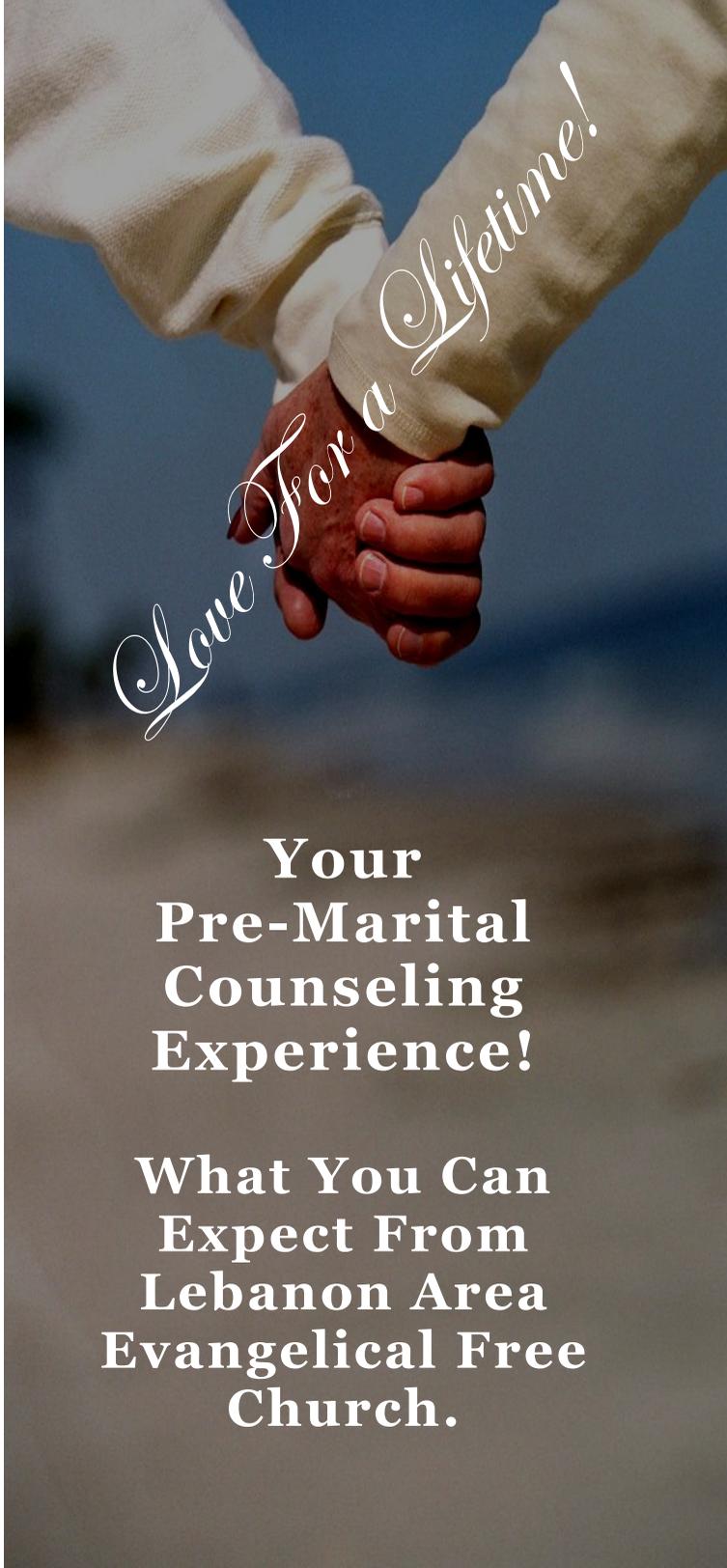


A Few Miscellaneous Details

- Please ask for a copy of the required books and workbooks for the projects. If we have them available, we will be happy to give them to you. Or you can find some good buys on “Amazon.com,” or from your favorite book supplier.
- You’ll need to contact the Church Secretary to check wedding dates and building availability. This is VERY IMPORTANT and you are encouraged to do it as soon as possible!
- You’ll need to secure your marriage license, usually 10 days before your actual wedding date.
- The Pastor of Marriage & Family Ministries will assign a pastor to you for your actual ceremony. It will be up to you to contact that minister as soon as possible to establish a meeting with him about your ceremony. If you have a minister you’d prefer, please let us know as soon as possible.
- You’ll be asked to fill out a pre-marital application. Should you have questions on various items in those forms, feel free to contact the office for assistance.

Lebanon Area Evangelical
Free Church
600 Shepherd Street
Jonestown, PA 17038



Your Pre-Marital Counseling Experience!

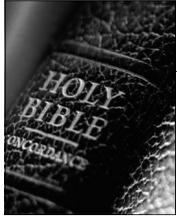
What You Can Expect From Lebanon Area Evangelical Free Church.

In an effort to responsibly equip you for your life together as husband and wife, we at Lebanon Area Evangelical Free Church would like to offer you a Pre-Marital Counseling Journey. Here are some of the highlights of that experience.

Your first step in this journey will be to meet, for about one hour, with the Pastor of Marriage & Family Ministries. This meeting will include an introduction to the well-known pre-marital tool called “Prepare and Enrich,” a questionnaire designed to help couples identify relational strengths and weaknesses. The cost for this service is about \$40.00, an investment well worth the money! We’ll discuss relevant relationship items, as well as the wedding ceremony itself. While we won’t delve too deeply into pre-marital counseling issues, we’ll seek to gain a fairly solid understanding as to who you are as a couple.

Next, you will be introduced to a married couple, “seasoned” in the marital experience. They will serve as your “Shepherd Couple” and with them, you’ll continue in your pre-marital journey. In fact, they’ll ask you to work together on several important “Team-Building Projects,” in an effort to build your marital team! Those projects will be discussed inside this brochure.

Projects



Project 1-Bible Reading

Please read, as a couple, the following passages

from the Bible.

Genesis 2:18-25

I Corinthians 13

Philippians 2:1-14

Romans 12:9-21

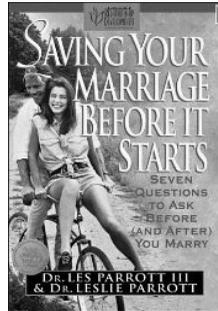
Ephesians 5:21-33

Colossians 4:18-19

Once done, prepare a few paragraphs on how these passages challenge you, as a man or woman, in how you should behave toward your partner. Be prepared to share this with your Shepherd Couple in the course of your meetings. While doing this exercise, keep in mind that the goal here isn't to turn you into Biblical scholars, but to get you thinking about God's Word as it impacts your marriage. Additionally, you're also encouraged to begin reading together the Four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John). You can talk to your Shepherd Couple for advice on these exercises.

Project 2-Reading "Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts"

You will need to obtain and read the excellent book entitled "Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts" by Parrott & Parrott, along with



the workbooks (one for the man, one for the woman). In fact, your future meetings with your Shepherd Couple will largely consist of two parts:

one which will revolve around your workbook answers as you and your fiancé read the text and the second will include a review of the "Prepare and Enrich" inventory you took at the onset of your journey. Note that this book consists of seven questions you'll be asked to study. Those questions pertain to such topics as the myths you're bringing into the marriage, how to fight fair, how to become soul mates, etc. You and your Shepherd Couple can determine the best way to utilize the material available in this book, but this is a key aspect of your work together.

Project 3-The Family Budget

You will need to present your Shepherd Couple a family budget, as preparation for your life together. They will refer you to a financial planner if finances are an issue in your relationship.

Project 4-Attend Sunday Morning ABF Classes on Marriage

You will both need to attend any of our Adult Bible Fellowship classes on marital issues as offered throughout the year.

Project 5 -Re-Meet with the Pastor.

You'll be asked to re-meet with the Pastor of Marriage and Family Ministries, once your pre-marital journey is complete. It will be up to you to contact his office and schedule this appointment. He is looking forward to seeing you again, so please DO CALL!



One final note is in order, and it's important!

In the vast majority of cases this process is extremely pleasant and productive for couples, but in some situations significant concerns and issues in the relationship are uncovered. If that should happen in your regard, it is important that you understand: *the Pastoral Staff at Lebanon Area Evangelical Free Church reserves the right to withdraw or postpone agreement to perform any marriage, at anytime, if in its judgment, they believe a couple is not emotionally, mentally, or spiritually ready for marriage. Under those circumstances, such consideration will be brought to conclusion, and counsel will be offered as to the best way to proceed.* Sometimes the "best way to proceed" might involve postponing the ceremony and continuing with ongoing Shepherd-Couple Counseling, or referral to an outside, professional therapist, or pastoral counseling within the church. These, or other options, will be discussed if necessary. Rest assured, however, that in all cases, YOUR best interest will be kept at the forefront of the process!