

Premarital Preparation

The time of engagement is an exciting time, a time of planning, a time when hopes and dreams are coming true. At Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center, we serve as partners in the process of helping a joyful wedding to become an enduring marriage.

We expect that a couple's clergy will speak with them about the spiritual meaning of marriage and the other particular teachings of their church regarding family life. We reinforce and supplement the pastor's ministry through the particular gifts and resources that we bring.

Typically, we use the Prepare/Enrich program from Life Innovations, Inc. Through the questionnaires, the interviews, and the skill training that we provide, we help engaged couples to build on their strengths and to work on potential problem areas early, when it's easiest to find solutions. We also hope to make it easier for couples to call for help sooner rather than later, if marriage counseling ever is needed.

Prepare/Enrich involves a questionnaire that couples complete. Life Innovations analyzes the answers and provides interpretations that can help couples to identify their strengths and growing edges.

The couple meets with one of our counselors three times. They discuss the questionnaire, relationship skills, and other ideas that are useful for building a successful marriage. Because this does take some time, we encourage couples to call us as soon as possible.

The cost for the questionnaire and its administration is a total of thirty-five dollars. The current cost for the meetings with one of our counselors is ninety dollars each. The total cost is three hundred five dollars.

When couples have difficulty paying for this, the fees can be adjusted. This can be done because individuals and churches in our community contribute to our fee reduction program.

Almost always, couples come to engagement with high hopes and with a relationship that brings them joy already. We're here to offer some ideas, skills, and resources so that a good beginning can keep growing for a lifetime. Couples can call 757-873-2273, and we'll work with them to schedule this in time for their wedding.