

every marriage matters

From: Every Marriage Matters

Sent: Wednesday April 1, 2015 at 6:00 AM

To: tomdressel@comcast.net

Subject: [Every Marriage Matters] Could you use a bit of help building marriage ministry in your church?



Five Minutes for Marriage April 2015

Stronger marriages make a stronger church, not visa versa.
FamilyLife

Dear Tom

Could you use a bit of help building marriage ministry for your church? Shanin Engman is available to assist on a consulting basis. She has much experience doing just that. And wants to see marriage prosper across our region. In her words:

"As a leader or pastor I don't need to convince you of the need for solid marriages in your church. I'm sure that like me you have seen the direct effects on your congregation when marriages are going well and when they are not. However, because of the demands of full time ministry many pastors/leaders get caught in a cycle of responding to crises instead of preventing it. That's a tough cycle to break and it is hard to find the bandwidth to do anything differently. That is where I come in.

"I would love to work with you to help you develop a strategy that's personalized for your church to build up marriages, regardless of your church size. I can also train and equip your volunteer leaders to lead, and we'll impact the marriages in your church in such a way that they better reflect Christ to your community."

Contact Shanin via email Shanin.engman@gmail.com or 503-317-0713 to set up a free consultation.

In This Issue

Bulletin Insert Six habits to strengthen relationships.

Upcoming Events around Greater Portland. We'd like to include the event/class you are hosting

January's Video Clip: Rabbi Daniel Lapin appeared on the Glenn Beck show to discuss a miracle drug that wipes out many of our destructive social pathologies.

Announcing

Financial help to pastor couples seeking counseling

Upcoming Events:

Date Night PDX and Comedy Night

Marriage in the News:

Celebrating Your Brilliant But Imperfect Marriage

God Didn't (and Won't) Tell You to Marriage Your Spouse

How Can Schools Address America's Marriage Crisis?

How to Save Big on Wedding Day Food

The 3 Best Ways You Can Protect Your Pastor's Marriage

Advice to Singles: You Can Lower Your Risk of Divorce

Last Words:

Divorce Is Where Two Adults Take Everything

Attending Religious Services as an Adolescent

Announcing: Financial help to pastor couples seeking marital counseling.

Every Marriage Matters is committed to helping pastors and those in full time ministry have a strong, fulfilling positive marriage. Christian counseling can be very helpful, but it also can be expensive. It can also be difficult to know who to trust in terms of finding a counselor who is well-trained, confidential, pro-marriage, Christian-based and professional.

We have screened professional counselors in the Portland Metro area fitting the above criteria. We also have been provided funds by several individuals who have a heart for the marriages of those in ministry.

Your [Application](#) for assistance will be evaluated to place you with counselors meeting your needs and proximity as well as the funds we have available. You need to be prepared to pay a \$25.00 co-pay directly to the counselor per session. The confidentiality of your identity and information is of great importance to us.

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DATE NIGHT PDX

The 4th Annual Date Night PDX is coming to you in August! Join in and encourage others to Date 4 Times in 4 Weeks to vitalize their relationships. Couples that date weekly are 3 times more likely to say they are very happy than those that don't.

Every Marriage Matters want to make it easy for you to encourage couples to build healthy marriage having fun doing it. Get [A Plan To Accomplish Date Night PDX](#) as well as downloadable helps and get started.



The DateNight Comedy Tour on Friday, August 7

Kick off Date Night PDX with great comedy. Presenting hosts Dave and Nanci Lowe, and comedians John Branyon and Jason Earls. It will be a great start to getting back in the habit of having fun dates.

The Comedy Tour will be live at City Bible and also available to your church via a streaming internet download. Tickets to the live event will go on sale June 1 for \$20/couple.

[A Plan to Accomplish Date Night PDX](#) gives a plan to encourage couples to attend the live event, or to bring the Comedy Tour to your church.

Questions? Call Tom Dressel at (503) 655-1489

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[Celebrating Your Brilliant but Imperfect Marriage.](#) Even though Michelangelo tried to limit himself to sculpture, we still think of him as among the best of the best painters, don't we? Like Michelangelo, every brilliant marriage has its points of limitations as well. Some couples do very well financially. They have their budget, their steady stream of revenue; even their kids have their budgets. Other couples know how to throw great parties, or they excel at vacations. Still others build show homes. Other couples are just fantastic at raising their kids. They just get it. Their kids are amazingly educated, well-behaved, they love the Lord. But here's the thing: no married couple is all of the above. (Gary Thomas, his blog)

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[God Didn't \(and Won't\) Tell You to Marry Your Spouse.](#) To these and many others who said, "God told me to marry him/her," I want to cry out, "No, He didn't." How can I say that? My response is simple: How can you say the opposite? There is nothing in Scripture that suggests there is just one person we're 'supposed' to marry. (Gary Thomas, his blog)

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[How Can Schools Address America's Marriage Crisis?](#) What if "college as a springboard to the middle class" isn't the only strategy? What about "marriage as a springboard to the middle class"? Particularly marriage before childbearing? Or what researchers call the "success sequence": get at least a high school diploma, work full time, and wait till you are at least 21 and married before having children.

They estimate that 98 percent of individuals who follow those three norms will not be poor, and almost three-quarters will be solidly middle class. On the flip side, three-quarters of young people who fail to follow any of those norms will be poor, and almost none will be middle class.

Maybe it's not so ridiculous to ask, What can schools do to encourage young people to follow the success sequence, including putting marriage before children? (By Michael J. Petrilli, EducationNext)

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[How to save big on wedding day food.](#) Here are some ways to lower the cost of catering your reception, which is typically the biggest single item on a couple's wedding budget. (By Associated Press, FoxNews.com)

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[The 3 Best Ways You Can Protect Your Pastor's Marriage.](#)This is an article addressed to church elders and those who support their pastors. It discusses some common stressors and offers suggestions for the nurture of their pastor's marriage. (by Pam and Bill Farrel, CrossWalk.com)

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[You Can Lower Your Risk of Divorce: Advice to Singles.](#) Couples marrying today still face a substantial lifetime risk of divorce. Even if the risk drops to around 40 percent, that's a lot of divorce. However, you are not a statistic, and you can do things that impact your likelihood of lasting love in marriage. (by Scott Stanley, Sliding vs Deciding blog)

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Last Words

Divorce is where two adults take everything that matters to a child -- the child's home, family, security, and sense of being loved and protected -- and they smash it all up, leave it in ruins on the floor, then walk out and leave the child to clean up the mess. -- Michael Reagan (the adopted son of Ronald Reagan and Jane Wyman in writing of his parents' divorce)

Attending religious services with a parent in late childhood may foster greater psychological well-being as children age, finds research conducted at Ball State University. Scientists examined data on 5,739 adolescents over age 15 and found that even though attending services with parents did not always reflect a youth's own religious beliefs, it was associated with adolescents feeling greater connectedness to both their parents and the larger religious community. (journal of Family Psychology, December, as reported by APA Monitor, March 2015)

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Dave and Margaret Armentrout. Dave serves as Vice President, he is a retired manager. Margaret serves as a Director, she is a homemaker and former high school teacher.

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What a precious gift your Lord has given you: your spouse! Treasure that gift as you treasure your relationship with God. Strengthen both of these relationships by spending time with them. Pray together! Rejoice together! Laugh together! Rejoicing,

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