love all over again.”
- ♥ “We gained the feeling that our relationship had a lot more possibilities than we were seeing—if we so choose.”
- ♥ “We felt a beginning of real unity in our marriage.”
- ♥ “We learned the tools of reflecting and dialoguing that bring a daily focus upon our relationship.”
- ♥ “We became more committed to one another and to the deeper meaning of our marriage.”