Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are excited to invite you to the first St. John Lutheran Church, Bingen "Love Beyond Measure" Couples Retreat, which is being held the weekend of September 29-October 1, 2017 at the beautiful Blue Gate Garden Inn in Shipshewana, IN. www.bluegategardeninn.com

Our marriage enrichment team has spent a lot of time planning the retreat so it will be a great investment in your marital relationship. While attending the retreat, you will not only have the opportunity to "get away" from all the stresses of life and enjoy a weekend together, you will also hear from marriage professionals that will help you learn about God's design for marriage, develop deeper intimacy, and practice some new relationship skills.

Our guest presenter for the weekend is Rev. Dr. Todd Biermann, Pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Grand Blanc, MI. Dr. Biermann is an advisor to the Concordia Center for the Family and has been presenting on "Marriage in God's Way" internationally since 2006. We are blessed to have him come with his wife, Heather, and share God's Word and his expertise on marriage relationships.

The cost for the weekend:

- The registration fee per couple is $75.00 and is due with your registration form by Sunday September 3rd. This includes all program materials, snacks, and catered dinner on Saturday September 30th. Checks should be made out to "St. John Lutheran Church" with "Couples Retreat" in the memo line.

- We were able to lock in a group accommodation rate of thirty rooms at the Blue Gate Garden Inn at $122.00 per couple, per night (which includes your own private room and the Blue Gate's famous hot breakfast buffet each morning). To reserve your room, please contact the Blue Gate Garden Inn directly by calling **1-800-545-4725** *and ask for the "St. John Lutheran" block.* ***Our block of rooms is guaranteed until September 3rd***, after that date the rooms will be available on a first come first serve basis. Payment for your room is not due until the morning of check-out.

The registration deadline is Sunday September 3rd. The form is enclosed. Please fill it out and return it to the church office, a deacon, or one of the planning team members listed below.

The tentative schedule for the retreat can be found on the backside of this invitation.

We hope you will prayerfully consider joining us for this weekend designed just for you and your spouse! Please feel free to invite other couples to join us.

In Christ,

The St. John Bingen Marriage Enrichment Team
11555 N US Highway 27, Decatur, IN 46733

Brian & Angela Horning, Mark & Rhonda Scheumann, Kevin & Tracy Brown, Don & Danelle Westrick

Love Beyond Measure

Couples Retreat Tentative Schedule
September 29 – October 1, 2017
Blue Gate Garden Inn Shipshewana, Indiana
with Rev. Dr. Todd Biermann

Friday September 29th	3:00pm	Hotel Check-in Available	Lobby – Main Floor
		Dinner *on your own*	
	6:45-7:30pm	Retreat Check-in	Wisteria Room – 2nd Floor
	7:30-8:30pm	Session #1	Wisteria Room – 2nd Floor
	8:30-?	Fellowship, snacks, BYOB	Wisteria Room – 2nd Floor
Saturday September 30th	6:00-8:45am	Complimentary breakfast buffet	Blue Gate Inn Lobby
	9:00-10:00am	Session #2	Wisteria Room – 2nd Floor
	10:00-10:15am	Break (with snacks and beverages)	Wisteria Room – 2nd Floor
	10:15-11:30am	Session #3	Wisteria Room – 2nd Floor
	11:30-4:00pm	Free time for lunch, shopping, etc.	Explore Shipshewana
	4:00-5:00pm	Session #4	Wisteria Room – 2nd Floor
	5:00-5:10pm	Break (with snacks and beverages)	Wisteria Room – 2nd Floor
	5:10-6:10pm	Session #5	Wisteria Room – 2nd Floor
	6:30pm	Semi-formal Dinner Buffet	Wisteria Room – 2nd Floor
	7:30-8:15pm	Divine Service	Wisteria Room – 2nd Floor
	8:30pm-?	Fellowship, snacks, BYOB	
Sunday October 1st	6:00-8:45am	Complimentary breakfast buffet	Blue Gate Inn Lobby
	9:00-10:30am	Session #6	Wisteria Room
	10:30-11:00am	Check-out of Hotel	Blue Gate Inn Lobby