



2009 CONGRESS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday

2:00-5:00 Registration
Silent Auction Opens
Dinner
Opening Ceremony
Ice-Breaker
Witness Talk, Table/Group Sharing
Live Auction
Night Prayer

Saturday

Morning Prayer
Ice-Breaker
Witness Talk, Table/Group Sharing
Conference (Q&A)-Technology Report
Lunch-Agape Meal
Awards
1:30-3:30 Work Sessions
Free Time
Mass at the Cathedral
Dinner
Board Buses
Spirit of Peoria Cruise & Peace Meditation
Silent auction closes

Sunday

Morning Prayer
Music
Witness Talk, Table/Group Sharing
TEC Conference Reports
Invitation to 2010 Congress-Kansas City,
Kan., July 23-25
Sending Forth Rite
Lunch & Departure

THE TEC CONFERENCE - A COMMUNITY OF COMMUNITIES

by Mary O'Brien, TEC Conference Development Assistant

Hello everyone! I hope your summer isn't going as fast as mine seems to be!

In the midst of having the summer off from another part time job I have, Bill and I have been attending to family! A little later I invite you to look at "How am I answering the TEC Family call?"

As I write this our grandson Jacob heads off to college June 15 because of work that he begins there. He will be our first grandchild out of the "home" (parents not ours) so to speak. It truly is hard to believe that he was our gift 18 years ago and how time has stood still, some of the time, but mostly time has flown by.

We also are taking care of our next grandson Tanner (9), two days a week. We have two other grandsons, Ryan (4) and Raef (6 months) that we have been taking care of when needed. It seems the need is a lot some weeks as we answer the call of our family!

I know that many of you are experiencing some transitions whether it is a child, grandchild, niece or nephew or just someone close to you and yours! We should offer

thanks to God for preparing us all for these Paschal Mysteries we will encounter over the summer as "we send them off" to college, to the military, to a babysitter, or just being in our world. This still enables me, I hope, to focus on my responsibilities to the TEC Family as a part-time development assistant. Right now, you are saying, here comes the punch line...the Conference is going to ask for money. You might just be correct! But I really would like to expand and speak to each of you about our family, our relationships, not only with the Conference but with each other and with each center.

I would like to talk about how we view ourselves as being stewards with our 10% tithing and seeing the 10% as the gift of time, talent and treasure.

Locally it is serving on a team and preparing for your TEC weekend...it is all the *hours* you have offered as a service to the TEC Family you will be a part of. You might *pay* for the weekend itself, you might *donate* items needed on the weekend, and you might just *sponsor* someone that isn't able to afford what your TEC weekend costs. Or have you taken another step and gotten *involved* with your board or council.

Continued on next page...

2009 TEC CONGRESS - "A PLENTIFUL HARVEST IN CHRIST"

July 24-26, 2009 - Spalding Pastoral Center, Peoria, Ill.

Go to www.TECConference.org

to download the TEC Congress brochure and get details about the fabulous
LIVE AUCTION ITEMS!

Hotel Registration Deadline - June 24, 2009
Congress Registration Deadline - July 3, 2009

Live auction on Friday, July 24th at 8:45 p.m.

- **Two quilts** from Anchor of Hope TEC
- **BBQ sauce recipe** - compliments of Sharrie Cinnamon
- One week at **Dorothy Gereke's home** in Boca Raton, Fla.
- One week at **Tim & Becky Kresowik's vacation home** in Chandler, Ariz.
- One week at **Brian & Ronda Mathiowetz's lake home** in Sleepy Eye, Minn.

If you will not be in attendance before 8:45 p.m. or are not coming to the Congress, you will **still have a chance to bid**. Contact Angie Robenstein at (309) 698-1493, for any questions or to leave a secure bid that will be given to the auctioneer that evening.



COMMUNITIES OF
FAITH & FOLLOW-
THROUGH

Aug. 21-23, 2009
PORT ST. JOE, FLA.

Cost: \$115 (includes program,
meals & lodging)

Registration Deadline:
Aug. 3, 2009

Questions?

Contact Dick Venezia
dickvenezia@yahoo.com

[www.TECconference.org/
Faith Follow Through.html](http://www.TECconference.org/Faith_Follow_Through.html)

TEC Family Happenings! Are you involved yet?

...A COMMUNITY OF COMMUNITIES *continued from page 1*

State or regionally it is *assisting* other Centers within your state or region by *supporting* them with answers to questions, by *being* a team member to help with a new center starting up, by *participating* at a state or regional gathering to see what the other family members might be up to.

Nationally it is *staying connected* with the Conference by utilizing all the resources offered, it is *knowing* who your state and region representatives are to help you and your center, it is *partaking* in the TEC adoration, it is *believing* one of the workshops offered can strengthen your TEC Family, it is *saying yes* to attend the Congress, it is *sending* an auction item or buying one, it is *supporting* the TEC Conference appeals.

It is about *getting* excited about your other family members...it is about *helping* others when need be, it is about *transitions*, it is about *relationships*, it is about making sure there is enough money locally and nationally to *sustain* the TEC Movement.

Yes, our economy is in crisis! But instead of pulling back our gifts, we should spread

them more abundantly! *"There are no haves and have-nots. We are all haves and our assets are diverse. In the alchemy of collaboration, we become equal partners; we create wholeness and sufficiency for everyone."* From one of my favorite books...The Soul of Money-Transforming your relationship with money and life by Lynne Twist. *And that my friends is what God calls us to be "good stewards"* and I hope you see yourself and your community joining the TEC Family in creating family relationships with those of us outside your immediate family!

I invite you to "answer the TEC Family call" by checking with your TEC leadership and see how many have committed to the 2009 Congress. I believe this is a great way for you to meet other family members, to praise God, to have fun, to renew yourself with the TEC Movement. It truly would be amazing to have 75-100% of our centers present and to be a Community of Communities.

Gratefully,

Mary O'Brien

TEAM FORMATION WORKSHOP - COMING TO A COMMUNITY NEAR YOU

The TEC Conference invites your community and diocese to consider hosting the new Team Formation workshop. The inaugural one was held May 1-2 this year in Faith, S.D. Participants gained insight on how the team and community impact the preparation of TEC weekend. As Katelyn Phillips of Hills Area TEC put it, "The workshop was so helpful to me! I went in with an open mind and came away full of new ideas and great ways to build up and keep the TEC community alive!"



Front row: Katelyn Phillips, Lynn Hahne, Sr. Jacque Schroeder, OSF, Penny Wolf, Ron Reiter, Cathy Smith and Gloria Maher. **Back row:** Fr. Kevin Achbach, Deacon Larry Brown, Fr. Mark McCormick, Jerry Langworthy and Cory Fisher. **Not pictured:** Tina Niggemann, Fr. Kerry Prendiville

HIDDEN GAME

We've "hidden" the words "attend the Congress" in this issue of the *Stay Connected*. Can you find them? If so and you are the fourth person to reply to Mary

O'Brien obrien2176@aol.com with the correct answer, you will win a prize and get your name published in the next edition of the *Stay Connected*. Happy hunting!

PRAY WITH THE TEC FAMILY

The newest community to join **Eucharistic Adoration** is **Anchor of Hope TEC**, Green Bay, Wis. Will your community be next?

For more information, check out:

www.TECConference.org/Adoration.html

WEEKEND STATISTICS

Please send us your **TEC weekend statistics!** We are looking for the number of **candidates: youth and young adult** (those between the ages of 17-24) and **adult** (those over age 24) that participated on the weekend. This information helps us give accurate information to bishops and diocesan directors upon their request. Thank you!

SPOTLIGHT COMMUNITY

Would your community like to be spotlighted in the summer issue of the *Communicator*? Let us know! Thanks to our previous communities for sharing.

Now, it's your turn to get the word out about the great things happening in your community.

Share your history!