

Conference Workshops

WORKSHOPS 1.01—1.19 FRIDAY 11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

1.01 Media and Technology: Test for the Modern Church

This workshop will describe the promise as well as the peril that media and technology present to Lutheran children's ministers. It will also provide practical strategies to maximize the benefits while minimizing the harm.

■ *Dr. David Walsh, former president of the National Institute on Media and the Family; founder of Mind Positive Parenting.*

1.02 Happy Feet: Steps to Getting Parents Excited About Your Ministry

You could have the best program in the country. Your kids could love coming and not want to leave. But if the parents aren't excited about what God is doing, the energy in your program will be sucked dry! The Stockers will share simple steps to get parents excited about what God is doing in your ministry.

■ *Todd Stocker serves as campus pastor at Concordia, St. Paul, Minn. He is a church planter, communicator and author of "Infinite Playlists." Kellie is a stay-at-home mom who designs and implements effective worship experiences for kids of all ages. Todd and Kellie live in Minnesota.*

1.03 Hit the Ground Running with VBS!

VBS is CC, BB, AA and OO! And no, these aren't blood types! VBS is Christ-centered, Bible-based, age-appropriate and outreach-oriented! The camp VBS curriculum of Iowa District West is based on these principles. Participants will do much more than "eat" vegetable soup. They will "taste" VBS outreach ideas.

■ *As Iowa District West education assistant, Pastor Bob Riggert has been part of developing 13 district VBS curriculums. He is author of "A Theological Foundation for Children's Ministry."*

1.04 A Child's Soul: The SOLE Purpose of Faith Development

This workshop will provide a basis for implementing strategies to help nurture a young child's faith—in their house, the schoolhouse and God's house. From infant intervention to the fifth grade church "dropout," participants will discover practical, proven ways to care for a child's soul in calm and in crisis.

■ *Jonathan Loesch is director of child and family ministries at Faith Lutheran Church in Georgetown, Texas. Tonya Loesch serves as a "Kinder-prep" teacher at Footsteps of Faith Early Childhood Learning Center. Jonathan and Tonya are the parents of three children: Bethany, Luke and Hannah.*

1.05 Music to the Max!

Great action songs are powerful teaching tools! You can effectively teach big ideas with simple songs! Included will be organizational tips, discipline ideas and motivational phrases to get children to do their best while singing. Warning! Be prepared to sing, move and have fun!

■ *Angela Naeve has been involved with a traveling music ministry for 20 years and writes and records original songs. She greatly enjoys presenting at conferences to encourage those who teach music (especially those non-musicians) as well as to teach new songs and ideas.*

1.06 Sneakers to Superheroes: Boys at Play (Alternate Title: HELP! I've Been Shot by a Carrot!)

Ever wondered why boys and girls play so differently? Participants in this workshop will be introduced to structural and functional variations in the brains of males and females. The focus will be on understanding the similarities and differences of brain development and the resulting ramifications they have on how children learn.

■ *Jennifer Hook teaches preschool in the Vail, Ariz., school district. She also serves as the early childhood strategic planning committee coordinator at Christ Lutheran in Vail, where her husband is pastor.*

1.07 Catch Me Being Good—Wearing Sandals or Sneakers

Proactive child management techniques impact every type of children's ministry gathering from the Sunday school class to the church nursery. Participants will review early childhood discipline basics with this practical and vitally important workshop.

■ *Dr. Mary Manz Simon is an award-winning author with more than one million books sold! She is a popular national conference speaker and media personality.*

1.08 The Church Has Left the Building

"This is the building, this is the steeple, open the doors and let's go people!" Have you ever wondered how you, or the children you work with, can be the church in the community in which God has placed you? This workshop will get you thinking and give you ways you can reach the people outside your church with the Good News of Jesus Christ!

■ *Kyle Blake currently serves as all purpose minister at Salem Lutheran Church in Orange, Calif. He is the vicar, director of youth ministry, and eighth grade religion teacher, yet he still finds time to hang out with his wife and son and go to school! Kyle is enrolled in the Cross Cultural Ministry Center at Concordia University, Irvine, Calif., and has a true passion for the lost!*

1.09 Telling God's Story—Walking the Walk!

In this hands-on-learning workshop we'll discover how we can and do tell God's story in creative and truthful ways, why it is important to tell His story, and explore some of the great resources available. We will also share with one another what is working in our own local settings.

■ *DeAnn McCue's passion is to bring Jesus to children and then to bring Him into the home! She has served in children's and family ministries for 14+ years in Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota. McCue and her husband, Craig, have two children, Christian and Hannah.*

1.10 Lace Up Your Running Shoes . . . Slide Into Slippers!

Experience the beautiful joy, humble honor and exhilarating pace of children and family ministry in this workshop. Participants will learn how to reach out into their neighborhoods, communities and the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

■ *Beth Howland serves as the director of children's ministries and preschool administrator at Hosanna Lutheran Church in Mesa, Ariz. Beth is married to John and has three children.*





1.11 Walking in Their Shoes—Children's Spiritual Journeys

Participants will explore the faith walk of children according to development theory and discuss various techniques that will assist in their spiritual growth.

■ *Dr. Becky Peters is an associate professor of education and director of Lutheran teaching programs at Concordia University, Irvine, Calif. She is the author of "Building Faith One Child at a Time" (CPH) as well as numerous articles and Christian education material for the LCMS.*

1.12 Dare to Be Different—Energizing Smaller Church Ministry

In the 21st century, smaller is taller and the smaller church can truly overcome Goliath obstacles. In this insightful workshop discover the unique advantages to being a smaller church and learn new opportunities in children's, youth and family ministries to grow bigger in influence and mission.

■ *Dr. Rick Chromey is a nationally known speaker, writer and life coach, committed to serving God and man. He is the author of several books including "Energizing Children's Ministry in the Smaller Church." Chromey is married to Patti, has two children and lives in Idaho.*

1.13 CANCELLED

1.14 Growing Up Blended Family Kids God's Way

This workshop will explore biblical principles for helping children in blended families become all that God has created them to be. The importance of connection, communication, comfort and discipline will be highlighted.

■ *Dr. Buddy Mendez is professor of psychology and chair of the Department of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences at Concordia University, Irvine, Calif.*

1.15 Divorce Care for Kids

Divorce care for kids is a biblically based, Christ-centered ministry tool designed to bring healing to children of divorce (ages 5-12).

■ *Kellye Johnson serves as the DC4Kids facilitator at St. John's Lutheran Church in Orange, Calif.*

1.16 Seeking the Faith Quotient—Part 1

When we as Christian educators teach children how to love, to trust and to forgive, we are supporting the development of emotional skills. These faith skills will positively impact every part of a child's life. **This is a two-part workshop. Please sign up for Part 2 at 2.16. The workshop is repeated at 3.04 (Part 1) and 4.04 (Part 2).**

■ *Kim Marxhausen has spent 26 years teaching in Lutheran schools and currently teaches for the early childhood graduate program at Concordia University Nebraska, Seward, Neb. She is also a full-time student, working on her PhD in educational psychology.*

1.17 Creating a Family Worship Experience

In today's fast-paced and often fragmented world, families struggle to participate in meaningful activities. Join Pastor Peterson as he describes how a great team of people who care about families have created a relevant, practical and supporting worship experience for parents and kids!

■ *Pastor Ryan Peterson serves at St. John's Lutheran Church in Ellisville, Mo., as the director of Next Generation Ministries, strategic planner and teaching pastor.*

1.18 Changing Family Dynamics: Why It Makes for the "Best of Times" for the Church!

During this workshop we will explore the changing dynamics of the American family in the 21st century (children having more parents than parents having children, living together, new sexual mores, the impact of "techie" stuff). As these dynamics change so do the opportunities and challenges presented to church workers. It can be the "best of times" for the church to make a difference!

■ *Roger Sonnenberg is senior pastor at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Arcadia, Calif. He serves as Pacific Southwest District first vice president and adjunct professor in the graduate program of Family Ministry at Concordia University Nebraska, Seward, Neb., and Concordia University, Irvine, Calif. Sonnenberg is also a nationally renowned author of books and studies on sexuality, parenting and marriage.*

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1.19 Move Your Feet to a Brand New Beat!

What does it take to get a beginner's Praise Band up and running? Learn the basics of forming a student-aged praise band with resources, advice and action steps that will get your kids rockin' out for Jesus!

■ *Chris Higgins is involved with contemporary worship and serves as Church Marketing Coordinator for St. John's Lutheran Church, Orange, Calif.*

WORKSHOPS 2.01—2.20

FRIDAY 1:30 – 2:45 p.m.

2.01 Mission + Vision + Values

Sustainable children's ministries are built on a solid foundation. Giving purpose and direction is important and takes time. This workshop will help those getting started in children's ministries as well as refresh those already in the trenches. Come and keep moving forward!

■ *Michelle Thompson serves as executive director and children's ministry advocate at CrossPoint Community Church in Katy, Texas.*

2.02 Say Yes to "No": The Importance of Self-Discipline and How to Foster It

Self-discipline is critical for children's cognitive, emotional and spiritual discipline. Dr. David Walsh will explain how to foster self-discipline in a culture of "More, Fast, Easy and Fun!"

■ *Dr. David Walsh, former president of the National Institute on Media and the Family; founder of Mind Positive Parenting.*

2.03 Bridging the Gap—Transitioning Children into Youth Ministry

It's better to build a fence at the top of a cliff than a hospital at the bottom. Similarly, in this interactive workshop, you'll discover the unique needs of kids (ages 10-14) and design strategies to transition them into a youth ministry that reflects grace, community, empowerment, value, fun and security.

■ *Dr. Rick Chromey is a nationally known speaker, writer and life coach, committed to serving God and man. He is the author of several books including "Energizing Children's Ministry in the Smaller Church." Rick is married to Patti, has two children and lives in Idaho.*

2.04 Walking in Their Shoes—Children’s Spiritual Journeys

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■ *Dr. Becky Peters is an associate professor of education and Director of Lutheran Teaching Programs at Concordia University, Irvine, Calif. She is the author of “Building Faith One Child at a Time” (CPH) as well as numerous articles and Christian education material for the LCMS.*

2.05 Tired of Waiting? Get MADD in School!

Sing, laugh, dance and enjoy this workshop offering ideas for incorporating the arts into your daily routines and lesson plans.

■ *Jennifer Hook teaches preschool in the Vail, Ariz., school district. She also serves as the early childhood strategic planning committee coordinator at Christ Lutheran Church in Vail, where her husband is pastor.*

2.06 Bright Lights and Warm Hearts = Church and Family

Do you want to learn how to equip parents for their role as spiritual leaders beyond just a paper handout? Come and find out what morning time, drive time, meal time and bedtime can mean for children’s ministry.

■ *Celeste Koscik serves as director of children’s ministry at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and School in Orange, Calif. She oversees children’s ministry from nursery to eighth grade.*

2.07 Bible Bops for Wisdom

Ever had a song get stuck in your head and it keeps coming back? Let’s do that with God’s Word! Bible Bops help people learn and memorize Scripture, including the reference. Come and BOP with us!

■ *Angela Naeve has been involved with a traveling music ministry for 20 years and writes and records original songs. She greatly enjoys presenting at conferences to encourage those who teach music (especially those non-musicians) as well as to teach new songs and ideas.*

2.08 Walking in Their Sneakers: The Gospel of John in the Life of a Special Needs Child

This workshop will present practical strategies for teaching the faith to children with special needs as well as specific ways to minister to their families.

■ *Pastor Bob Sundquist is associate pastor and minister of education at Abiding Savior Lutheran Church and School in Lake Forest, Calif. Sundquist and his wife have two young children.*

2.09 CANCELLED

2.10 The Church Has Left the Building

“This is the building, this is the steeple, open the doors and let’s go people!” Have you ever wondered how you, or the children you work with, can be the church in the community in which God has placed you? This workshop will get you thinking and give you ways you can reach the people outside your church with the Good News of Jesus Christ!

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■ *DeAnn McCue’s passion is to bring Jesus to children and then to bring Him into the home! She has served in children’s and family ministries for 14+ years in Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota. DeAnn and her husband, Craig, have two children, Christian and Hannah.*

2.12 Let the Children Come . . .

Don’t SHOO Them Away!

Working proactively with parents, church staff and volunteers will include, involve and integrate children into the worship life of the congregation. This workshop will go beyond children’s messages, bulletins and children’s church to explore how children can serve and lead in worship.

■ *Jonathan Loesch is director of child and family ministries at Faith Lutheran Church in Georgetown, Texas. Tonya Loesch serves as a “Kinder-prep” teacher at Footsteps of Faith Early Childhood Learning Center. Jonathan and Tonya are the parents of three children: Bethany, Luke and Hannah.*

2.13 Giant Steps for Smaller Ministry Context

Do you consider yourself “small” in the number of children or families? Small in size of worshiping community, congregation or in community size? Take a giant step of faith! God continues to use the small to work miracles for His children. Workshop participants will see the giant faith footprints of other small ministry “steppers!”

■ *As Iowa District West education assistant, Pastor Bob Riggert has been part of developing 13 district VBS curriculums. He is author of “A Theological Foundation for Children’s Ministry.”*

2.14 Teacher, Can I be Baptized?

Jesus’ command is to “... make disciples of all nations by baptizing.” How can teachers, pastors, parents, children’s ministry and youth teams work together to make the Great Commission a reality? In this workshop participants will discover how to be intentional with the Great Commission and hear an example of how one Lutheran church and school has proven it can be done!

■ *Pastor Chris Singer serves as executive pastor at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Orange, Calif. He works to ensure the staff coordinates their ministries to meet the annual goals of the church’s vision and mission. Last year, St. John’s was delighted with the baptism of 137 children and 26 adults. Singer is married to Jeanette and has five children.*

2.15 Growing Up Blended Family Kids God’s Way

This workshop will explore biblical principles for helping children in blended families become all that God has created them to be. The importance of connection, communication, comfort and discipline will be highlighted.

■ *Dr. Buddy Mendez is professor of psychology and chair of the Department of Psychology and Behavioral Sciences at Concordia University, Irvine, Calif.*





2.16 Seeking the Faith Quotient—Part 2

This is Part 2 of a two-part workshop. Please sign up for Part 1 at 1.16. The workshop is repeated at 3.04 (Part 1) and 4.04 (Part 2).

■ *Kim Marxhausen has spent 26 years teaching in Lutheran schools and currently teaches for the early childhood graduate program at Concordia University Nebraska, Seward, Neb. She is also a full-time student, working on her PhD in educational psychology.*

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2.20 Giggles and Wiggles—Music, Movement and Creative Activities for Circle Time

Join us for this hands-on, participatory workshop demonstrating a variety of techniques and props for presenting music, movement, rhythm instruments, songs, finger-plays, name games, stories, puppets and creative activities. Have fun, get inspired and take home lots of new ideas to make group time—at EC and Sunday school classes—more enjoyable and active for all kids!

■ *Sharron Krull is a passionate, enthusiastic and inspiring early childhood educator. Her special rapport with children stems from her positive attitude toward life, her in-depth training and her rewarding experiences while teaching children, training teachers and speaking all over the country.*

WORKSHOPS 3.01—3.20

SATURDAY 9 – 10:15 a.m.

3.01 Wiggly Worship

Engage children (4-11) in the worship experience while teaching them catechesis in the process! This workshop will focus on active learning, liturgy and empowering kids to understand what worship means and how to apply God's Word to their everyday lives.

■ *Shelli Haynes serves as children's minister at Shepherd of the Hills in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. (Yes, it really does exist!) Shelli is married to Travis and has two daughters.*

3.02 Outreach With All the Bells and Whistles!

Participants will learn to structure a music outreach program from scratch using hand bells, recorders and knowledge of basic musicianship. You can do this—even on a budget!

■ *Patricia Anderson is the children's music director at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Huntington Beach, Calif. She has a passion for sharing the Gospel with young children through music!*

3.03 RELAY: How to Build an All-Star Children's Ministry Team!

Any running relay team needs to make sure that its runners are in the correct positions to be the most effective team on the track! But how do you build such a team? Todd and Kellie will give you a model to put together an all-star team of people who are passionately serving Jesus as they serve His kids!

■ *Todd Stocker serves as campus pastor at Concordia, St. Paul, Minn. He is a church planter, communicator and author of “Infinite Playlists.” Kellie is a stay-at-home mom who designs and implements effective worship experiences for kids of all ages. Todd and Kellie live in Minnesota.*

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When we as Christian educators teach children how to love, to trust and to forgive, we are supporting the development of emotional skills. These faith skills will positively impact every part of a child's life. **This is a two-part workshop. Please sign up for Part 2 at 4.04.**

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3.05 Extreme Makeover: A Christian Environment Edition!

You can be your church and school's next “design star” and we'll be using God as our inspiration! Whether your environment needs a total renovation or just a few fresh ideas and tips, this workshop will help you to create an environment that reflects a “godly” goal.

■ *Kristine Rohm enjoys her new title as “stay-at-home” mom after 14 years in Lutheran early childhood education. She has served on the Pacific Southwest District Early Childhood Cabinet and Lutheran Educator's Conference Committee. She is a well-respected workshop presenter and early childhood educator.*

3.06 Connected and Protected: Raising Webwise Kids!

“Online, All the Time”—welcome to the world of the “hyper-connected” child! The number of 12-year-olds with mobile phone, laptop or handheld gaming devices has increased 400 percent in just five years! Discover tips for allowing your children—or the children you serve—to take advantage of all the good things the Internet has to offer while avoiding some of the common pitfalls that can lead to online danger.

■ *Roger Marsh is the author of “Internet: Protect Your Kids” and a regular broadcaster for HomeWord, an outreach ministry of Azusa Pacific University. He also serves as lay teaching pastor at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Laguna Woods, Calif.*

3.07 Walking Together: The Role of the Church in Faith Formation

Participants will be introduced to the stages of faith formation and explore how the church can—and SHOULD—support and nurture the faith of young children.

■ *Jennifer Hook teaches preschool in the Vail, Ariz., school district. She also serves as the early childhood strategic planning committee coordinator at Christ Lutheran in Vail, where her husband is pastor.*

3.08 Teacher, Can I be Baptized?

Jesus’ command is to “... make disciples of all nations by baptizing.” How can teachers, pastors, parents, children’s ministry and youth teams work together to make the Great Commission a reality? In this workshop participants will discover how to be intentional with the Great Commission and hear an example of how one Lutheran church and school has proven it can be done!

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3.09 360 Degree Kid Advocacy

Kids need an advocate in today’s world and you are it! Learn how to give kids a voice to the leaders above you, below you and right next to you. You have an outstanding opportunity to create a “path” for kids in your ministry, the community and into the world!

■ *Michelle Thompson is executive director and children’s ministry advocate at CrossPoint Christian Church in Katy, Texas.*

3.10 Bright Lights and Warm Hearts = Church and Family

Do you want to learn how to equip parents for their role as spiritual leaders beyond just a paper handout? Come and find out what morning time, drive time, meal time and bedtime can mean for children’s ministry.

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■ *Jonathan Loesch is director of child and family ministries at Faith Lutheran Church in Georgetown, Texas. Tonya Loesch serves as a “Kinder-prep” teacher at Footsteps of Faith Early Childhood Learning Center. Jonathan and Tonya are the parents of three children: Bethany, Luke and Hannah.*

3.13 Keep Them Moving with Your Bags of Tricks! Transition Tools and Tips

You don’t have to be a magician to create transitions that help young children move smoothly and joyfully from one activity to the next. Add to your collection quick and amusing learning activities to facilitate transitions with children. These “in-between-activity” times are valuable teachable moments.

■ *Sharron Krull is a passionate, enthusiastic and inspiring early childhood educator. Her special rapport with children stems from her positive attitude toward life, her in-depth training and her rewarding experiences while teaching children, training teachers and speaking all over the country.*

3.14 Get Your Feet Moving in Chapel!

Come and explore “ready to go” chapels for kids of all ages! You will leave this workshop with practical tools you can use to help children become successful “messengers” of the Gospel in a chapel setting. You will also receive five chapel ideas to build your own chapel services.

■ *Nancy Swanlund has served in our Lutheran schools and churches for more than 30 years, including preschool, elementary and administration. She has a passion for sharing the Gospel with children of all ages!*

3.15 Family Fun Nights—Stepping in the Right Direction!

Families that pray and play together are better equipped to meet the demands that today’s society place on them. Come and learn easy and fun activities for early childhood, Sunday school and congregational ministries. These activities will help the church family celebrate time together!

■ *Shery Fiene is the director of early childhood ministries at King of Kings in Omaha, Neb. She has taught in Lutheran schools, served as early childhood consultant for the North Wisconsin District and assisted several congregations in developing EC ministries.*

3.16 Missional Leadership in the Classroom

Discover your role—as directed by our “Missional God”—in pursuing children and families for baptism and faith development. Participants will explore ways to establish a “missional identity” in their classrooms by acting locally and impacting globally!

■ *Pastor Mike Gibson is lead pastor at Christ Lutheran Church and School in Costa Mesa, Calif. He is an outspoken proponent of the value of our Lutheran schools as one of the primary resources for effective outreach to our communities and our world.*





3.17 Integrating the Arts and Literacy

Children love music, poetry, movement and visual arts! Explore creative ways to enhance literacy development and provide an optimal learning environment by using the arts as the vehicle of choice!

■ *Susan Brandt teaches first grade and art at Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran School in Scottsdale, Ariz. She holds a BA in education with concentrations in music and early childhood education and an MA in education with a literacy emphasis.*

3.18 Really? Those Children Want Shoes Too?

Sneakers, sandals . . . kids with special needs don't care, they just want to walk with everyone else—learning, growing, making friends and sharing their gifts! This workshop addresses the challenges and great blessings of welcoming children with special needs into our churches and schools. Strategies and insights will be presented for successful inclusion of this often under-served and “under-churched” population.

■ *Lee Segalla is the teacher of the Mark 10:14 Program at Faith Lutheran Junior/Senior High School in Las Vegas, Nev. This program provides an inclusive Christian education for middle and high school students with Downs Syndrome and autism. Lee also volunteers her services to the Free to Fly program at Canyon Ridge Christian Church. Lee has preschool and elementary education experience as well.*

JUST ADDED!

3.19 How to Use Puppets Effectively with Children and Youth

Many children's leaders have discovered that puppets can be used as teaching tools to tell Bible stories, sing worship songs, teach Bible verses, and many others. Children's love for puppets can evolve into their quickly becoming puppeteers and becoming involved in ministry using these colorful puppet “friends.” This workshop will cover the various approaches to puppet ministry, organizational necessities, basic techniques, material selection advice and hands-on training for the workshop attendees. Involvement in puppet ministry has been instrumental for thousands of children and youth in their spiritual maturity because of the discipleship and outreach emphasis inherent in proper puppet ministry programs. (Targets youth 10 to 15 years.)

■ *Dale VonSeggen is the former president and CEO for One Way Street Ministry, which started out as a family ministry and has become one of America's best-known puppet ministries. Dale now devotes his time to writing, publishing a wide variety of children's ministry resources, and founding many regional, national and international training events for workers with children and youth. Dale and his wife, Liz, reside in Lone Tree, Colo., a suburb of Denver.*

JUST ADDED!

3.20 Children's Ministry Classics Old and New

Walk through both new and the tried and true children's ministry resources from Concordia Publishing House! This hands-on workshop will let you explore the various materials and ask questions as you learn what's new and in the pipeline for Sunday school and vacation Bible school from your publishing house. This is your opportunity for face-to-face contact with a product developer who

wants to hear from you about your needs, ideas and ways that Concordia Publishing House can better serve you.

■ *Deaconess Pamela Nielsen is passionate about raising children in the family of God and encouraging and assisting others to do the same. For nearly nine years she has served as the senior editor for Sunday school, VBS and youth materials at Concordia Publishing House. Prior to coming to CPH she served as Director of Community Services at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind., and as parish deaconess in several midwestern congregations.*

WORKSHOPS 4.01— 4.20 SATURDAY 1:15 – 2:30 p.m.

4.01 Jump into the Light with Jana!

As we all know, children love to get their feet (and everything else) moving as they praise our awesome God! Come learn from Jana songs and techniques that are sure to engage, teach, delight and inspire kids (and adults) to love and praise Him with all their heart, mind, soul (sole) and strength. Wear comfy shoes for this workshop—you'll be jumpin,' diggin,' surfin,' drivin,' climbin,' freezin,' walkin' and dancin' for Jesus—kid style!

■ *Jana Alayra is a Christian songwriter, recording artist and worship leader for kids and adults. She and husband/producer Ron have created five CDs for children's praise music (and one in Spanish) and eight DVDs, along with other resources, all of which are enjoyed all over the world in churches, youth groups, cars and living rooms.*

4.02 Dr. Scholl for the SOUL: Arch Care, Instep and Ditching Smelly Socks

An encouraging and interactive session for all foot soldiers of Christ! Come in, be loved and learn practical steps to help you manage the terrain of your life and ministry.

■ *Paul Stark is the president of Pillar Christian Ministries Inc. and serves as a mission developer for the southwest region of Missouri. He works with the Missouri District as part of its Care Team, a group assisting church workers and congregations achieve optimal ministry health.*

4.03 Crash Course on “Steps” in Faith Development

Whether you just need a review—or if you have no idea there are “STEPS”—then this workshop is for you! Learn how you and your ministry can—and should—support children and their families during each “step” from infancy to adolescence.

■ *Kristine Rohm enjoys her new title as “stay-at-home” mom after 14 years in Lutheran early childhood education. Kristine has served on the Pacific Southwest District Early Childhood Cabinet and Lutheran Educator's Conference Committee. She is a well-respected workshop presenter and EC educator.*

4.04 Seeking the Faith Quotient—Part 2

This is Part 2 of a two-part workshop. Please sign up for Part 1 of the workshop at 3.04.

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University Nebraska, Seward, Neb. She is also a full-time student, working on her PhD in educational psychology.

4.05 Outreach With All the Bells and Whistles!

Participants will learn to structure a music outreach program from scratch using hand bells, recorders, and knowledge of basic musicianship. You can do this—even on a budget!

■ *Patricia Anderson is the children's music director at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Huntington Beach, Calif. She has a passion for sharing the Gospel with young children through music!*

4.06 Giant Steps for Smaller Ministry Context

Do you consider yourself “small” in number of children or families? Small in size of worshipping community, congregation or in community size? Take a GIANT step of faith! God continues to use the small to work miracles for His children. Workshop participants will see the giant faith footprints of other small ministry “steppers!”

■ *As Iowa District West education assistant, Pastor Bob Riggert has been part of developing 13 district VBS curriculums. He is author of “A Theological Foundation for Children’s Ministry.”*

4.07 Inhale Before You Exhale!

We’re not talking about air but about the Word of God! Many children’s ministry servants neglect their own spiritual nurture even as they nurture others in the ways and Word of God. Learn to inhale deeply from God’s Word to prepare sharing His precious Word with children and families. Participants will be invited to share what “works” for them.

■ *Paul Brandt identifies himself as a Bible study leader, husband, father, grandfather, school consultant for the Pacific Southwest District and ministry consultant with New Horizons Ministry Consulting.*

4.08 Integrating the Arts and Literacy

Children love music, poetry, movement and visual arts! Explore creative ways to enhance literacy development and provide an optimal learning environment by using the arts as the vehicle of choice!

■ *Susan Brandt teaches first grade and art at Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran School in Scottsdale, Ariz. Susan holds a BA in education with concentrations in music and early childhood education and an MA in education with a literacy emphasis.*

4.09 Into “Crocs” and “Jibbitz”—Walk this Way!

“Crocs” and “Jibbitz” have caught on with kids of all ages. Using “croc” shoes as the foundation for our children’s ministries and “jibbitz” as the “Bling,” let’s look at ways to enhance the ability of your primary programs to connect to your church’s youngest members!

■ *Kim Voelker serves as principal at Hephatha Lutheran School in Anaheim, Calif. She has extensive experience in early childhood education (preschool through third grade) and has a passion for excellence in education.*

4.10 Cross Trainers: A Gospel Approach to Classroom Management

From arts and blocks, discovery and science, equipment and supplies to guidance and discipline, language and literature, music and movement—learn how to always be leading children to the cross!

■ *Beth Howland serves as the director of children’s ministries and preschool administrator at Hosanna Lutheran Church in Mesa, Ariz. Beth is married to John and has three children.*

4.11 Bible Bops for Wisdom

Ever had a song get stuck in your head and it keeps coming back? Let’s do that with God’s Word! Bible Bops help people learn and memorize Scripture, including the reference. Come and BOP with us!

■ *Angela Naeve has been involved with a traveling music ministry for 20 years and writes and records original songs. She greatly enjoys presenting at conferences to encourage those who teach music (especially those non-musicians) as well as to teach new songs and ideas.*

4.12 Feet That Bring Good News: Planning Mission Trips for Families

Believers consistently list mission trips as experiences that have a great spiritual impact on their lives. Many congregations send high-schoolers and adults on mission trips but how about weekend trips for families with small children? This workshop explores logistics and ideas for weekend mission trips that will help every family member grow in their faith!

■ *Brian King serves as pastor of children’s ministry at the Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens in St. Louis, Mo. His passion is helping families and children develop enthusiasm for living out their baptism as disciples of Jesus Christ.*

4.13 Make and Take It—Messy Art, Early Childhood and Summer Camps

Summer is a great time to offer fun, one-week theme-based camps to explore their love for the arts, music, reading, digging in the dirt and playing with water. Learn how children can “play” in concert with the natural interests God has given them.

■ *Shery Fiene is the director for children’s ministry at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Omaha, Neb. Shery has taught in Lutheran schools and has served as EC consultant for the North Wisconsin District.*

4.14 Ministry From the Front Porch

This presentation returns us to a time when families engaged their neighborhoods from the front porch of their home. Today our Lutheran schools are a congregation’s front porch to its community. We will explore innovative ways to connect our schools to our communities.

■ *Terry Schmidt is LCMS associate director of school ministries. He helps schools and congregations begin new schools, improve existing ones through accreditation and train new school leaders. He believes the future success of the LCMS is directly linked to the vitality of our Lutheran schools.*

4.15 CANCELLED

4.16 One in Christ: New CPH School Curriculum

Explore features of this new 21st century curriculum designed to share the Good News within early childhood and elementary school classrooms.

■ *Brenda Trunkhill grew up attending Lutheran elementary and high schools and graduated from Concordia, St. Paul, Minn. She has taught children from birth to second grade about Jesus’ love and forgiveness. She presently serves as an editor of curriculum resources at Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. Brenda’s husband is a pastor of mission and outreach and they have been blessed with two young children.*

4.17 Really? Those Children Want Shoes Too?

Sneakers, sandals ... kids with special needs don’t care, they just want to walk with everyone else—learning, growing, making friends





and sharing their gifts! This workshop addresses the challenges and great blessings of welcoming children with special needs into our churches and schools. Strategies and insights will be presented for successful inclusion of this often under-served and “under-churched” population.

■ *Lee Segalla is the teacher of the Mark 10:14 Program at Faith Lutheran Junior/Senior High School in Las Vegas, Nev. This program provides an inclusive Christian education for middle and high school students with Downs Syndrome and autism. Lee also volunteers her services to the Free to Fly program at Canyon Ridge Christian Church. She has preschool and elementary education experience as well.*

4.18 Play Power! Physical Activity to Boost the Brain and Grow Healthy Bodies

Let's get moving as you join in cooperative group games and use simple equipment to increase moderate to vigorous activity. Discover what is known from research about the brain and its connection to movement, food and cognitive development. Make a difference in the future of children by making health and fitness a part of everyday. Fit kids are smart kids!

■ *Sharron Krull is a passionate, enthusiastic and inspiring early childhood educator. Her special rapport with children stems from her positive attitude toward life, her in-depth training and her rewarding experiences while teaching kids, training teachers and speaking all over the country.*

JUST ADDED!

4.19 How to Use Puppets Effectively with Children and Youth

Many children's leaders have discovered that puppets can be used as teaching tools to tell Bible stories, sing worship songs, teach Bible verses, and many others. Children's love for puppets can evolve into their quickly becoming puppeteers and becoming involved in ministry using these colorful puppet “friends.” This workshop will cover the various approaches to puppet ministry, organizational necessities, basic techniques, material selection advice and hands-on training for the workshop attendees. Involvement in puppet ministry has been instrumental for thousands of children and youth in their spiritual maturity because of the discipleship and outreach emphasis inherent in proper puppet ministry programs.

■ *Dale VonSeggen is the former president and CEO for One Way Street Ministry, which started out as a family ministry and has become one of America's best-known puppet ministries. Dale now devotes his time to writing, publishing a wide variety of children's ministry resources, and founding many regional, national and international training events for workers with children and youth. Dale and his wife, Liz, reside in Lone Tree, Colo., a suburb of Denver.*

4.20 Jump Into the World of Audio Technology

How will they KNOW if they cannot HEAR? In this workshop, attendees will learn how to incorporate modern audio tools to help people “hear” better while equipping volunteers involved in this important ministry area. Several low cost and effective sound systems will be demonstrated along with microphones and other audio equipment.

■ *Ryan Hall is the director of Audio-Visual Ministries at St. John's Lutheran Church, Orange, Calif.*

WORKSHOPS 5.01—5.21

SATURDAY 3 – 4:15 p.m.

5.01 Dr. Scholl for the Soul: Arch Care, Instep and Ditching Smelly Socks

An encouraging and interactive session for all foot soldiers of Christ! Come in, be loved and learn practical steps to help you manage the terrain of your life and ministry.

■ *Paul Stark is the president of Pillar Christian Ministries Inc. and serves as a mission developer for the southwest region of Missouri. He works with the Missouri District as part of its Care Team, a group assisting church workers and congregations achieve optimal ministry health.*

5.02 Inhale Before You Exhale!

We're not talking about air but about the Word of God! Many children's ministry servants neglect their own spiritual nurture even as they nurture others in the ways and Word of God. Learn to inhale deeply from God's Word to prepare sharing His precious Word with children and families. Participants will be invited to share what “works” for them.

■ *Paul Brandt identifies himself as a Bible study leader, husband, father, grandfather, school consultant for the Pacific Southwest District and ministry consultant with New Horizons Ministry Consulting.*

5.03 Make and Take It—Messy Art, Early Childhood and Summer Camps

Summer is a great time to offer fun, one-week theme-based camps to explore their love for the arts, music, reading, digging in the dirt and playing with water. Learn how children can “play” in concert with the natural interests God has given them.

■ *Shery Fiene is the director for children's ministry at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Omaha, Neb. Shery has taught in Lutheran schools and has served as Early Childhood consultant for the North Wisconsin District.*

5.04 CANCELLED

5.05 One in Christ: New CPH School Curriculum

Explore features of this new 21st century curriculum designed to share the Good News within early childhood and elementary school classrooms.

■ *Brenda Trunkhill grew up attending Lutheran elementary and high schools and graduated from Concordia, St. Paul, Minn. She has taught children from birth to second grade about Jesus' love and forgiveness. She presently serves as an editor of curriculum resources at Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo. Brenda's husband is a pastor of mission and outreach and they have been blessed with two young children.*

5.06 Connected and Protected: Raising Webwise Kids!

“Online, All the Time”—welcome to the world of the “hyper-connected” child! The number of 12-year-olds with mobile phone, laptop or handheld gaming devices has increased 400 percent in just five years! Discover tips for allowing your children—or the children you serve—to take advantage of all the good things the Internet has to offer while avoiding some of the common pitfalls that can lead to online danger.

■ *Roger Marsh is the author of “Internet: Protect Your Kids” and a regular broadcaster for HomeWord, an outreach ministry of Azusa*

Pacific University. Roger also serves as lay teaching pastor at Lutheran Church of the Cross in Laguna Woods, Calif.

5.07 Crash Course on “Steps” in Faith Development

Whether you just need a review—or if you have no idea there are “STEPS”—then this workshop is for you! Learn how you and your ministry can—and should—support children and their families during each “step” from infancy to adolescence.

■ *Kristine Rohm enjoys her new title as stay-at-home mom after 14 years in Lutheran early childhood education. Kristine has served on the PSD Early Childhood Cabinet and Lutheran Educator’s Conference Committee. She is a well-respected workshop presenter and EC educator.*

5.08 Ministry From the Front Porch

This presentation returns us to a time when families engaged their neighborhoods from the front porch of their home. Today our Lutheran schools are a congregation’s front porch to its community. We will explore innovative ways to connect our schools to our communities.

■ *Terry Schmidt is LCMS associate director of school ministries. He helps schools and congregations begin new schools, improve existing ones through accreditation and train new school leaders. He believes the future success of the LCMS is directly linked to the vitality of our Lutheran schools.*

5.09 MOVED TO 2.20

5.10 Casual and Comfy to Designer Shoes: Stepping Out in the Shoes God Has For You!

You said “yes!” (Thank you!) Now what do you do? This workshop will explore how you may use your God-given talents and abilities in ministry to His children and will give you creative ideas to keep their feet coming back for more!

■ *Sandi Scott is the director of school-age care and summer day camp at Zion Lutheran Church and School in Anaheim, Calif. Sandi has worn holes in her shoes serving in children’s ministry, student development and youth leadership.*

5.11 Into “Crocs” and “Jibbitz”—Walk this Way!

“Crocs” and “Jibbitz” have caught on with kids of all ages. Using “croc” shoes as the foundation for our children’s ministries and “jibbitz” as the “Bling,” let’s look at ways to enhance the ability of your primary programs to connect to your church’s youngest members!

■ *Kim Voelker serves as principal at Hephatha Lutheran School in Anaheim, Calif. Kim has extensive experience in early childhood education (preschool through third grade) and has a passion for excellence in education.*

5.12 Step by Step: Faith Development in the Preschool Classroom

This workshop will offer simple, practical and creative ways to enrich the faith development of young children in your classroom and provide proven strategies that will impact the faith life of the entire family!

■ *Beth Howland serves as the director of children’s ministries and preschool administrator at Hosanna Lutheran Church in Mesa, Ariz. Beth is married to John and has three children.*

5.13 How to Give a Bad Children’s Message

A children’s message can be an effective component of worship for engaging children (and adults too)! We will explore ways to take advantage of the golden opportunity to share the Gospel while

avoiding various pitfalls.

■ *Brian King serves as pastor of children’s ministry at the Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens in St. Louis, Mo. His passion is helping families and children develop enthusiasm for living out their baptism as disciples of Jesus Christ.*

5.14 Creating Dynamic Disciples

Children’s ministry is too often about keeping kids quiet, being passive and sitting still! Learn powerful ways to engage children in God’s Word so they will not only excitedly share Jesus with others, but also grow as young leaders, ready to commit to a lifelong journey with their Savior!

■ *Shelli Haynes serves as children’s minister at Shepherd of the Hills in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. (Yes, it really does exist!) Shelli is married to Travis and has two daughters.*

5.15 Coach a Dream Team

You dream about it! A children’s ministry program staffed with happy and fully dedicated volunteers. You can make this dream a reality by the coaching and encouragement you give! This workshop helps to “coach the coaches.”

■ *Michelle Thompson serves as executive director and children’s ministry advocate at CrossPoint Community Church in Katy, Texas.*

5.16 Brain Gain, Not Brain Drain

What does current brain research tell us about getting our brains ready to “grow in wisdom, knowledge and favor” with God? The brain is what makes us unique and who we are. Practical help for educators in their personal life, their professional work with children and their work with parents, to maximize our ability to give God our best. Topics include: the critical triangle of exercise, diet and play; the changing brain; help with brain-friendly planning; and brain research and faith formation in the home.

■ *Mark Schoepp has served as a DCE in four parishes for 20 years and has performed with his family as Fitz Family Ministries, an entertainment and educational ministry, for 12 years full time. Mark now serves full time with Wheat Ridge Ministries as church relations representative; he travels all over the United States encouraging and assisting congregations that are starting new health and human care ministries, providing workshops related to whole person health, and helping congregations expand their ministry reach by engaging with and supporting the work of Wheat Ridge.*

5.17 Come Walk With Me! Creating Inclusive Community

An interactive, participatory experience exploring models for inclusion and support in church and school environments of children, youth and families who experience disability.

■ *This dynamic duo of ministry consultants, Mona Fuerstenau and Sue Hart, are from Bethesda Lutheran Communities. Fuerstenau, BA speech-language pathology, is parent of two young adults with diverse support needs. With more than 20 years in family oriented ministry, Fuerstenau considers herself a facilitator and advocate for families who experience disability. DCE Sue Hart is the parent of two teenagers. Hart has found joy in ministry to and with individuals with developmental disabilities. She is a charter organizer of the Bethesda Mountain Builders Camp in Colorado. Both are devoted to helping others imagine and equipping them with the knowledge to create churches, schools and community environments fully inclusive of those who experience disabilities.*





5.18 Standing Firm—Building a Strong Foundation

Without a firm foundation, the building falls—without a firm foundation of faith, the child falls. Lutheran Hour Ministries stands next to you as you build the firm foundation of faith for the children in your charge. From preschool to young adult, LHM can provide materials designed to build a foundation of faith that will last until eternity.

■ *Rich Cohrs is manager of district and congregational relations for Lutheran Hour Ministries. Cohrs previously served as a principal and teacher at various institutions in Michigan, Texas and Illinois.*

5.19 Be Well, Serve Well

This presentation takes a look at the Christian perspective of wellness, and how the health culture of our nation creates a negative influence of our physical health and well-being. Learn how to “Be Well” through healthier habits and by watching portion sizes so that you can better focus on your ministry.

■ *Steve Gruenwald is the health and wellness educator of Concordia Plan Services of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. He is also the editor of Better Health: a quarterly wellness newsletter published by Concordia Plan Services.*

5.20 Jump Into the World of Audio Technology

How will they KNOW if they cannot HEAR? In this workshop, attendees will learn how to incorporate modern audio tools to help people “hear” better while equipping volunteers involved in this important ministry area. Several low cost and effective sound systems will be demonstrated along with microphones and other audio equipment.

■ *Ryan Hall is the director of Audio-Visual Ministries at St. John’s Lutheran Church, Orange, Calif.*

JUST ADDED!

5.21 Children’s Ministry Classics Old and New

Walk through both new and the tried and true children’s ministry resources from Concordia Publishing House! This hands-on workshop will let you explore the various materials and ask questions as you learn what’s new and in the pipeline for Sunday school and vacation Bible school from *your* publishing house. This is your opportunity for face-to-face contact with a product developer who wants to hear from you about your needs, ideas and ways that Concordia Publishing House can better serve you.

■ *Deaconess Pamela Nielsen is passionate about raising children in the family of God and encouraging and assisting others to do the same. For nearly nine years she has served as the senior editor for Sunday school, VBS and youth materials at Concordia Publishing House. Prior to coming to CPH she served as Director of Community Services at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind., and as parish deaconess in several midwestern congregations.*

Conference Planning and Leadership Team

Conference Facilitator/Chairperson:

Rachel Klitzing, Executive Director of School Ministries, Pacific Southwest District

Creative Director:

Sandi Scott, Director of School-Age Care, Zion Lutheran School, Anaheim, Calif.

Fund Developer:

Rob Wickord, Assistant Vice President, LCEF, Pacific Southwest District

Ministry Marketplace:

Carolyn Sims, Principal, Abiding Savior Lutheran School, Lake Forest, Calif.

Worship, Music and the Arts:

Kim Violette, Administrative Assistant, School Ministries, Pacific Southwest District

Local Arrangements:

Jeanette Singer, Minister to Families of Children, St. John's, Orange, Calif.;

Jennifer Stoehr, Administrative Assistant, St. John's, Orange, Calif.

Media and Tech Coordinators:

Ryan Hall and John Ledbetter, St. John's Lutheran Church, Orange, Calif.

Children's Art Show:

Sandi Scott, Director of School-Age Care, Zion Lutheran School, Anaheim, Calif.

Prayer Ministry:

Sandi Geis, St. John's, LaGrange, Ill.; Rev. Bob Riggert, Iowa District West

Chaplain:

Rev. Bob Riggert, Iowa District West

Workshops:

Lynne Rose, Early Childhood Consultant, Pacific Southwest District

LCMS School Ministry:

Bill Cochran, Director

