

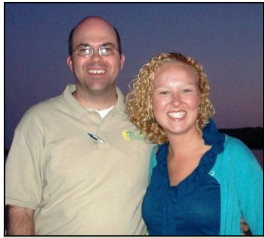


Spring 2010

Communicator

UNEXPECTED BLESSINGS

BY BILLY O'REGAN - TEC CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL CHAIR



Billy & Sara O'Regan

In July 2005, I traveled with a group of friends from TEC New Orleans to Belleville, Ill., for the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the TEC Movement. I was brimming with anticipation at the prospect of sharing my local experi-

ences with others and hearing about TEC in other dioceses. Having just completed my second year on the core group of my local TEC center, I knew what I had to share. This article is about some things I was not prepared to experience on that weekend in Belleville and in the time that has followed.

The first unexpected thing came on the second day of the gathering. After watching Fr. Matt Fedewa and Dorothy Gereke from afar, I eventually ventured close enough to take a picture with them. But at the moment Fr. Matt reached out to shake my hand and say hello, my heart swelled with unexpected emotion and I managed to say something to the effect of, "My name is Billy... I'm from New Orleans and I just want you know how important TEC has been in my life... I don't think that I would know Jesus in the way that I know Him today had it not been for TEC, and I am grateful to you." It was an unscripted moment for me and, frankly, it was a little bit like meeting The Beatles - I'm surprised that I did not lose consciousness and hit the deck!

The second thing that I did not expect is that, two months later, my family, my friends, my TEC community and my entire city would be torn in multiple directions by Hurricane Katrina and the catastrophic levee failures one day later. Putting our lives and our TEC community back together was no small undertaking. But I'm happy to report that TEC not only survived but thrived in the months and years after Katrina because it was one of the places where people could find their social network and some sign of normalcy in the midst of chaos.

During the rebuilding, I took a phone call from the TEC Conference with an invitation to become the Louisiana State Representative to the TEC Leadership Council. Becoming involved with the TEC Conference has been deeply fulfilling for me. Our work at bi-annual council meeting (and our work over the phone and e-mail) is truly collaborative

and truth seeking. And, in spite of my relatively young age and lack of national TEC experience, from my first day "on the job," I felt like I had something to contribute. The members of the TEC Council have become mentors, advisors and friends. I call upon them for advice and ideas which will benefit my local TEC center, but also for prayers and support in my personal life. These friends have been valuable to me and my local TEC Family.

In the beginning, I think that what I had to share was my local experience of TEC. I imagined that the Council was like a collection of mosaic tiles from different dioceses, which, by coming together, create something new. However, with time, I have learned that it is not necessarily the mosaic of local experiences that makes the TEC Council what it is, but rather the desire of each member to think beyond the local. This is a challenge for me because the TEC of my personal experience is centered in one diocese with its own special gifts and idiosyncrasies.

When I was recently given the opportunity to serve as chair of the Leadership Council, I felt a deep sense of responsibility to widen my view because the TEC Conference and TEC Leadership Council are entrusted with the care of the entire TEC Movement. We want future generations of youth and young adults to have the same encounter with Christ and the same lived experience of the Paschal Mystery that changed so many of us. This has been the most unexpected blessing of all - that my local understanding and experience of TEC has been expanded to embrace not only my encounter with Christ back at home, but also a new encounter with him through the wider TEC Movement. Now, at the end of my term as chair of the Leadership Council, I can see some of the blessings and challenges that lie ahead for the Movement. For example, I am aware that although many states and episcopal regions are represented on the TEC Council, there remain many which are not. This absence not only diminishes the variety of voices on the TEC Council, but also deprives local TEC centers of a broader view of the TEC Movement. This expanded experience of TEC, which can come from participation on the TEC Council, can and does help local TEC centers find creative solutions to problems and benefit from other TEC centers' successes and failures.

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2010 TEC Congress
Kansas City, Kan.,
July 23-25, 2010

**TEC:
A Catholic
Movement of
Spirituality
for Older
Adolescents
& Young Adults**

TEC Conference Leadership



TEC Movement Founders:

Fr. Matthew Fedewa, Michigan +
Dorothy Gereke, Florida

Episcopal Moderator:

Bishop William Patrick Callahan, OFM Conv,
Wisconsin +

Episcopal Moderator Emeritus:

Archbishop Roger L. Schwietz OMI, Alaska +

Bishops Committee

Archbishop Alexander Brunnett (Seattle, Wash.)
Archbishop Elden F. Curtiss (Omaha, Neb.)
Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory (Atlanta, Ga.)
Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl (Washington, D.C.)
Bishop Paul S. Coakley (Salina, Kan.)
Bishop Ronald W. Gainer (Lexington, Ky.)
Bishop Emeritus Victor Balke (Crookston, Minn.)

*** Leadership Team (not listed below):**

Janice Kilgore, Minnesota

Region Coordinators:

Billy O'Regan, Louisiana, Region 5 * +
Kathy Casey, Michigan, Region 6
Penny Wolf, Illinois, Region 7 +
Jim Rice, Minnesota, Region 8 #
David Walker, Wichita, Region 9 *

State Representatives:

Chris LaRosa, Louisiana
Melissa Karrar, Michigan ~
Judy Fillback, Wisconsin *
Cathy Robertson, Wisconsin
Jim Colby, Minnesota #
Debbie DeBruyne, Canada #
Dale Kreher, Nebraska \$
Dorothy Gereke, Florida
Bill West, Illinois ~

The following names are those not already listed.

Communications Ministry Team

Deacon Dick Venezia, Florida (chair)
Lisa Cusumano, Missouri
Flo Kizza, Florida
Mary Lovee Varni, Missouri

~ Development Ministry Team

Tom Lilly, Indiana (advisor)
Becky Kresowik, Iowa
Gary Przygoda, Missouri

\$ Finance Ministry Team

Gary Przygoda, Missouri
Brian Mathiowetz, Minnesota

+ Spirituality Ministry Team

Sr. Joy Connealy, ND, Nebraska
Sr. Jacque Schroeder, OSF, Illinois
Janet Drey, Iowa
Dennis Kurtz, Minnesota
Deacon Bob Sondag, Illinois
Penny Wolf, Illinois

TEC Conference Staff:

Ronald Reiter, Executive Director * ~ \$
Fr. James Brown, OAR, Spiritual Director +
Mary O'Brien, Development Assistant ~
Bridget Mathis, Admin. & Communications Assist.

Leadership Council Meeting Summary

DEAR TEC FAMILYBY RON REITER, TEC CONFERENCE EXEC. DIRECTOR

The TEC Conference Leadership Council met March 12-14 at the TEC Conference office in Festus, Mo. There was an **evaluation and approval** of the present staff (Ron and Bridget) for another one year contract. Mary O'Brien, as development assistant, will expand her hours beginning June 1 to 20 hours per week.

Budget for 2010-2011 - Beginning April 1 of this year the budget was approved for \$152,690. Based on income coming in and the recent decline in donations because of the economy there is a deficit of about \$38,390 we'll have to overcome to create a balanced budget. We need everyone's assistance to meet our goals for 2010-2011.

Heritage Award - Three people were selected for this award. They are Rita Finn, Diocese of Pittsburgh, Fr. John Schmeidler, Diocese of Kansas City, Kansas and Ralph Modena, Diocese of Wheeling/Charleston, W.V. Their selection was suggested through the collaborative efforts of the Spirituality Ministry team.

Leadership Team - Ten people have been endorsed by the leadership council. Our by-laws allow from four to six to be selected on the next Leadership Team (from June 1, 2010-2011.) The process now continues with prayerful discernment and a response from those endorsed by April 24. Please pray for their discernment and the new leadership team that will be consensed on. *Please see page 5 for Debbie DeBruyne's thoughts about serving as a council member.

Visitation Plan - Plan will continue this year with visits to and celebrating with those having anniversaries in 2010. You'll find those TEC communities listed in the directory on page 49. **Planned workshops for 2010-2011:** Spiritual Director's workshop June 21-24, LaSalle Institute, St. Louis, Mo. area. CF&F "Communities of Faith & Follow Through" workshop, Aug. 6-8 Moline, Ill. There are three to four other TEC communities that we are in dialogue with about hosting a workshop. If you are interested in learning more about a TEC center's responsibilities, please contact us.

Communications Ministry Team - Continues to work on the TEC Conference brochures and improve their effectiveness and make them user efficient for the local TEC centers. Also work continues in the area of "Best Practices" that is on the Conference Web site. We are in need of those "Best Practices" from different TEC communities to be shared with the entire TEC Family.

Turnover in Leadership in the Local TEC Center - In the last four years there, has been a change in leadership from 40-60% of lay leaders and spiritual directors of TEC centers. A couple of questions asked at the council meeting: what is the process used in a center to make this an effective transition and what is the responsibility for ongoing training of new leaders? In other words, are the TEC communities keeping their standards high in the spiritual formation and training of their leadership? Four different workshops are available and also single day ones have been developed. Can the TEC Conference assist in this area?

Bishop William Callahan - Episcopal Moderator - A meeting with him and the Spirituality Ministry Team was held in Milwaukee, Wis., Feb. 19-20, 2010. The following areas were discussed and will continue to be dialogued on through 2010.

- *Strengthening our relationship with the Bishops (USCCB).*
- *The age group we serve, teens and young adults.*
- *Discussion about a name change for the Movement.*
- *Autonomy and accountability to the Bishops.*
- *TEC Manual resources need to be updated.*
- *Continue to educate the Bishops that TEC is a powerful tool of evangelization.*
- *Separate TEC weekends for boys and girls.*
- *TEC Conference directs the TEC Movement.*
- *Update on the TEC Manual sent to Rome.*
- *There is a need for a liturgist to evaluate the TEC Manual.*

Continued on pg. 5

Spiritual Directors Workshop: In the adult leadership of the TEC community the Spiritual Director is assigned a very important role. Both the Spiritual Director of the Movement and that of the TEC weekend are charged with maintaining the spiritual authenticity of the Movement. The Official TEC Manual states: "The Spiritual Director must be a serious student of the TEC spiritual processes and should strive to master the Official Manual, thus becoming aware, not only of what is done, but the principles and concepts on which TEC is built. They, together with the adult faith community are 'the keepers of the flame', keeping vitally alive the CHARISM of the Movement as it unfolds."

One of the most important tasks of the Spiritual Director of the Movement is to train a core group of Spiritual Directors who serve on weekend teams. This calls for knowledge of the core of TEC—an understanding of the spiritual processes involved in depth. Mere familiarity with the format and rituals of the TEC weekend is not sufficient. **The Spiritual Directors' Workshop is designed to provide them with the insights needed for this task.**

While they may value TEC highly, those who fulfill this role are usually engaged in other forms of ministry as well, and **have limited time at their disposal.** It is precisely to accommodate them that the TEC Conference offers the Spiritual Directors Workshop to provide the needed knowledge in one setting of four days. **In companionship with other Spiritual Directors, the whole vision and unique processes of TEC are shared in depth.**

What about those who have served as Spiritual Directors of the Movement through a number of years? They too will find the Spi-

ritual Directors Workshop valuable in providing a fresh reflective awareness of the principles and insights on which TEC unfolds. **Their personal experience will help enrich the dialogue among the other Spiritual Directors who attend.**

A recent check on the names of those serving as Spiritual Directors of the Movement reveals that 45 percent are new in that role. While the centers in which they serve may have a faith community of adults to carry on TEC, **indications are that a large percentage of this group are also new and need training.** As new people enter the teams, there is danger that the spiritual processes may lose their focus unless there is constant training. Hence it is very important that the Spiritual Directors be prepared to monitor and assure this quality training. For new Spiritual Directors attendance at the Spiritual Directors Workshop is essential.

Young Adults: It is important to keep in mind that the present tendency to transition to Young Adults as candidates is *ad experimentum-- is to be fostered on an experimental basis.* The role of the TEC Conference in this proposed transition is to provide the guidance, both through ministerial insights and awareness of developmental differences, to facilitate an orderly transition to this extended age range for TEC. It does not in any way entail the rejection of the age range that has been the primary focus of the TEC Movement. The transition must not be—or perceived to be—a complete change of the goal and purpose of the TEC Movement. We have and shall continue to serve the Church in our unique form of ministry but shall discern if what we have to offer may also give valuable service to the young adult extended part of the family of God.

Proposals for the needed workshop can be

found on the TEC Conference Web site under the TEC Workshops link, **Young Adult Workshop Design.** Also see **Young Adults and TEC.**

Meeting with Bishop William Callahan, OFM Conv., our Episcopal Moderator: On Feb. 19-20 the Spirituality Committee met with Bishop Callahan in Milwaukee, Wis. The meeting served as a personal encounter as well as a setting for a fruitful dialogue. Bishop Callahan came to know the core leaders personally and their backgrounds and they came to appreciate his presence and commitment. A whole range of subjects concerning the history of TEC, its functioning, and its goals and range of operation were discussed. Everyone came away with a better sense how we can work together for the better understanding and development of the TEC Movement.

The Spanish Translation of the Manual: The work of translating the Official Manual into Spanish continues. The work is half completed and continues a section at a time. At the meeting in Milwaukee, it was explained that there is a great deal of difference between a person who speaks Spanish and one who is a qualified translator. That is why the list of Spanish speaking persons has produced few actual translators. To assure quality, the number of translators has been kept to two or three, on the advice of NFCYM, who have much experience in such work.

The next step will be to gather a group of readers who will spend several days together critiquing the translation. The third step will be a test of the quality of the text by Centers who wish to give TEC in Spanish. About \$4,000.00 has been spent on the project so far. We have another \$3,000.00 on hand to continue the work and \$5,000.00 has been pledged towards its publication.

The Role Of The Spiritual Ministry Team: The role of the Spiritual Ministry Team, as it has evolved through the past twenty years, covers a variety of tasks. Originally, it was called the Manual Committee. It was a group of leaders, each qualified in their own field, who came together (with a common recognition of the value of TEC) to unify and clarify the TEC Spiritual process. This was done through individual and communal research, and much dialogue and prayer. Each time work on a section of TEC was completed, a workshop would be designed to communicate the findings to the leaders of the Movement. So the group served as initiators and

Continued on pg. 5



2007 Spiritual Directors Workshop participants.

Spotlight - Palm Beach, Atlanta and Miami TECs!

HISTORY

BY DEACON DICK VENEZIA



Directors of Miami TEC #1: Fr. Linus DeSantis, Deacon Dick Venezia, Ana Nagel and Greg Hiebert

Soon after Dorothy Gereke (Mama TEC) the co-founder of TEC, moved to Boca Raton Fla. in 1972 she met Dick and Colleen Venezia who were serving as the Marriage Encounter contact couple there. They soon became close friends, and Dorothy not infrequently sang the praises of TEC in their conversations.

In planning TEC's 20th anniversary celebration in 1985, the TEC Conference decided to invite the co-founders to deliver the keynote addresses. Oblivious to the fact that TEC was still in existence, Dorothy enthusiastically and gratefully accepted the invitation. She returned home after the convention, committed to see a TEC center established in the Diocese of Palm Beach. Using personal resources she sent several young adults to Omaha and Denver to experience a TEC weekend. She recruited older adults as well, including Dick and Colleen who traveled to Denver to experience their TEC.

With the support of the bishop and the Director of Youth Activities, Karen Lower, along with the participation of enthusiastic adults --- many of whom were from Denver --- the first Palm Beach TEC was held in 1986. A busload of TECers came from Western Kentucky for the Hoot, and Palm Beach TEC was on its way. Having been ordained a permanent deacon in 1985, Dick became an integral part of the development and growth of Palm Beach TEC, and it was not long before he became the Region II Coordinator, later to become Region XIV. In that capacity he made many contacts at the national level and utilized some of those in the establishment of TEC in Atlanta in 1990. Palm Beach TEC provided most of the team, but some team members came from Western Kentucky, including the team's spiritual director, Fr. Larry McBride. Integral to the establishment of Atlanta TEC were TECers

who had moved to Atlanta from other parts of the country. Their experience and leadership contributed greatly to Atlanta's success in the early years.

Sadly enough, both Atlanta and Palm Beach TECs closed after several years of existence, Atlanta in 1995 and Palm Beach a few years later. However, Atlanta would enjoy new life as it resumed a stronger and committed center in 1997. A young Atlantan, Melissa D'Souza, was studying in Miami and was a leader in a Eucharistic adoration group called "Spirit and Truth." It was through her influence after making an Atlanta TEC that several south Floridians traveled to Atlanta to experience a TEC weekend. This small group was enthusiastic about helping to establish TEC in the Archdiocese of Miami but lacked the support of the Office of Young Adult Ministry. Hearing that Deacon Dick had been very involved in TEC for many years and was serving in the Archdiocese they invited him to a meeting to discuss their hopes.

As it happened, Dorothy had previously visited Dick at his home in the Florida Keys, casually mentioning the Spiritual Directors Workshop to be held near St. Louis later that year in 2001. Palm Beach TEC had long since closed and so there was no apparent reason for him to be interested in participating. Nevertheless he felt the call to attend the workshop, a call that was validated when Melissa contacted him, expressing the hopes of her group. Deacon Dick had a personal relationship with the auxiliary bishop who interceded with the Archbishop to secure the permission for TEC to be established in Miami. With the help of members and former members of the Atlanta TEC community as well as some TECers from the Miami area Miami Sunshine TEC #1 was held on Valentine's Day weekend of 2006. The candidates for the inaugural TEC were primarily recruited by two members of the small but enthusiastic group that experienced their TEC retreat in Atlanta. Afterwards there was a large enough mixture of the old and the new TECers to justify putting on a Renewing the Vision (RTV) Workshop in Miami the following December. The knowledge, experi-

ences and enthusiasm that were conveyed that weekend catapulted Miami TEC into a new sense of purpose and nearly all the participants remain active today.

The Diocese of Palm Beach borders the Archdiocese of Miami to the north and so it was natural that some candidates would be attracted to TEC from there. Furthermore, several members of the old Palm Beach TEC surfaced and were very interested in becoming involved again. Dorothy's home is in the Diocese and Deacon Dick is incardinated there as well. It therefore was logical that Palm Beach TEC should be revived. Once again Dick received permission to establish a TEC center --- this time in his home diocese. A core group was formed and the first Palm Beach TEC in the new era was held in February of 2009. Fittingly enough, the team was composed of TECers from Miami, Palm Beach, and Atlanta.

Atlanta TEC had already hosted an RTV workshop as well as a Community of Faith and Follow-Through Workshop (CF&F). However, in 2009 there were many active Atlanta TEC leaders who had not experienced a CF&F and so the three centers, their histories already entwined, jointly hosted a CF&F at a resort in the Florida Panhandle. It was an event that gave impetus to the centers and further cemented their relationship. On Valentine's Day weekend 2010, a TEC was held in Miami that featured a team that included many from Palm Beach, five Atlantans, as well as five participants from Georgia. All this was done with the participation and approval of the chair of the Atlanta TEC Council. Soon afterwards since the two Florida TEC centers share a facility, supplies, and a treasury, the leaders unanimously chose to merge the centers into one: Sunshine TEC (Miami/Palm Beach).

What goes around comes around.



Miami's first organizational meeting.

Unexpected Blessings (cont.)

Continued from pg. 1

A blessing that I can report on is that in the four years of my involvement, I observe the TEC Council gradually getting younger! New members are arriving from previously unrepresented TEC centers, injecting new life into our conversation and benefiting from the experience of those whose involvement in the TEC Movement stretches back decades. Finally, I would like to invite each of you to prayerfully discern who from your TEC community might be invited to participate in the larger conversation on the TEC Council. Perhaps you cannot... but who from your TEC center can? Maybe your encouragement is all they need to take an affirmative step which will ultimately benefit TEC in your diocese and the TEC Movement as a whole. The process of lifting each other up cannot begin until we sit at the table together. I encourage you to call our Executive Director Ron Reiter to discuss the process of joining.

I look back, at the end of my term as Chair of the Leadership Council with gratitude and humility and look forward to my continued participation on the TEC Council in some other capacity. It has been a blessing - even if in unexpected ways.

Spiritual Dir. Report (cont.)

Continued from pg. 3

guides for the dialogue carried on among all the leaders of the TEC Movement to establish an official model for the Movement

Once the Manual was approved by the TEC Conference as the official model, the group became known as the Spiritual Ministry Team and they assumed the role of monitoring and discerning the correct interpretation of the official norms as laid down in the Manual. To better facilitate the ongoing unfolding of the TEC Movement, a series of workshops were developed to meet the needs discerned in the TEC community. The Spiritual Ministry Team evaluates new thrusts in the Movement and provides ongoing consultation -- in response to challenges and enriching opportunities presented for its discernment. It is proactive, at times, in providing workshops for special needs or new developments that arise in the unfolding of the Movement.

Need For Further Development: Karl Rahner once said that he felt that it could be defined as a dogma of the Church that when grace is lived authentically it coalesces into a community. The whole history of the Church bears witness to this truth with its vast variety of spiritual movements that fill its pages. TEC is a Movement of spirituality which is initiated with a sharing of a vision out of which a community is generated. The weekend event provides a vivid awareness of the mystery of Christ presence. The degree to which that image is kept alive in the community follow-up will determine the lasting benefit derived.

All of which is to say that the principal goal of the TEC weekend is to develop an on-going affirmation of the values shared through community. The Official TEC Manual contains the principles on which the follow-up is based, and sketches -- but does not develop -- a concrete model. Since most of the leaders who handle TEC are not professional youth ministers, they lack the experience and training needed to put together such a concrete plan to inspire and sustain the follow-up community. Here is an area in which the Spiritual Ministry Team should be proactive, do research and carry on dialogue to produce a handbook of designs for this purpose. It has been for some time the weakest part of the Movement.

Dear TEC Family (cont.)

Continued from pg. 2

These areas will be discussed at length for the next several months.

1. How do we continue the dialogue with Bishop Callahan and his brother bishops?
2. How do we as TEC leaders address these issues?
3. What is the process, timeline, Episcopal Moderator's role, role of the Spirituality Ministry team, and the role of the TEC Conference (community of communities?)

Collaborating with other Youth organizations:

1. The TEC Conference will be at the NCCYM event in New Orleans in December.
2. In January of 2011 we'll attend the NFCYM membership meeting in Albuquerque, N.M. In 2011, we'll also attend the Campus Ministry bi-annual gathering - date TBD.

Final thoughts for the good of the TEC Movement: As a movement in the Church we are being lead by the Holy Spirit to a deeper and stronger relationship both individually and as a TEC Family to share the charism of TEC to the Church at large. What can we do to promote this CHARISM? How can we collectively as a body and individually prepare ourselves to be the strongest youth ministry leaders as possible? What do I need to do to strengthen my center and its leadership? The TEC Conference is here to serve you and will respond to your requests.

We need your support as leaders in the TEC Movement. The following positions are open and in need of being filled. Region Coordinators are needed for:

- **Region 4** - West Virginia and Virginia
- **Region 10** - Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas
- **Region 12** - Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington
- **Region 13** - Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming
- **Region 14** - Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina

State representatives are needed for the following states: Pennsylvania, Indiana, Kansas, Colorado, West Virginia, North Dakota, Missouri, Montana, Kentucky, South Dakota, Nebraska, Alaska, Ohio, Iowa, Oklahoma and Georgia.

In Christ, *Ronald Reiter*

TEC Conference Executive Director

***Debbie DeBruyne had this to say about serving as a council member:** "It has been quite an interesting experience being a TEC Conference council member. Thunder Bay is a very small diocese that is quite isolated geographically. Being a part of the TEC Conference council has been extremely beneficial for our TEC center. I hope that I can help to bring TEC to other parts of Canada."

CF&F Workshop - Moline, Ill



Northwest TEC will be hosting a Communities of Faith & Follow-Through workshop Aug. 6-8, 2010. The workshop will take place at the Believers Together Center in Moline, Ill. Registration deadline is July 28. Go to the TEC Conference Web site to download the brochure and registration form. www.TECConference.org

Contact Brian Currie for more info at: bdywzbrian@hotmail.com

Development - Thank You And We Need Your Help!



Our 2009-2010 fiscal year came to a close March 31 and I would like to thank each of you who made a gift to the Conference in time, treasure or talent.

April 1 is a new beginning for the Conference financial status - just like Easter and Jesus' resurrection gives us all new beginnings. I believe most of you would be truly amazed that the Conference continues to operate with an annual budget of \$152,690. I truly hope that each of you receiving this would help us in reaching our 2010-2011 goal. Are you aware that the last five years we have not met our budgeted amount? So sad and we need your help!

There are many ways to support the Conference and here are some:

Affiliation Fee: Invoices for the annual affiliation dues of \$200 will be sent out in early April. The total budgeted amount is \$10,800. Spend some time with your center leaders and find out the many benefits of affiliation.

Appeal Update: A few years ago, we made the conscious decision to only have two appeals. Our Lenten appeal will be over soon. We asked that you prayerfully consider giv-

ing to our 2010 Lenten appeal. We are very pleased with the response however, we still invite you to pledge \$2 per day (\$80). A big congrats! We've met and surpassed our fiscal year goal of \$4,000. Donations for this appeal to date have reached \$7,817! Thank you!

The Annual Harvest received \$22,481.17 for this fiscal year with a goal of \$25,000.

2010 Congress: One way of supporting the Conference is by participating at "Sowing the Fields" with the TEC Family July 23-25 in Kansas City, Kan. It is a great way of reacquainting with or meeting other TEC leaders for the first time. It would be wonderful to be able to say "every TEC community was represented" to share in the Congress gathering. However, if you are unable to attend, another way to show your support would be donating an auction item(s). Your center contact received auction information recently. Please go to the TEC Conference Web site to download the brochure and registration form.

Prayer Support: Are you aware that you are able to send a prayer request to the Conference office and your request will be forwarded the Conference prayer team?

Eucharistic Adoration: Many communities set aside one day each month to pray for the TEC Movement in Eucharistic adoration. Is your

community one of them? If not, another idea is to invite TEC members already involved in adoration to remember the prayers of TEC. Please contact the office if your center would like to join the adoration team.

Celebration and Memoriam Donations: You can always remember the TEC Conference with a donation in memory of someone, to celebrate a special occasion or simply to honor them. Please remember to use the PayPal link on the TEC Conference Web site!

Networking: In October, we celebrate 45 years of TEC! Can you imagine for just one second, if we knew the names of everyone whose life was changed by TEC and they made a donation to the Movement? We would be able to do so much more for our TEC Family leaders. You can help us by providing us with names of those we could approach. I would even buy lunch.

Again thank you so very much... we continue to be blessed by all your gifts and ministry you do in the name of TEC!

http://www.tecconference.org/Financial_Support.html



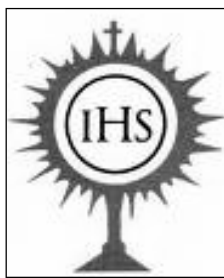
2010 Spirit of TEC Awards!

The Spirit of TEC nomination forms were e-mailed to TEC center contacts in **early January and late March and completed forms need to be turned in to the TEC Conference office by April 15, 2010.** Please note that we've moved up the return deadline by **one month!** Please only submit names to the TEC Conference through your local core team, council or board.

The **Spirit of TEC Award** was established in 1990 to honor an individual's dedication and service to TEC on a local or regional level. Since 1990, over 684 members of our TEC Family have been recognized with this annual award. Each TEC community is invited to submit the name(s) of up to three individuals for Spirit of TEC; with *married couples counting as two individuals*. The selection process for these recipients is to be established by the local TEC core team, council or board. The **Spirit of TEC Award** is given to a person who: *Lives out the Paschal Mystery in his or her life; has contributed to TEC in a significant way on a local or regional level; is committed to serving the Church and its youth and young adults; and generously shares his or her love, faith and enthusiasm with others.*

Recipients will receive a certificate from the TEC Conference, be included on a special display and be announced at the 2010 TEC Congress; be recognized in the summer *Communicator*; and have their name submitted for publication to their diocesan newspaper.

Eucharistic Adoration



The TEC Conference invites each of its faith communities to pray together before the Blessed Sacrament one day each month as part of "TEC Family adoration." TEC Family adoration can easily fit into an existing Eucharistic adoration time at a local parish or with a religious community. Our end goal is to have at least one TEC community praying before the Blessed Sacrament each day of the month. We would ask that each TEC community let the Conference know when they are praying so we can inform other groups who may want to join them in prayer. For more information, check out:

www.TECConference.org/Adoration.html

Please remember to pray for the following intentions:

- The TEC Movement in the U.S. and abroad.
- The teams and candidates of upcoming weekends locally and around the world.
- That the Holy Spirit will continue to use TEC to further the Kingdom of God on earth.
- The financial stability of the TEC Conference.

TEC Family News & Events

DID you know? Best Practices

The "Best Practices" concept came from the 2007 TEC Congress.

Those centers that are **affiliated with the TEC Conference** can call or e-mail the TEC Conference for the username and password.

If you have an **idea, practice, form, schedule or other items** of general interest, you are invited to send it to bestpractices@TECconference.org

Credit will be given to the centers that send in their ideas and practices for publication on our site.

It may from time to time be necessary to have documents reviewed by the **Spirituality Ministry team** if there is any conflict with the TEC Manual.

It is in its infancy to be sure, but we are

up and running!

There are several ideas that are

now available

on the TEC Web site. More to come!

www.TECconference.org

click on the

Best Practices link

to be directed to these ideas!



TEC WEEKENDS



HOW do you do this? **HOW** do you handle that?

HOW do you present the Stations of the Cross?

WHAT do you do for icebreakers?

HOW do you select your team?

Address Request

Did you know? Newsletters are not forwarded. The *Communicator* is mailed in bulk and cannot be forwarded. Non-deliverable newsletters are returned to us for a \$0.44 charge. Therefore, it is very important to have correct addresses on file to reduce costs. If you plan to move or have had a change of address, please send it to office@TECconference.org or call 636-933-9233.

E-mail Address Request

Please send us your e-mail address! To reduce paper and printing costs, the TEC Conference is taking steps to send the majority of our publications electronically. These publications are saved on the TEC Conference Web site and are accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week!

Hidden Game

Can you find the word "intentions" in this issue of the *Communicator*? The *eighth* person to reply to Mary O'Brien at obrien2176@aol.com with the correct location will receive a gift and will be listed in the next issue of the *Communicator*.

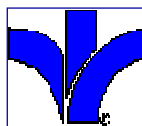
Winter 2009 Winner

In the winter 2009 issue of the *Communicator*, our faithful readers were challenged to find and unscramble letters, then arrange them to make the correct words we were looking for. Wileen Halter from Newburgh, Ind. was the winner! **Congratulations, Wileen!**

Partners In Ministry

These religious communities have joined our **Partners in Ministry** program and offer continual prayer support for the TEC Movement.

To have your religious community featured here and on the TEC Conference Web site, contact (636) 933-9233 or office@TECconference.org



Sisters of Bon Secours

Contact: Sr. Pat Dowling, CBS - 1525 Marriottsville Rd., Marriottsville, Md. 21104 - Phone: (877) 742-0277

e-mail: pat_dowling@bshsi.org

Web site: www.bonsecoursvocations.org



Sisters of St. Benedict

Contact: Sr. Anne DeMers, OSB - St. Benedict Monastery

620 Summit Ave., Crookston, Minn. 56716

Phone: (218) 281-3441 e-mail: ademers@msb.net

Web site: www.msb.net



Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth

Contact: Sr. Pat Dotzauer, S.C.

P.O. Box 476 Convent Station, N.J. 07961-0476

e-mail: pdotzauer@scnj.org - Web site: www.SCNJ.org



Josephite Vocations

1200 Varnum Street NE, Washington, DC 20017

phone: 202-832-9100 e-mail: vocations@josephite.com

Web site: www.josephite.com



Redemptoristine Nuns

For more information contact:

phone: 636-464-1093

e-mail: rednun@redemptoristinenuns.org

Web site: www.redemptoristinenuns.org



SISTERS OF CHARITY OF LEAVENWORTH

Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth

Sr. Sharon Smith, SCL - 4200 South 4th Street Leavenworth, KS 66048 - Phone: 913-758-6522

e-mail: ssmith@scls.org

Web site: <http://www.scls.org>



Divine Word Missionaries

Divine Word Missionaries

Mr. Len Uhal - PO Box 380

Epworth, IA 52045

Phone: 800-553-3321 e-mail: svdvocations@dwci.edu

Web site: www.svdvocations.org



Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, Br. John O'Hara, SA

Graymoor, Box 300, Garrison, NY 10524

Web site: www.atonementfriars.org

Phone: 1-800-338-2620 ext. 2126

e-mail: vocdirector@atonementfriars.org



Edmund Rice Christian Brothers

Br. James McDonald, C.F.C.

10001 S. Pulaski Road, Room 111, Chicago, IL 60655

Phone: 773-429-4496 - e-mail: bromaccfc@yahoo.com

Web site: www.erbrothers.org



Home Mission Sisters of America, Inc. (Glenmary Sisters)

Mrs. Barbara O'Nan

PO Box 22264 - Owensboro, KY 42304

Phone: 800-301-2689 - e-mail: Barbara@glenmarysisters.org

Web site: www.glenmarysisters.org



Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul

Contact: Sr. Theresa Sullivan, D.C. - 9400 New Harmony

Road, Evansville, Ind. 47720 - Phone: (812) 963-7556

e-mail: daughtersofcharityvocations@gmail.com

Web site: www.daughters-of-charity.com/



Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand, Indiana

Contact: Sr. Michelle Sinkhorn or Sr. Agnes Marie Dauby

802 E. 10th St., Ferdinand, Ind. 47532

Phone: (812) 367-1411 - e-mail: vocation@thedome.org

Web site: www.thedome.org



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Communicator

Need to update your contact information? Please send us your e-mail address to reduce printing costs!
 Want to make a financial contribution to support the TEC Movement's outreach to Catholic young people?

Visit www.TECConference.org for more details!

Save the Dates!

Save the Dates!



2010 TEC Congress
"Sowing the Fields"
Kansas City, Kan.,
July 23-25, 2010

Please **mark your calendars** and make plans to join your **TEC Family members** at the **2010 TEC Congress**. This gathering will take place at the **Savior Pastoral Center in Kansas City, Kan.** Go to the TEC Conference Web site for more information and to download the 2010 Congress brochure with registration form:

www.TECConference.org

2010 SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS WORKSHOP

LaSalle Retreat center in Wildwood, Mo., is the site for the next Spiritual Directors workshop, June 21-24, 2010. Mark your calendars now! *"The Spiritual Director...must be a friend, mentor, and spiritual guide to the TEC community, both with the adults and the youth...and one who lives very close to God."* ~ TEC Conference Manual (Section VI, page 3)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Bishops, Priests, Religious, Deacons, Laity serving as TEC spiritual directors and Lay leaders who want to learn more about the spiritual processes of the TEC Movement.

Cost of this workshop is \$275 with a \$50 deposit due upon registration. Please check out the TEC Conference Web site to download the workshop brochure: www.TECConference.org

June 21-24, 2010

2007 Spiritual Directors Workshop participants

