



# Stay Connected

January 2007

An online newsletter for the worldwide TEC Family

## Encountering the Gift of God's Son in the New Year

Dear TEC Family,

Our Savior has come as a baby filling us with wonder, awe and thanksgiving. He presents us now with a new year to receive this gift of God-Made-Man. What does this mean for us--as believer, disciple and family? **How will we allow this gift to enter our own personal world, the world of our family, the world of our ministry?** Enjoy 2007 to the fullest as it unfolds.

As last year came to a close, I had the opportunity to participate in a day-long workshop in Omaha, Neb. with the three TEC communities in that state--Grand Island, Lincoln and Omaha. There were about 30 of us in attendance. **We reflected on the spiritual processes of TEC, personal Mystery, and how we mentor our Church.** As I traveled out to number of geese flying in formation to land and refresh themselves, I've seen before, so didn't give it began reflecting on the process I noticed that they have a definite on each other and rotate their leadership; they change directions as a group and draw strength from those around them. The leader of the group retreats to the back to rest and become refreshed in order to lead again in the future. The entire group is necessary to accomplish their plan of action. All gifts are used.

*"He presents us now with a new year to receive this gift of God-Made-Man...What will we do with this gift: both individually and as a community of faith?"*

I wondered how this same approach would assist our TEC Family. What would we gain by using a similar plan of action in our communities? How can we create a new freshness for our leaders? Have we taken time to develop a plan of action that all will be a part of? As TEC leaders, how many of us have looked over our shoulders recently to see if the community is still following us or have veered of on their own? Are we clear enough about who we are, who we are called to be, and what our mission is in Christ? Are we continuing to learn and grow together as a community? **Is Paschal Mystery spirituality at the heart of everything that is done in TEC?** Do we have the right combination of practical skills to accomplish our work? These are questions that need to be continually tested in the coming years as we discern how to best respond to the needs of the young people, adult leaders and communities within the TEC Movement. They will help us identify where our individual communities are truly at and the steps needed for our renewal. **Let us be bold in proclaiming the GIFT OF TEC to the Church.** What will we do with this gift: both individually and as a community of faith?

## *Living in the Light of the Son*

In 2006, we saw three TEC Communities close and three others that started discerning the same question. Twenty TEC weekends were cancelled. What other signs do we need to recognize that prayer and renewal is necessary for TEC to remain strong? On the positive side, two new TEC communities are in the process of forming. We are trying our best to offer them both the support they need to make the right choices in terms of formation and leadership. Please pray for them.

I also invite you to check out the second page of this newsletter for information on the 2007 workshops. There are currently five planned, and room for others to be scheduled. **In addition, the new TEC Family Adoration prayer campaign is underway with three communities already on board. You're invited to join us in prayer, and then watch what the Lord will do in response. He will not be out done.** May the Lord bless you with the openness to receive His grace in the fullness He wants to give it to you.

Yours in Christ,

**TEC Conference Director**



*Miami Sunshine TEC hosted the latest Renewing the Vision workshop at St. Thomas University in Miami, Fla., Dec. 8-10.*

## Join TEC Family Adoration

Help pray for the entire TEC Movement before the Blessed Sacrament as a united TEC Family. Our end goal is to have at least one TEC community praying each day of the month. Thank you to the three TEC communities who have already signed up:

Northwest TEC (first Wednesdays)  
Spirit of St. Louis TEC (first Tuesdays)  
Peoria TEC (first Wednesdays)

[www.TECconference.org/TECFamilyAdoration.htm](http://www.TECconference.org/TECFamilyAdoration.htm)

## A Friendly Reminder...

Are your TEC weekend dates listed on the Conference website? If not, email: [office@TECConference.org](mailto:office@TECConference.org). Thanks!

## 2007 TEC Congress :

### "Mary: Guide to Perfect Discipleship"

Using Mary as our "Guide to Perfect Discipleship," this year's Congress, sponsored by River of Life TEC (Diocese of Cape Girardeau/Springfield, Mo.) **will examine what it means to truly be a disciple of Jesus in the TEC ministry.** We will be exploring the topics of:

- ◆ Prayer: The Foundation of Discipleship
- ◆ TEC: Building a Community of Disciples
- ◆ Mary & John: Inviting Young People to Discipleship in the TEC Community
- ◆ Mary's Life of Discipleship: From Her "Yes" to Pentecost



### Congress Delegates:

Please let the TEC Conference know the two people who will be attending the special delegate session on Sat., July 14 from your TEC community. **Email: [office@TECConference.org](mailto:office@TECConference.org) or call (636) 933-9233 by Mon., June 25 with that information.** There will be concurrent sessions available for all other Congress participants.

### Registration Information:

**Date: July 13-15, 2007**

**Place: Notre Dame High School**  
Cape Girardeau, Mo.

**Congress Cost:** \$65 (program and meals)

**Lodging: Pear Tree Inn,** (573) 334-3000 or  
**Hampton Inn,** (573) 651-3000

*(Mention TEC to get discount rates when calling)*

**Flight Information:** St. Louis is the closest major airport to the facility. Please allow for a two-hour drive time. Connecting flights to Cape Girardeau via small planes are also available through American Airlines.

### Congress Contact:

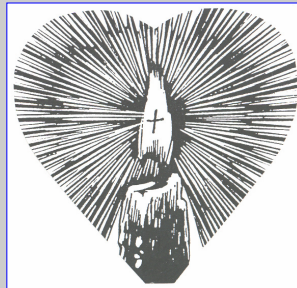
**Tom Schumer, Congress Chair**

(573) 334-0948 or [tjschumer@hotmail.com](mailto:tjschumer@hotmail.com)

[www.TECConference.org/2007Congress.htm](http://www.TECConference.org/2007Congress.htm)

## TEC Family Gatherings...

### Renewing the Vision of TEC Workshop



**Feb. 17-19, 2007**  
**Immaculate Conception**  
**Augusta, Mo.**

Contact: Mary Varni  
(636) 629-8052 or  
[marylovee@yahoo.com](mailto:marylovee@yahoo.com)

**July 6-8**  
**Brescia University,**  
**Owensboro, Ky.**  
Contact: Anna Conn  
(270) 389-2753 or  
[annadc18@hotmail.com](mailto:annadc18@hotmail.com)

### Spiritual Directors Workshop



**June 25-28**  
**LaSalle Retreat Center**  
**Wildwood, Mo.**  
Contact: TEC Conference  
(636) 933-9233 or  
[office@TECConference.org](mailto:office@TECConference.org)

Team includes:  
**Most Rev. Roger L.**  
**Schwietz, OMI &**  
**Most. Rev. Blase Cupich**

### Communities of Faith & Follow-Through



**May 4-6**  
**Magnificat Center of the**  
**Holy Spirit**  
**Ponchatoula, La.**  
Contact: Billy O'Regan  
(504) 231-8123

**June 1-3**  
**Central MN TEC Center**  
**Little Falls, Minn.**  
Contact: Fr. Ken Opat  
(320) 532-4455  
[ken.opat@cmtec.org](mailto:ken.opat@cmtec.org)

**Anchorage, Alaska**  
**Dates and location TBA**

### TEC Conference Poland Pilgrimage



**Oct. 22-31**  
Contact: Catholic Trips  
(877) GOD-TRIP

**For complete itinerary**  
**visit online at:**  
[www.catholictrips.com/itin/tec\\_poland.html](http://www.catholictrips.com/itin/tec_poland.html)