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Dear EWTN Radio Family:

I'm writing to share some happy news and some sad news with you. First, the happy news is that I am marrying my best friend, Peter Weinert, this summer. I am eternally grateful to Our Lord for bringing Peter into my life, and we are so excited for our July wedding.

The sad news is I have prayerfully discerned that it's time for me to step down as host of EWTN's premiere radio program for teens, *NextWave Live*. The past five and a half years of hosting the show have truly been a joy, and I've been amazed at the work God has done in the lives of teens and young adults through the program.

I have decided to take a sabbatical from Catholic radio for the purpose of focusing on my new vocation and my husband as I transition from single life to married life. I will be moving to Washington D.C. after my wedding, and it's my strong conviction that it's important to take some time away from the media so that Peter and I can transition smoothly into our vocation with each other (cf. Deuteronomy 24:5).

If the Lord opens a door in the future for continued work in Catholic radio, I am interested in transitioning away from the youth show concept and developing programming for the 20s-30s age group of young Catholics. Throughout my own dating/discernment, engagement, and marriage-prep, I have come to understand in a new way how very little support and help there is for Catholic young couples in the midst of this journey, and how many questions and concerns couples have as they become newlyweds and new parents.

I will be hosting *NextWave* (live) through Thursday, June 25, 2009. The EWTN Network will be airing "best of" encores of the program until September.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your prayers, encouragement, support, and for standing by me as I launched a new venture in Catholic radio. It has truly been an honor and blessing to serve alongside each of you.

Please pray for Peter and me as we prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage, and the EWTN listening family will certainly be in ours.



Yours in His Majesty's Service,

Stephanie Wood