

MARRIAGE EDUCATION AND RESOURCE CENTER

October, 2022 The Marriage Education and Resource Center (MERCY)





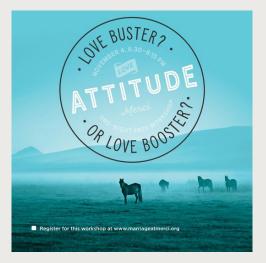
We want to thank everyone who came out for the comedy show on October 8 with Juanita Lolita. Over 125 people enjoyed her humor about relationships, womanhood and everyday life. Juanita is a Christian and a comedian who wants to prove clean comedy can be fun as she stands up for Him.

In addition to her comedy routine, Juanita shared her testimony on how the Lord drew her into this career. If you would like to listen to her testimony, click below. Upcoming Marriage Events

<u>Attitude - Love Buster? or</u> <u>Love Booster? -</u> Free Workshop

November 4 - 6:30 - 8:15 p.m.

MERCI Barn 8510 Hwy. 111, Memphis, IN 47143



Bob and Carol Esham will share how a humble, positive and kind attitude can turn around any marriage for the better.

You will learn how "love buster" attitudes such as John Gottman's 'Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse' (Defensiveness, Criticism, Contempt and Stonewalling) can point to trouble ahead or



total disconnect in a marriage.

To register **click here** or call: 502-387-0645 or 502 767-3918

<u>Married Life</u> November 4, 7:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m.

Northside Christian Church 4407 Charlestown Road. New Albany, IN 47150



Relationship Killers

1 Corinthians 10:23-24 (NIV), tells us: 'I have the right to do anything," you say —but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but not everything is constructive. 24 No one should seek their own good, but the good of others.

Could any of these relationship killers be seeping into your life?

- Selfishness Looking out for yourself, stubbornness, lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and pride
- Time Bind
- Lack of Training
- Unrealistic Expectations -Expecting the best from all areas of life can only create a life of misery.

If so, what preventive steps do you think the Lord would want you to take to minimize these negative influences?



Married Life is a date night experience designed to have fun and equip your marriage. There is a grind to life that leaves us over committed and under connected in our marriages. So, how do you prioritize your marriage in the sea of priorities? Jim Burns will unpack this question to help you avoid some relationship ruts and refresh/improve your marriage. There will be teaching, discussion, desserts, games, mini-golf, inflatables, and more.

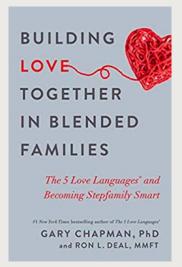
Cost: \$24 per couple.

To register, **click here** or, contact Andy Clark at aclark@mynorthside.com

Wed Talks Conference November 19

Building Love Together In Blended

Families



Blended families face unique challenges, and sadly, good intentions aren't always enough. With so many complex relationships involved, all the normal rules for family life change, even how you apply something as simple as the five love languages.

That's why Dr. Gary Chapman, the bestselling author of *The 5 Love Languages* and national expert on stepfamilies, Ron Deal, join together in this book to teach you how the five love languages can help your blended family. They'll teach you:

- About the unique dynamics of stepfamilies
- How to overcome fear and trust issues in marriage
- How to develop healthy parenting and step-parenting practices
- How the love languages should —and should not—be applied

You're going to face many challenges, but with the right strategies and smart work, your family can be stronger and healthier together.



Did you know that most Americans spend more time and money on Netflix than on Marriage?

The area where you will see the most growth and progress is where you invest intentionally.

WedTalks is an online marriage conference, with 25 short "Ted Talk" style seminars from dynamic speakers all about the topic of marriage.

So sign up today and make an important investment of time and conversation into the health of your relationship.

Cost: \$59 - You will have one year to watch and re-watch the content. For more information and to register, **click here**.

365 Days of Love Notes

A friend of ours shared this idea with us that we thought was so cleaver. You make a jar and put in 365 pieces of paper of reasons I Love You. In her jar: Yellow was for 'Moments and Memories," Blue: Reasons "I Love You" and Green: Quotes and Lyrics.

Each day the person takes out one of the notes and reads it. Just a great way to start one's day.



According to The Center for Women and Families, domestic violence is on tract to double by the end of 2022 in Louisville. The Louisville Metro Police Department has connected 20-25% of homicides directly to domestic violence. One in four women and one in five men will experience domestic violence. Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crimes.

If you, or someone you know, is experiencing domestic violence, please get in touch with the National Hotline for Domestic Abuse by **clicking here** call: 1-800-799-7233

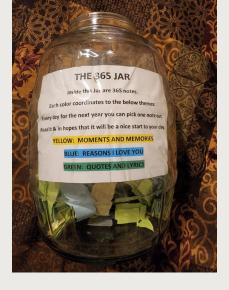
Everything Together First Annual

<u>Fundraiser - Free Event</u> Monday, November 7, 6:30 p.m. at Eastside Christian Church 2319 Veterans Parkway Jeffersonville, IN 47130



Join the journey as Christy and Ken Smith gather in an effort to raise funds for this brand new ministry that is impacting marriages, families and churches not just locally but globally.

Catered by Chick-fil-A. No childcare. For more information and to RSVP please **click here** or email: ken@everythingtogether.org



Christianity is projected to lose majority status among Americans (2070 Pew Model Project)

In an article in USA Today, they came up with four hypothetical scenarios based on current trends.

Here are the key findings:

- Out of the four scenarios forecasted by Pew, three show Christians dropping below 50% of the U. S. population by 2070.
- In the most plausible scenario, per Pew, the non-religious population makes up 45% of the U.S.by 2070.
- Christians will account for 39% of the population by 2070 in the most plausible scenario

To read the complete article, click here

Coupletime - Covenant vs. Contract Marriage

Marriage is more than a contract, it is a covenant. Covenant isn't a word we use often. It is a biblical term and God is a covenantmaking God. Based on *Covenant Marriage - Communication and Intimacy*, by Dr. Gary Chapman and Betty Hassler, this is how they outline the difference between a covenant and a contract marriage.

<u>Covenant Marriage</u>

- A covenant is initiated for the benefit of the other person.
- In covenants, people make promises which are unconditional.
- Covenant relationships are based on steadfast love.
- Covenant relationships view commitments as permanent.
- Covenant relationships make provisions for each other's weaknesses and failures.

Contract Marriage

- A contract is motivated by the desire to get something you want.
- Contracts most often deal with specific actions.
- Contracts are based on an "If, then mentality."
- Contracts are most often made for a limited time period.
- Contracts normally do not make these provisions

Covenant Vs. Contract Marriages

To what extent do you think the needs of your partner were uppermos in your thoughts when you got together?							
, 0	ly Somewhat	Barely	Not at All				
How would the need right now?	How would the needs of your partner compare to your own needs ight now?						
More Important	As Important		Less Important				
I relate to my spouse out of a desire to benefit him/her, not out of the desire to manipulate or get something.							
Always	Sometimes	Seldom	Never				
My covenant with my partner is not based on his/her behavior or response.							
Always	Sometimes	Seldom	Never				
My steadfast love is demonstrated to my partner by my deeds as well as my words.							
Always	Sometimes	Seldom	Never				

My covenant with my partner is characterized by loyalty and commitment.							
	ways	Sometimes	Seldom	Never			
	oropriately co ways	onfrontational and Sometimes	forgiving. Seldom	Never			
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