

Marriage Matters

ISSUE THREE - 2011

NEWS FROM IT TAKES THREE MARRIAGE MINISTRIES

Hello and welcome to It Takes Three Marriage Ministries newsletter, issue three. It has been a while since our last newsletter so we have a lot of catching up to do.

As we look back over last year we see God's mighty hand molding this ministry into what He would have it to be. We were blessed to have added so many new couples to the ministry. And as we continue to teach married and engaged couples the word of God, He will continue to send His children. We are thankful to God for the new friendships but we also praise God for those who have been faithful over the years.

We are thankful for what God has done in this ministry in 2010 and we are excited about what He is going to do in 2011. This year It Takes Three Marriage Ministries celebrates 5 years and what a blessing. When we think about the goodness of Jesus and all He has done for this ministry our souls cry out "Hallelujah thank you Jesus for blessing us with 5 wonderful years."

We continue to solicit your prayers and support as God leads us in the direction He would have us to go in 2011. With each new day we thank God for all His bountiful blessing and we trust that this year will be a year to celebrate our victory in Him.

God bless you and we love you,

Reverends Gordon and Marilyn Oliver

*Holy Spirit Led,
Holy Bible Fed*

IN THIS ISSUE

Recap of 2010's Ministry
Activities & Events

Past Year 2010

We started off 2010 in January with our monthly bible study at the Hampton Inn in Waldorf. Even as we experienced bitter cold temperature, the couples still showed up in larger numbers. We thank God for each one of them!

We then were blessed to have our annual "Special Valentine's Day and Night to Remember" getaway in February at the famous Ritz Carlton Hotel in Tyson's Corner, VA. The evening was topped off with dinner at the fabulous Maggiano's Italian restaurant in Tyson's II. With the snow covering the ground it was nice we didn't have to go outside to get to the restau-



Ritz Carlton Hotel in Tyson's Corner location of February getaway.

rant. At dinner we surprised Rev. Gordon with a birthday celebration for his 50th. He was really overcome with emotion as all the couples got up and spoke about how he had touched their lives. The evening was filled with food and fellowship and everyone

had a great time.

March and April we continued with our monthly bible studies at the Hampton Inn. We are blessed to see the numbers slowly increasing and that God is sending young couples, thank you Jesus!

continued . . .

Reverends
Gordon & Marilyn Oliver



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2010 continued . . .



Annual bowling excursion: Revs. Marilyn & Gordon Oliver with first place winners, Rev. Darryl & Min. Kim Burton; second place winners, Trevor & Celestine Stokes; and third place winners, Ralph & Carol Powell.

In May we celebrated 3 years of bible studies and had a great turn out. We fed on God's awesome word and then some great Chinese food from PF Chang.

June we had our yearly bowling excursion to Andrews AFB bowling lanes and had fun bowling with our babies, and just letting loose. Our first place couple was Rev. Darryl & Min. Kim Burton, second place went to Trevor and Celestine Stokes and our third place winners were Mr. Ralph & Mrs. Carol Powell. The couples are always excited to compete for the trophies and we truly enjoy the fellowship and fun.

July thru October were our monthly bible studies and even though our attendance gets a little low during the summer months due to families taking trips and vacation, we are grateful for those who show up.

Our 3rd annual fall retreat was held again at the beautiful Bedford Springs Resort & Spa, Bedford, PA. What a

fantastic time we had in the Lord. It all began with the couples arriving on Friday and having their choice of participating in couple's yoga or cooking with the Executive Chef and then going into the world renowned Bedford Baths. Saturday started off with IT3 (It Takes Three) praise team and I must say Rev. Marilyn has done a wonderful job with this group. My daughter Celestine, Min. Rucker, Sis. Kelly and Rev. Marilyn ushered in the pres-



Cooking with the executive chef at couples retreat.



It Takes Three Praise Team at couples retreat.

ence of the Lord and set the tone for the entire weekend. Thank you God for these wonderful servants! The theme was "Filling your Marriage with the Fruit of the Spirit." The couples were so excited to be there and many said they had been waiting and anticipating all year for the fall retreat, what a blessing. We were blessed to have 6 new couples, two who found us on the internet and wanted to attend the retreat and sent their full payment without ever meeting us, what a testimony. The retreat was a time to reflect on how to better our marriage through the fruit of the spirit and spend quality time with our spouses and fellowship with other couples.

We ended in December with a monthly bible study. We did a recap of all the lessons that were taught during the year and spoke about our plans for the upcoming year.

We expect and anticipate great things in 2011 and pray that God will continue to bless and grow the ministry to where He would have it. We are excited about going into churches to help establish marriage ministries, conducting seminars and workshops for anyone that needs our services.

God bless and keep you all until our next issue. We appreciate all of your prayers and support.



Couples attending the 3rd annual fall retreat at Bedford Springs.