



“Rejoice in the Lord always. I say it again, Rejoice!”

--Phil 4:4

Congress Details!

Rise, Renew, Rejoice!

Go to the 2011 TEC Congress page on the TEC Conference Web site to download the brochure/registration form: www.TECConference.org

Date:

July 15-17, 2011

Registration & Deposit Deadline:

July 1, 2011

Cost:

\$160 Total for double occupancy room
\$180 Total for single occupancy room
more details included on brochure

A \$50 non-refundable deposit is due with registration. Program, meals and lodging are included in the registration price.

Highlights of TEC.....by Mike Ellis

Serving as executive director from 1989 - 1995 was a blessing. Those years has helped me in my parish ministry. All the trainings helped me develop adult education programs, be a good liturgical minister and become a good preacher.

The manuals committee met frequently to continue developing of the revised manual. Numerous workshops were held from 1990 - 1996 (see below) to help form and train adult leaders in the different spiritual processes and components of the TEC encounter experience that was laid out in the Manual.

- 1990: Resurrection: We Have Seen the Lord, Kalamazoo, Mich.
1991: God: Community of Love, Conception, Mo.
1992: Discipleship: Growing As Servant Leaders, Peoria, Ill.
1994: Heart to Heart, Peoria, Ill.
1995: Food for the Journey: Seeds for our Youth, Owensboro, Ky.

The Ellis Family moved in 1996 to Albert Lea, Minn. I accepted a job at St. Theodore's Parish. I serve as pastoral minister and administrator for the parish. As pastoral minister I spend time:

- Working with adult education programs
- Visiting the elderly and home bound parishioners
- Ministering to hospice patients

- Planning funeral liturgies
- Working with liturgical ministers
- Directing the RCIA process

As administrator, I help the pastor run the parish and all the programming in the parish. I love the people and love my ministry. In 2005, I was ordained a deacon for the Diocese of Winona and serve as a deacon for St. Theodore Church.

My family blesses me every day. My wife Sue works for the Albert Lea School District as an ESL teacher. She teaches seventh and eighth graders. Luke is 17. He is a junior in high school and is playing on the JV and varsity basketball team. We begin college visits this summer. Claire is 15. She is a freshman in high school and is involved in many activities. She is currently learning how to drive. Samuel is 13. He is a seventh grader in junior high. He is playing basketball for the school and is on a traveling basketball team.

Know of our continued prayers for TEC and the Conference.



Recent Deceased TEC Family Spiritual Directors

Fr. Ken Opat September 3, 1942 - April 6, 2011



**Fr. Ken Opat
Region 8
Central Minnesota TEC**

Fr. Kenneth M. Opat, osc, who was the founding director of one of the most successful Together Encountering Christ retreat programs in the country, died April 6 in Onamia, Minn., at the age of 68.

Fr. Ken attended the Crosier Our Lady of the Lake Seminary in Syracuse Indiana, eventually entering the Crosier novitiate in 1962. He professed first vows in 1963, and was ordained into the priesthood on May 10, 1969, by Bishop Leo Pursley of Fort Wayne, Ind.

Beginning in 1969, Fr. Ken served the Crosier Order and the Church on the faculty of Crosier Seminary in Onamia, at various times holding the positions of teacher, registrar, counselor, facilities director, and vice-rector. Other Crosier assignments included service as Provincial Treasurer, as well as Superior of the Crosier house in Anoka, Minn. In 1978, Fr. Ken helped found the Central Minnesota TEC program in the Diocese of St. Cloud, helping to make it one of the most successful TEC programs anywhere in the country. In 2008, he became TEC Director Emeritus, giving his all to the Together Encountering Christ retreat experience until the end.

Fr. Ken was born on Sept. 3, 1942, in Hammond, Ind. to George and Veronica (Wozniczka) Opat. He is survived by one brother and his Crosier confreres.

Harley H. Harris April 2, 1928 - March 31, 2011



**Deacon Harley
Region 7
Northwest TEC**

Harley was born on April 2, 1928 in Moline, Ill., the son of Dean W. and Gladys (Miller) Harris, Sr. He was a graduate of Moline High School. Harley proudly served his country in the US Navy stationed at Great Lakes. He was united in marriage to Marcella M. Covemaker at home on May 28, 1947 and then later at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Moline. As a young man, he was part-owner of a single engine airplane and maintained his pilot's license for years following. Harley was previously a co-owner with his wife Marcella of two businesses: Highland Provision, and Har-Cel Woodcraft. He retired May 1988 from Desaulnier's Printing Company, and from Montgomery Elevator. Harley was ordained as a permanent deacon May 1988 through the Peoria Diocese and assigned to St. Malachy's Catholic Church, Geneseo. As a retiree, he worked at various part-time jobs as a Deacon. He was the Spiritual Director of TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) for two years: 1988 – 1990. Harley was a member of St. Malachy's Catholic Church. He enjoyed flying, hunting, fishing and building model airplanes.

Survivors include his wife Marcella, children Michelle (Chris) Fisher, Albuquerque, NM; Marsha (Robert) Ackerman, Alpharetta, GA; Marlo Greer, and significant other Alan Bishop, Rock Island, Melissa I. Harris, Milan; eight grandchildren, three step grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, two step great-grandchildren, siblings Aaron (Sherry) Harris, Palm Desert, CA; Francis W. "Pete" (Myrna) Harris, Moline; William H. (Jean) Rasmussen, Coal Valley.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a son-in-law Jim Greer, two brothers Frederick and Dean and two sisters Billie-Jayne Lipke and Patricia Hill.

Think about it!



Behold the Power of Team Work

“Lessons From the Geese” the author of the following is unknown. As geese flap their wings, they create an uplift for the bird following. By flying in a V formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if any bird were to fly alone. If we share a common direction and a sense of community, we can get where we are going more quickly and easily because we are traveling on the thrust of one another! Sounds like the TEC Conference and TEC communities.

Why the TEC Congress?



TEC is a community. Although it is organized, it is not an organization. It is a family built on love and presence of Jesus. It is a bonding together of individual minds and hearts who share the same faith vision and who strive to live Paschal Mystery spirituality. It is help together by graced love--a love that is generated by our love of one another as a reflection of the love of Christ for us.

Like all love relationships it is very fragile; to sustain its strength we need quality time together. Love grows and builds on mutual sharing and affirmation. The first reason why it is important to attend the TEC Congress are the person-to-person encounters that are shared there. Our very presence is a source of mutual support and affirmation. We become a living grace to one another. To maintain our commitment to the TEC Movement constantly requires this fresh experience of paschal love.

Spiritual Director's Corner



The role of the Spiritual Director of the TEC Movement is a very important one. The proper understanding of that role sets the quality of the spirituality and the effective functioning of the entire movement. The tasks involved in this role, as set forth in the TEC Manual, almost seem on the surface call for a full time position. And yet today, with the many tasks already demanded of priests, deacons, and religious, few if any of the TEC communities have the good fortune of having a full time person in this role.

We invite any spiritual directors to share their experiences in this role.

Please contact us with your responses at office@TECConference.org.

Upcoming Workshops

TEC ANNIVERSARIES

Saturday August 6th - one day workshop on Leadership Training of Directors -- Anchor of Hope TEC Community - Green Bay, WI.

August 12-14, (tentative date) CF&F 3 day workshop in Denver, Co. hosted by Rocky Mountain TEC

October 14-16, CF&F 3 day workshop in the diocese of Superior, WI. hosted by Agape TEC.

December 9-11 -- CF&F workshop in Archdiocese of Louisville, KY. -- hosted by the new emerging TEC Community in Louisville, KY.

Spirit of St. Louis	St. Louis, Mo.	5 years
Tulsa TEC	Tulsa, Okla.	10 years
Full Circle	Kalamazoo, Mich.	10 years
Big Sky	Great Falls/Billings, Mont.	10 years
Sunflower	Kansas City, Kan.	10 years
Divine Mercy	Erie, Pa.	15 years
Atlanta	Atlanta, Ga.	15 years
Omaha Rural	Omaha, Neb.	15 years
Southwest Indiana	Evansville, Ind.	20 years
TEC Conference	Festus, Mo.	30 years
Bloomington-Normal	Peoria, Ill.	30 years
Western Kentucky	Owensboro, Ky.	35 years
Agassiz Valley	Crookston, Minn.	35 years
Peterstown	Peoria, Ill.	35 years
Great River	Quincy, Ill.	40 years

TEC Conference Partners in Ministry

These religious communities have joined our **Partners in Ministry** program and offer continual prayer support for the TEC Movement. Please contact us to have your religious community featured here and on the TEC Conference.

 <p>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</p>	 <p>Edmund Rice Christian Brothers Br. James McDonald, C.F.C. 10001 S. Pulaski Road, Room 111, Chicago, Ill. 60655 Phone: 773-429-4496 - e-mail: bromaccfc@yahoo.com Web site: www.erbrothers.org</p>
 <p>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</p>	 <p>Home Mission Sisters of America, Inc. (Glenmary Sisters) John Calhoun PO Box 22264 - Owensboro, Ky. 42304 Phone: 800-301-2689 - e-mail: John@glenmarysisters.org Web site: www.glenmarysisters.org</p>
 <p>Josephite Vocations 1200 Varnum Street NE, Washington, DC 20017 phone: 202-832-9100 e-mail: vocations@josephite.com Web site: www.josephite.com</p>	 <p>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/</p>
 <p>Redemptoristine Nuns For more information contact: phone: 636-464-1093 e-mail: rednun@redemptoristinenuns.org Web site: www.redemptoristinenuns.org</p>	 <p>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</p>
 <p>Divine Word Missionaries Mr. Len Uhal - PO Box 380 Epworth, Iowa 52045 Phone: 800-553-3321 e-mail: svdvocations@dwci.edu Web site: www.svdvocations.org</p>	 <p>Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers Contact: Deacon Steven DeMartino PO Box 305, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0305 Phone: (914) 941-7536 (2449) or (888) 627-9566 Web site: www.maryknollsociety.org</p>
 <p>Franciscan Friars of the Atonement Br. John O'Hara, SA Graymoor, Box 300, Garrison, N.Y. 10524 Web site: www.atonementfriars.org Phone: 1-800-338-2620 ext. 2126 e-mail: vocdirector@atonementfriars.org</p>	 <p>Dominican Sisters of Springfield Contact: Sr. Teresa Marron 1237 West Monroe, Springfield, IL 62704 Phone: 708.207.1874 - E-mail: srteresa@spdom.org Web site: www.springfieldop.org</p>