



## 2009 TEC CONGRESS!

### “A Plentiful Harvest in Christ”

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

Go to  
[www.TECConference.org](http://www.TECConference.org)  
to download brochure!

#### 2009 Congress activities include:

Silent auction, witness speakers,  
small and large group dialogue,  
prayer, awards presentation, Mass  
at the cathedral, an evening of  
fellowship and prayer on the  
Spirit of Peoria boat cruise,  
live auction and much more!

#### Live auction items:

- 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 Brian & Ronda Mathiowetz's lake home in Sleepy Eye, Minn.
- One week at Tim & Becky Kresowik's vacation home in Chandler, Ariz.

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

## 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](http://www.TECConference.org/Adoration.html)

## TEC MANUAL LICENSE AGREEMENTS

Have you returned your yet?  
If so, thank you. If not, please take  
time to fill these out and return them  
to us, along with the center evaluation.  
Misplaced your copy? **No problem.**  
E-mail us at  
[office@TECconference.org](mailto:office@TECconference.org) and  
we will send it to you.

## THE TEC CONFERENCE - PAST AND PRESENT

by Ron Reiter, TEC Conference Executive Director

The TEC Conference was formed in 1981 to support the many TEC centers that were in existence at the time. Its role, through the TEC Conference office staff, is to promote the growth and awareness of TEC as a Movement within the larger Church. The TEC Movement serves older adolescents and young adults by providing spiritual formation opportunities, training, quality resources, prayer support and a communication network.

During its 28-year history, the Conference has had one to four staff members at any given time. The current staff is comprised of one part-time and two full-time members. In addition, Fr. Jim Brown OAR, volunteers as the spiritual director.

The Conference has had six executive directors during its history.

- Sr. Mary Neurohr-Belleville, Ill., 1981-1983;
- Sr. Connie Lennartz-Virgil, Ill., 1983-1984;
- Sr. Joy Connealy, ND-Omaha, Neb., 1984-1989;
- Mike Ellis-Omaha, Neb., 1990-1996;
- Janet Drey-Des Moines, Iowa, 1996-2005; and
- Ronald Reiter-Festus, Mo., 2005-present.

The executive directors have reported to and been guided by the TEC Leadership Council made up of active members of affiliated TEC centers. The council gathers semi-annually to discern the TEC Movement's future and to serve as liaisons between the conference and the local communities.

We have presently five ministry teams made up of individuals who are discerned to serve on the team to assist in carrying out the monthly work of the TEC Conference. The five ministry teams are:

Leadership, Spirituality, Development, Communications and Finance.

Conference resources available are: Four different workshops for the TEC Communities.

1. **Renewing the Vision of TEC (1998)** – designed specifically to assist in understanding the use of the new TEC Manual. It is designed to support new lay leaders and spiritual directors in the TEC center. It walks you through the flow of the weekend and how all of the meditations are connected to each other and becomes one continuous message.
2. **Spiritual Directors Workshop (2001)** – designed for the spiritual directors of the local TEC center, their roles as spiritual directors on a TEC weekend, and the role of the spiritual director of a TEC center. Also, there is discussion about living out Paschal Mystery spirituality individually, and as a community. The presentations and discussion feature sharing Paschal Mystery spirituality with the youth and young adults we serve.
3. **Communities of Faith and Follow Through (2005)** – designed to assist the adult and young adult faith community to live out its role as an evangelizing and ministering community. It talks about the importance of having strong and faith-filled people as your leaders in a TEC community. It looks at how the TEC Movement is a solid part of youth and young adult ministry in the Church, and how we can network and collaborate with diocesan offices and other youth programs in a diocese.

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## TEAM FORMATION WORKSHOP - MAY 1-2, 2009

St. Joseph's church in Faith, S.D., was host to the TEC Conference's first-ever **Team Formation Workshop**. Participants gathered to gain insight on the roles the team and community play in preparing for a TEC weekend. The central spirituality of the TEC weekend, Paschal Mystery spirituality, was also reinforced.

**Front row:** Katelin Phillips, Lynn Hahne, Sr. Jacque Schroeder, OSF, Penny Wolf, Tina Niggemann, Cathy Smith and Gloria Maher.

**Back row:** Fr. Kevin Achbach, Dcn. Larry Brown, Fr. Mark McCormick, Jerry Langworthy and Cory Fisher.

**Not pictured:** Fr. Kerry Prendiville and Ron Reiter



## TEC Family Happenings! Are you involved yet?

### THE TEC CONFERENCE - PAST AND PRESENT *continued from page 1*

4. **Team Formation** – This new workshop has just been created. It was held May 1-2, 2009 in Faith, S.D. It is designed to assist a TEC Community in preparing team members for their role on a TEC weekend and living out their role in the TEC community daily. Focus is on the spirituality of TEC, Paschal Mystery, and the selection process for team members.

Other resources provided: Check out our Web site at: [www.TECconference.org](http://www.TECconference.org)

- Spiritual Directors DVD Series
- Four Congress presentations from the TEC Congress in Cape Girardeau.
- "Best Practices" resources located on our Web site
- Many other resources such as the Concept Booklet, TEC Manual, and the Scope and Sequence that support the manual also provide solid information in the area of youth and young adult ministry.

The TEC Conference sees its mission as raising up strong spiritual leaders who can share and pass on the gift of TEC to others. **This is lived out by providing:**

- Spiritual formation and education
- Quality resources
- A network of prayer support and communication

Also, your support in prayer and financial contributions will assist us in realizing our commitment to the youth and young adults we serve through their **adult community and young adult faith.**

In Christ,



TEC Conference Executive Director

### 2009 SPIRIT OF TEC AWARD - DEADLINE IS MAY 15, 2009

Does someone in your local TEC Family:

- Live out the Paschal Mystery in his or her life?
- Contribute in a significant way to TEC on a local or regional level?
- Faithfully serve our Church's young people?
- Generously share his or her love, faith and enthusiasm with others?

If so, consider nominating them for the **2009 Spirit of TEC Award**. Each recipient will be recognized on a special display at the 2009

Congress, receive an award certificate from the TEC Conference and have his or her name published in the Summer 2009 edition of the *Communicator*. Each TEC community can select up to three people for this special recognition each year. Please only submit names to the TEC Conference through your local core team, council or board.

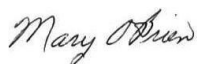
**Deadline for submitting nominations is May 15, 2009.**

### DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Happy Easter everyone!

Did you make a commitment this Easter season to find a new way to serve others! We hope so! Our development ministry team is looking for a few good folks who would like to assist the Conference in meeting the 09/10 budget of \$152,000. Or are you **grant writer** and can use your **gifts** for TEC in this manner. Or are you like me and just like **talking** to people? We can always use some telephone callers with special projects, such as calling for the 2009 Congress and auction items. If you are so **"called"** please contact me at [obrien2176@aol.com](mailto:obrien2176@aol.com) or 515-321-8519. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Take good care,



### HIDDEN "FAMILY"!



May 15th is "International Day of Families," so, we've hidden a photo of a family in this issue of the **Stay Connected**. The **15<sup>th</sup>** person to e-mail Mary O'Brien at [obrien2176@aol.com](mailto:obrien2176@aol.com) with the correct location of the hidden family will receive a prize. **Good luck!** Last month's winner was **Darryl Hensele**. Congratulations and thanks for playing our game!

### SHOPPING LIST

The TEC Conference is in need of a **projector and screen** for PowerPoint presentations. **Can you help us out?** These items will be of great help for workshops, meetings, etc. Please contact the Conference office if you are willing to donate these items, or know someone who can. Thanks!

### TEC IN NICARAGUA

The photos below were taken by Bob Cinnamon, wheat team member at the **Renewing the Vision of TEC (RTV)** workshop which was held in Siuna, Nicaragua, March 17-20, 2009.

This new TEC community has set **Nicaragua TEC #1** for July 7-10, 2009. If you would like to send a wheat letter, please send it to [office@TECconference.org](mailto:office@TECconference.org)

If you can translate your letter into Spanish, or know someone who can, we would appreciate it! Thank you.



### WEEKEND STATISTICS

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

### 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 world out about the great things happening in your community.** Share your history!