

KidMin Group

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for children's ministry

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FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

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Christine Yount Jones

Executive Editor of *Children's Ministry Magazine*

Dear Friend in Ministry

Welcome to KidMin 2014! We can't wait to experience with you all that God has in store for us!

Get ready for the SURGE. Maybe you've felt it already as you prepared to come to KidMin. Maybe you're just beginning to feel it. The SURGE is here! God is on the move!

A SURGE is a strong, wavelike, forward movement. These next four days may feel like a big wave. So much information. So many new people to meet. So many places to be and things to hear and ideas to capture. So little sleep!

But I want to encourage you: ***Embrace the SURGE!***

What if you let the SURGE take you? Relax and ride the wave. Understand that you're here for God's reasons and let God's love and plans wash over you. A SURGE of love. A SURGE of ideas. A SURGE of passion for this adventure God's called you to.

We are SO glad you're here. Thank you for prioritizing training. Thank you for sacrificing time with your family to be here. Thank you for adding your voice to the conversation.

I want to hear from you. I want to meet you. I want to pray with you. And I want to thank you for being here. KidMin wouldn't be the same without you.

Serving Christ together,

Christine

Core Values of

What Makes KidMin "Unconventional"?

KidMin Group
The unconventional conference
for children's ministry

Every session, every training opportunity, everything about our time together is about you walking away with deeper learning, authentic conversations, and renewed passion. The KidMin Conference is more than a conference; it's a ministry experience that holds true to these six core values in all we do...

JESUS-CENTERED

We believe in an agenda that serves and builds the kingdom first, empowers ministry and spiritual growth, and reflects Jesus in our actions and decisions. Jesus is elevated first and foremost at KidMin. Put simply, we ask Jesus to do what all the planning, research, and organization in the world can't do—to minister to you exactly as you need in each programmed (and unprogrammed) minute you're here.

AUTHENTICITY

You know authenticity when you see it...and it's powerful. We intentionally make authenticity the root of each KidMin component. Your time here should be a time of ministry, not a "production." Whatever you're going through, you'll find people here who are willing to share openly and honestly that they've been at the exact same place. Let's get real together!

RELATIONSHIP & CONVERSATION

You'll learn from our top-notch presenters, but you'll also learn from each other. Pursue relationships with everyone you encounter here (we've made it easy!)—other children's ministers, Group KidMin staff, presenters, ministry partners, and volunteers. Don't be shy... ask for one-on-one connections over coffee, during a meal, or plopped down on an Xorbee chair.



We love God, we love children, we love you.

Be **authentic**. Be yourself. Let **Jesus** be the center of everything. Make a new **friend** by being a friend. Marinate in discovery learning so **training** seeps deep into your roots. You're a child of the Creator of the universe, so don't be afraid to **innovate**. If you're not **relevant**, you'll miss out. Change the world.

We believe in you!

IN-DEPTH TRAINING

We value quality teaching as defined by Group's standards of R.E.A.L.: Relational, Experiential, Applicable, and Learner-based. This marinade style of learning provides extended time for in-depth learning, discussion, and discovery. It's powerful training that's led by innovative, in-the-trenches leaders who embody our Core Values.

INNOVATION

We value being "pioneers"—not being tied to "the way it's always been done" or following in the footsteps of other conferences. We believe in the value of always asking ourselves "how can we do it better?" and creating new experiences each year. We'll surprise you and challenge you with our innovations.

RELEVANCE

We maximize your learning by being on the cutting edge of trends in church, kid culture, technology, and understanding what's happening in the trenches of children's ministry. KidMin is relevant to all of who you are. Our goal is to equip and encourage you as a "whole" person—in ministry and in personal and spiritual development.



Danielle Bell

Karen Hennings

Sherri Smith

Tami Showers

6 Ways to Experience SURGE

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The unconventional conference for children's ministry

1 FOCUS ON JESUS

After all, none of us would be here without him! So make room for one-on-one time with your Savior. Plus, we've created spaces for you to grow in your relationship with Jesus—early-morning devotions, general session worship, prayer partners in The Shelter, and a private prayer room. Celebrate nourishing your soul.

2 EMBRACE ADVENTURE

The KidMin Conference is full of surprises—we don't approach learning or worship or conversation like anyone else! So this weekend, we may do things that make you feel a little out of your comfort zone. You may wonder if we're out of our minds! Hang in there with us. Play with us some. We guarantee that God will meet you in incredible ways!

3 MAKE CONNECTIONS

The relationships you build with other children's ministers can be your most powerful take-away, so join a Connect Group. You'll meet others just like you who are facing similar challenges. Or schedule a Ministry Consultation in The Shelter to troubleshoot your ministry challenges with a seasoned kidmin professional. Or just take someone to lunch!

Meet More of Our Team



Rebecca Sharp

David Jennings

Ben Reynolds

Nicole Weise

4 ENJOY RELAXATION

Yeah, the schedule's packed, but you don't have to do it all! The KidMin Conference is *your* conference, to experience at *your* pace. If what you need most this weekend is a rest, curl up in an Xorbee chair—that's what they're for! Celebrate guiltless rest and relaxation. You've earned it!

5 SHARE YOUR VOICE

Speak up. Ask questions. Tell your story. Wrestle with concepts in discussions. Don't leave without saying what's on your heart and mind. You're in a place designed to be a safe sounding board. We all need your perspective!

6 CELEBRATE YOUR CALLING

Sometimes you may feel alone in ministry. Well, here you are in a place that's filled with the most passionate, visionary, creative, and committed Jesus people! God has called you into the amazing role of being a steward of his truth with the most precious people on earth—children and their families. As we gather together, celebrate that we all share your heart and calling.



Tracy Watkins

Cris Alsum

Jeff Brunacci

Schedule

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH

- 8:00-9:00am Pre-Conference Check-In
- 9:00am-4:00pm Pre-Conference Training
- 9:00am-7:00pm General Registration/Check-In
- 1:00-4:00pm Ministry Conversations
- 4:00-6:45pm Dinner Break
- 4:45-5:45pm Connect Group Kickoff (see [THE YELLOW SHEET](#))
- 6:45-9:30pm Opening General Session & Worship
- 9:30-10:45pm Late-Night Options (see [THE YELLOW SHEET](#))

See
page 13 for
**THE YELLOW
SHEET**
info!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

- 7:00-8:00am Early-Morning Options (see [THE YELLOW SHEET](#))
- 9:00-10:00am General Session 2 & Worship
- 10:30am-12:30pm Training Zone 1 (Tracks, Half-Tracks, Workshops)
- 12:30-2:30pm Lunch Break & Connect Groups
- 2:30-4:30pm Training Zone 2 (Tracks, Half-Tracks, Workshops)
- 4:30-6:45pm Dinner Break
- 6:45-9:30pm General Session 3 & Worship
- 9:30-10:45pm Late-Night Options (see [THE YELLOW SHEET](#))



Schedule

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH

- 7:00-8:00am Early-Morning Options (see **THE YELLOW SHEET**)
- 9:00-10:00am General Session 4 & Worship
- 10:30am-12:30pm Training Zone 3 (Tracks, Half-Tracks, Workshops)
- 12:30-2:30pm Lunch Break & Connect Groups
- 2:30-4:30pm Training Zone 4 (Tracks, Half-Tracks, Workshops)
- 4:30-6:45pm Dinner Break
- 6:45-9:30pm General Session 5 & Worship
- 9:30-10:45pm Late-Night Options (see **THE YELLOW SHEET**)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH

- 7:00-8:00am Early-Morning Options (see **THE YELLOW SHEET**)
- 9:00-11:00am Training Zone 5 (Workshops)
- 11:15am-12:15pm Closing General Session



KidMin BOOKSTORE SPECIAL

For every **\$25** you spend, **KidMin**
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at this year's KidMin Bookstore!

How it works:

KidMin Cash is calculated on pre-tax total and cannot be earned on purchases paid with **KidMin Cash**. **KidMin Cash** cannot be redeemed for cash or applied to previous purchases. Any returns must include any earned **KidMin Cash**. **KidMin Cash** is redeemable only at KidMin 2014.

(Excludes Xorbee sack chairs and iQubes)

Group

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General Info

THE YELLOW SHEET

THE YELLOW SHEET is your detailed daily schedule that includes the time and room location for all conference happenings, plus a detailed map of the Hyatt Regency. Keep **THE YELLOW SHEET** handy along with this book; you'll need them both.

TRAINING OPTIONS

You have three options for power-packed training. **Deeper Learning Tracks** are four intense, 2-hour sessions for a total of eight hours focused on a specific topic. Lots of time to learn, interact, discuss, and apply. **Half-Tracks** are two 2-hour sessions (four hours total) on a variety of topics. The perfect alternative for digging deep while allowing more variety. **Workshops** are practical 2-hour sessions scheduled throughout the conference on a broad scope of subjects. It's the most flexible option.

MINISTRY CONVERSATIONS

These one-hour sessions of sharing, debriefing, and idea-swapping are focused around a specific topic. Each conversation is enriched by a panel of children's ministers and moderated by a seasoned expert with experience and insight. Bring your joys, your woes, your I-don't-knows...and unpack them with a group of new friends. All Ministry Conversations take place on Friday afternoon. Check page 26 for Ministry

Conversation topics and **THE YELLOW SHEET** for times and locations.

CONNECT GROUPS

You're not alone at KidMin. Connect Groups give you the chance to meet with other children's ministers just like you in a casual setting during a portion of the dinner break on Friday and the lunch break on Saturday and Sunday. Connect Groups are led by seasoned leaders who've been exactly where you are. To learn more about Connect Group options, check out page 17. Connect Group kickoff is Friday from 4:45-5:45pm (check **THE YELLOW SHEET** for location).

BOOKSTORE & MINISTRY PARTNERS

The conference bookstore and Ministry Partners (located on the Second Floor of the Hyatt Conference Center) offer tons of great children's ministry resources. Special event-only promotions are offered on most items. Additionally, inexpensive shipping options are available should you become luggage-challenged. **The bookstore is open Friday from 9:30am-10:00pm. Ministry Partners are open from noon-10:00pm (both closed during general session), Saturday and Sunday from 8:30am-10:00pm (closed during general sessions), and on Monday from 8am-1pm.** Find more information about our Ministry Partners on page 90.



General Info

FILMING & PHOTOGRAPHY

Legalese alert! Your attendance at the 2014 KidMin Conference grants Group Publishing, Inc. (and its employees and assigns) the right to videotape, record, and photograph you; and to use your image, voice, silhouette, and other reproductions of your physical likeness in any advertising, publicizing, motion picture, recording, or other forms of multimedia and social media without any compensation.

FOOD

In downtown Columbus, there are more food options than we could possibly list here! Check out page 88 for details.

LATE-NIGHT OPTIONS

Top your day off with something for everyone—from a fun VBS party to an exclusive documentary, from late-night comedy with The Skit Guys to talk-backs with the bands, plus games and more. You'll have choices every night. Check **THE YELLOW SHEET** for options and locations.

EARLY-MORNING OPTIONS


Rise and shine! We're offering options like devotions, product showcases, and more. Check **THE YELLOW SHEET** for options and locations.




The Shelter

No matter what your need is, you'll find support and encouragement in The Shelter.

 **Free Counseling** Licensed counselors are available to meet with you to confidentially discuss ministry, marriage, or other personal issues.

 **Prayer Support** Just need someone to pray with you? Loving prayer partners are standing by—just for you!

 **Ministry Consultations** Focused one-on-one meetings with a children's ministry veteran who'll prayerfully help you overcome the challenges (that occur to everyone) in kidmin.

Sign up on site at KidMin 2014.

The Shelter is open on Friday from noon-10:00pm (closed during general session), on Saturday and Sunday from 8:30am-10:00pm (closed during general sessions), and on Monday from 8:00-11:00am.

The Shelter Team...



Jay Hostetler & Todd Hostetler

Jay and Todd Hostetler, a father/son duo, bring extensive expertise and years of experience in children's ministry to guide The Shelter's Ministry Consultations.



Ray Jones

Ray has an MA degree in counseling and is also a National Certified Counselor (NCC). His private counseling practice works with a variety of clients and specializes in faith-based solutions to life issues. Ray also manages a group at Children's Hospital in Colorado devoted to work on their electronic medical records, with experiences in this arena providing additional perspective for his counseling practice.



Chris Schaffner

Chris is a certified addictions counselor working with chemically dependent "emerging adults" and is the founder of Conversations on the Fringe, an organization seeking creative and innovative ways to bridge the gap between the mental health community and those entities (particularly schools and churches) that serve youth in contemporary society. He has spent more than 15 years serving youth in various ways. Chris is the director of Simply Soul Care for Group and writes and blogs for them as well.

And more counselors... see The Shelter for more info!

A safe place
where people uplift you, embrace you, laugh with you, cry with you. And where you learn more than you realized you needed to know.

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Fawn Grove, PA

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OCT. 24-25

ORLANDO, FL
NOV. 7-8

LOUISVILLE, KY
NOV. 14-15

SACRAMENTO, CA
JAN. 16-17

PHOENIX, AZ
JAN. 30-31

DALLAS, TX
FEB. 13-14

TULSA, OK
FEB. 20-21

INDIANAPOLIS, IN
MAR. 6-7

BLOOMINGTON, IL
MAR. 13-14

CINCINNATI, OH
MAR. 27-28

CHICAGO, IL
APR. 10-11

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Connect Groups

We're so committed to you connecting with others that we have 20 Connect Groups to get the conversation going (turn the page to see).

You're not alone at KidMin.

Connect Groups give you the chance to meet with other children's ministers just like you in a casual setting in between regular sessions. They're led by seasoned leaders who've been exactly where you are.

How are Connect Groups set up?

Connect Groups are small-space, group-style conversations for people with similar ministry needs, led by experts who serve as mentors. These groups usually meet in the same spot (such as an Xorbee pod) at various times throughout the conference.

Do I have to go to a Connect Group?

It's casual, open, and optional. Just stop by and check out a Connect Group anytime—no one is taking attendance, and everyone is welcome! Join us for the Connect Group Kickoff Friday afternoon from 4:45-5:45pm (check Connect Group boards across from Union A).

authentic conversation...

Jesus said, "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."

It's true: God never designed you to do ministry—or life—alone. It's in the space between people that God shows up.

We need each other. We need to be real. We need to be known.

We welcome you into a setting that won't overwhelm you with herds of people. Instead, we see you—one person on a mission. One person who has needs and desires and dreams.

Everything about KidMin is engineered to create meaningful conversations. You'll make new friends—real friends.

At Group's KidMin Conference, God will give you connections that'll change your life.



Connect Groups

Get Connected! Take advantage of these casual Connect Groups where you'll meet other children's ministers with similar ministry backgrounds. You'll get to meet and support new friends. Choose from these 20 options...

First 2 Years in Children's Ministry

Excited but a little overwhelmed with your new role? Whether ministry is turning out to be a dream or a nightmare, connect with others who are also new to ministry.

Children's Ministry Veterans (10+ years)

Maybe you sense that everything's changing—or staying the same—in children's ministry. Share your thoughts with other kidmin veterans who have great wisdom.

Large-Church Children's Ministry

Relax and let down your guard with others who also share a wealth of opportunities. Share what is and isn't working for you.



Small-Church Children's Ministry

Your small church provides intimate impact and, at times, challenges with low attendance. Connect with others who are doing big things with small resources.

Rural Children's Ministry

Your rural children's ministry can be a vibrant "city on the hill." Come find out how to celebrate and maximize your unique context with others just like you.

Urban Children's Ministry

Will what you're learning at KidMin work in an urban context? Connect with others to grapple with implementing principles to your arena of impact.



Connect Groups

Early Childhood Ministry

Celebrate the ups, the downs, the joys, and the realities of shepherding the youngest of God's flock with the very visionary kidmins in this group.

Preteen Ministry

You're pioneering ministry with an awkward but awesome age group. Connect with others who know what it's like to reach these kids before they leave your ministry.

Balancing Ministry and Family

It's hard to talk about family ministry when things are tough with your own family. Find support, encouragement, and helpful tips with others who share this challenge.

Multi-Site Ministry

When your church goes multi-site, your challenges multiply exponentially. Connect with others who've figured out how to do it well... and lived to tell about it!

Discouraged in Children's Ministry

If you think you want to throw in the towel, you're not alone. Maybe, though, you just need a listening ear and prayer support. Connect with others to get your second wind.

Special Needs Ministry

Find support and encouragement with others walking alongside people with special needs and discover new ideas for serving these wonderful folks in your church.



Connect Groups

Here Alone

Come meet others who are as courageous as you are to get the training, support, and encouragement at KidMin—even though you're flying solo!

Thriving in Transition

Transition and change are inevitable, but you can make a difficult transition much easier with a healthy support network. Find that and more in this group.

Bivocational Ministry

Feeling stretched between your ministry, family, and other job? How can you balance everything? Connect with others like you for workable solutions and support.

Married to a Children's Minister

Whether you're a silent or equal partner, you serve an important role! Connect with other spouses who share the joys and challenges of this kidmin journey.

Canadian Children's Ministers

Here from north of the border? Just because it works in the States doesn't always mean it'll work in Canada. Share with other nationals what really works in your context.

International Children's Ministry

You've come a long way! Brainstorm with others like you for ways to cross borders, contexts, and countries to apply all you're learning at KidMin.

Men in Children's Ministry

As the not-so-silent minority in kidmin, you have unique challenges and opportunities. Connect with other guys who "get it."

Women in Children's Ministry

What's it mean to be a woman fueled by God, serving children in your church? Share with other women who tirelessly lead children's ministry.



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GIVE MOMS SUPPORT &
ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE
JOURNEY OF

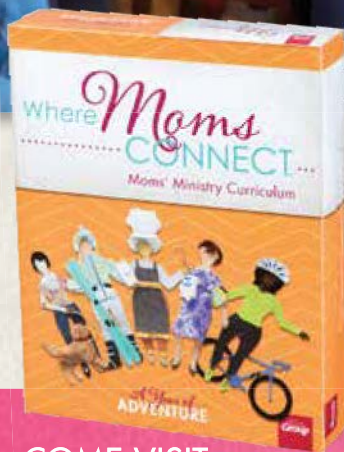
momhood!



Moms come in all shapes and sizes, but one thing's for sure—all moms need to connect with other moms! Where Moms Connect is a unique curriculum that brings women together and helps them connect naturally through faith-based discussion and fun.

Learn more at
group.com/WhereMomsConnect

Connect with us!



**COME VISIT
OUR BOOTH
HERE AT KIDMIN!**

Pre-Conference Training

Did you get here early? Maximize your time and add an extra day of training to your schedule so you take the experience even deeper! Seats are limited, so don't wait to sign up!

These awesome pre-conference training sessions will take you in depth on your topic for 7 hours. Lunch is included, so you'll get to eat with the presenter and your peers as you continue the discussion and build relationships. The full-day pre-conference option is offered on Friday, September 26th from 9am to 4pm at the Hyatt Regency (just a \$59 add-on). Seats are limited, so sign up when you check in at the registration desk!

Controlling Chaos: Keys to Effective Children's Ministry: LEADERSHIP

Greg Baird

Evaluate your entire ministry—from top to bottom. Come find out how to establish a vision, mission, and strategy for growing your children's ministry. Explore what it means to recruit toward a vision instead of a need. Learn how to assimilate volunteers, develop leaders, and lead effectively in all directions.

Garden Getaway Retreat: PERSONAL GROWTH

Amy Nappa

Looking for time away from the busyness of life? Need time to stop and smell the roses? Join the Garden Getaway—a one-day retreat for women only. You'll explore the seasons of life using Ecclesiastes 3 as a springboard. Plus you'll worship, laugh, make new friends, and leave feeling 100 percent refreshed.

R.E.A.L. Learning Lab—How Kids Really Learn Best: Understanding Kids

Gary Lindsay & Patty Smith

Want the secret formula to how kids learn? Discover how to harness the power of emotion to create long-term learners! Explore how to create life-changing experiences using Group's tried and true R.E.A.L. learning philosophy that's **Relational**, **Experiential**, **Applicable**, and **Learner-based**. Get practical tools to create relevant Bible experiences that engage kids and transform lives.



Reinvigorated Children's Ministry: LEADERSHIP

David Wakerley

Make your children's ministry more relevant by infusing innovative and invigorating ideas. This session will offer a freewheeling smorgasbord of insights and ideas, present futurist ways of thinking, and challenge preconceived ideas of what your children's ministry can be. Explore big ideas such as the "gamification" of culture and communication tools that can magnify your ministry.

Spiritual Self-Care for Kidmin Leaders: PERSONAL GROWTH

Brian Haynes

You pour out so much, but who's pouring into you? As a children's ministry leader, you've got to take care of yourself and your spirituality. If you're borderline burned out, stuck in your personal relationship with Jesus, or feeling like life is too busy to pray, this session is for you. Come discover simple, proven ways to care for yourself spiritually while you live the kidmin life!



Friday Afternoon Options

- 1:00-1:50pm **WORKSHOP:** Getting the Most Out of KidMin
Led by David Jennings
 Start off right with a Group KidMin Conference insider to get the most out of Training Zones, Connect Groups, The Shelter, Late-Night and Early-Morning Options, and more. Discover the core values of our conference and why we infuse everything with Group's R.E.A.L. learning philosophy. Learn how to use the conference booklet. Let us roll out the red carpet, shower you with radical hospitality, and equip you for a great conference!
- 1:00-1:50pm **MINISTRY CONVERSATION:** Competing With Sports
MINISTRY CONVERSATION: How to Get Volunteer Wait List
- 2:00-2:50pm **WORKSHOP:** Getting the Most Out of KidMin
 Repeat Session: *Led by David Jennings*
- 2:00-2:50pm **MINISTRY CONVERSATION:** All Alone
MINISTRY CONVERSATION: Cross-Cultural Children's Ministry
MINISTRY CONVERSATION: Kidmin Is My "Other" Job
MINISTRY CONVERSATION: Multi-Site Ministry
- 3:00-3:50pm **WORKSHOP:** Getting the Most Out of KidMin
 Repeat Session: *Led by Kami Gilmour*
- 3:00-3:50pm **MINISTRY CONVERSATION:** Balancing Ministry and Family
MINISTRY CONVERSATION: Hope for Home
MINISTRY CONVERSATION: Ministry in Non-Sunday Settings
MINISTRY CONVERSATION: More Than Babysitting
MINISTRY CONVERSATION: Preteens: Moving From Children's to Youth Ministry
MINISTRY CONVERSATION: Seismic Economics and Your Church
Ministry Conversation descriptions are on page 26
- 5:00-5:50pm **WORKSHOP:** Getting the Most Out of KidMin
 Repeat Session: *Led by Kami Gilmour*
- 4:00-7:00pm **DINNER BREAK**
- 4:45-5:45pm **CONNECT GROUP KICKOFF** (See **THE YELLOW SHEET**)



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on...*

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Ministry Conversations

Ask questions...gain perspective...get advice...and so much more at a Ministry Conversation. These panels-with-a-twist feature experienced ministry leaders who've "been through it all" and can offer wisdom on each relevant topic. These are FREE one-hour sessions on Friday afternoon that'll help you dive into fresh ministry ideas. See page 24 for times, and check **THE YELLOW SHEET** for locations.

All Alone

Ministry can be lonely—especially when others in your church don't share your passion or vision. Connect with and hear from others who are in the same position as you, explore ways to thrive in ministry when you're a team of one, and build a network to take home with you.

Balancing Ministry and Family

"Family ministry" starts at home, but how do you turn off the phone, clear the calendar, and be present for your family when there are so many ministry needs? Discuss challenges you face and hear how ministry veterans have walked this tightrope with finesse.

Competing With Sports

Game on! Tired of families choosing sports leagues ahead of church attendance? Why are some parents consumed with kids' athletics but skip on church? Tackle ways to ensure spiritual growth is #1 for the families in your ministry.

Cross-Cultural Children's Ministry

Just because it wasn't created here in the States doesn't mean it's not an amazing movement from God! Come hear from others who are innovating and experiencing God's hand in their ministry (outside these borders)—and explore what God wants to do in your context as well.

Hope for Home

Raising a prodigal child? Dealing with a marriage on the mend or breaking beyond repair? Perhaps you've left a family member at home who has special needs or a serious illness. Whatever your need is at home, learn how others balance family and ministry when their own family has so many needs.

How to Get a Volunteer Wait List

What? Is that even possible? Come hear from others who've figured out a few secrets (including lots of prayer) to have volunteers lining up to serve in children's ministry. Share ideas, challenges, and solutions in this conversation.



Kidmin Is My “Other” Job

Whether you’re bivocational (working two jobs) or part-time (paid or unpaid) staff, your challenges and opportunities are unique. How do you earn respect? How do you juggle it all? How do you manage so many priorities? Talk about it with these new friends.

Ministry in Non-Sunday Settings

If your ministry is to at-risk kids, a midweek outreach into the community, foster-care families, a military base, or some other unique setting, you’ll find encouragement and inspiration here. Come hear from experts who are breaking out of the church walls!

More Than Babysitting

Enough already with people thinking all you do is babysit! Discover how these ministry veterans have turned around their church’s view of their ministry’s impact. (And get a dose of “put on your big-kid pants” in this solutions vs. complaints conversation.)

Multi-Site Ministry

If you have to wear 100 hats as a kidmin leader, then you have to wear 1,000 as a multi-site leader. Come hear how experts are figuring out this new model. Share your challenges, fears, and joys in this conversation.

Preteens: Moving From Children’s to Youth Ministry

Explore ways to develop a strong bond between you and your youth ministry leader. In this conversation, discuss how to enhance that middle ground where the handoff from children’s to youth ministry takes place.

Seismic Economics and Your Church

Whether your church has downsized or is facing budget cuts, these are definitely uncertain financial times for most churches. Unpack strategies for maximizing slim staffs, budgets, resources, volunteers, and your own ability to keep thriving in ministry.



FAITHWEAVER NOW[®]

WEAVING FAITH into TODAY'S FAMILIES

Remember when kids didn't have so many distractions (sports, phones, video games)? And when families made church a priority and came every Sunday? You need a Sunday school that is **"NOW"** and not **"THEN."**

- **NOW** kids will love coming to Sunday school. Watch them grow in their relationship with Jesus!
- **NOW** busy families will grow together in faith. They'll explore the same Bible passage in age-appropriate ways.
- **NOW** you'll have a strategic plan to reach today's families.
- **NOW** teachers will thank you for choosing Group's new Sunday school. The perfect balance between low prep for their busy lives and foundational Bible lessons...WOW!



WHY FAITHWEAVER NOW WILL WORK FOR YOU!

- ✓ 10 AGE LEVELS: Infants–Adults
- ✓ SCOPE AND SEQUENCE: 3 years
- ✓ FORMAT: Incorporates classroom setting
- ✓ FREE EDITABLE, DIGITAL VERSION



2-minute overview

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Group

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FRIDAY EVENING

GENERAL SESSION

⌚ 6:45 PM—9:30 PM

ARTIST



CHRISTY NOCKELS

Christy has long had a huge appreciation for music and the role it plays in the kingdom of God. As a worship leader for many years, she has been an integral part of Passion Conferences since their inception in 1997. She's seen first-hand music sweep people into the presence of God in a powerful way. Christy is a three-time GMA Dove Awards nominee for female vocalist of the year.

COMEDY



THE SKIT GUYS

Tommy Woodard and Eddie James are The Skit Guys. Think of them as the wise guys in high school who had everyone laughing and managed to make a career out of it. They've been teaching God's Word using comedy, drama, and whatever category talking action figures fit into for more than 20 years. They are releasing a new resource with Group, *Sticky Bible Skits*, in December 2014.

KEYNOTE**RODDY CHONG**

One of the world's premier violinists, Roddy has been requested for multiple tours with powerhouse artists like Shania Twain, Celine Dion, and Trans-Siberian Orchestra. With Roddy's faith being such a strong element of his story, he shares his practical and inspirational messages to help people realize their God-given potential.

God, you are awesome! I praise you for...

KEEP kids comfy ...AT HOME & church!

exclusive partner of the
KidMin
conference

Xorbee Sacks are the ultimate furniture for your tykes!

Kids need furniture that is made just for them—comfortable furniture that's sized to fit them! These Xorbee Jr. Sacks are perfect for both church and home. They're...

- Kid-proof, made of top-quality, durable materials that will last
- Packed with soft foam filling, so your little ones can relax in comfort
- As lightweight as a pillow, so kids can move them as needed
- Machine-washable, making it easy to clean up anything that comes along

And they're meant to last...whether at home or at church, they'll be enjoyed for years to come!

Get some Xorbee Sacks for your ministry today! The 3.5 foot Xorbee Jr. Sacks are lightweight and made with kids in mind!

Take some home today!
Order now at our KidMin booth,
visit xorbee.com or call 888-758-0031



Join us on
facebook.com/myxorbee

SATURDAY MORNING

GENERAL SESSION

🕒 9:00 AM—10:00 AM

Designing the Surge



BRIAN DAVIS BAND



GREG BAIRD

“The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is his name.” Exodus 15:3

SATURDAY MORNING

GENERAL SESSION

🕒 9:00 AM—10:00 AM

WORSHIP



BRIAN DAVIS BAND

The Brian Davis Band is a worship band based in Colorado. Band members Brian Davis, Chuck Hugenberg, Jordon McDonald, Sean Jenneiahn, and Anson Young are all talented musicians with rich backgrounds in leading worship at various churches.

Together, they create worship environments that encourage, inspire, and challenge people from all walks of life to worship God as we all stumble toward a better way to live our lives through Jesus.

KEYNOTE**GREG BAIRD**

Greg has served in children's and family ministry for nearly 25 years, including in four San Diego-area churches. Greg is the founder of KidMin360 and currently works with at-risk children and those who serve them around the world.

God, I need your victory in this battle...



GET KIDS bUZZiNg AbOUt GOd!



All you prEpare iS YoUr hEaRt!

VOLUNTEERS love it because it's easy. KIDS love it because it's different every week. YOU'LL love it because...

- **Buzz is perfect for busy volunteers.** Since all they prepare is their heart, you'll never burn them out.
- **Buzz keeps kids' attention** with Bible stories they haven't heard before—those less often told but just as memorable. Children learn in their own style, and they choose which way the lesson goes.
- **You simply open the box and go.** Teachers follow the lesson step by step, experiencing God's Word together with the kids.

GROUP'S Buzz Sunday school curriculum gives you everything you need to be a super success. And best of all, you'll bring kids closer to Jesus!



*Cool new themes
each quarter—
for each age level*

SEE WHY **BUZZ** WILL WORK FOR YOU!

- ✓ **5 AGE LEVELS:** Preschool-Grades 5&6
- ✓ **SCOPE AND SEQUENCE:** 2 years
- ✓ **FORMAT:** Classroom setting
- ✓ **LENGTH:** 45-60 minutes



2-minute overview

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Group
Real. Bold. Love.

WHO'S WHO For more information on our Presenters, go to the page number after each name.

🕒 10:30 AM—12:30 PM SATURDAY
TRAINING ZONE 1

SATURDAY

DEEPER LEARNING TRACKS Four intense, 2-hour sessions for a total of eight hours focused on a specific topic. Lots of time to learn, interact, discuss, and apply.

HALF-TRACKS Two 2-hour sessions (four hours total) on a variety of topics. The perfect alternative for digging deep while allowing more variety.

WORKSHOPS Practical 2-hour sessions scheduled throughout the conference on a broad scope of subjects. It's the most flexible option.

NAVIGATE BY TOPIC Want to go deeper in a ministry category such as leadership, understanding kids, or something else? Check out our "Navigate by Topic" guide on page 96.

LISTED ALPHABETICALLY BY TITLE



12 Steps to Surviving the First Two Years of Ministry: WORKSHOP

E.C. Cunningham (page 81)

The first two years of ministry can be the most challenging. You'll learn 12 key steps to help you stay afloat and survive the first crucial years of children's ministry.



The Bottomless Cookie Jar—Never Run Out of Creative Ideas: HALF-TRACK

Jeff White (page 87)

Session 1: The First Bite—
Keeping Ministry Fresh

Explore how much more fun, fulfilling, and powerful your children's ministry can be when you turn up the volume of your creativity. Through a variety of hands-on activities, you'll learn how to transform your ministry into something more dynamic than you ever expected. (There will be cookies!)



Bringing the Bible to Life: WORKSHOP

David Jennings (page 82)

Discover more than 50 practical, NEW ideas you can take home and use right away in your ministry. You'll also learn various "smarts" that aim to help kids experience the Bible in a surprising and personally specific way.



Build a Family-Friendly Children's Ministry: TRACK

Jim Burns (page 81)

Session 1: Build Strong Marriages

Helping a marriage succeed is one of the foundational ways to come alongside children. Explore four areas of ministry a church can use to enhance marriages. You'll get 20 practical ideas to help other marriages—and ideas to refresh your own marriage.



Double Your Volunteers: HALF-TRACK

Christiaan VandenHeuvel (page 85)

Session 1: The Messenger

We all want more volunteers in our ministry, but before we start asking, we need to examine our current team. Are we ready for new people? Is my core team shored up? Learn how having a great base makes it easier for people to join your team.



Engage Kids From Beginning to End: WORKSHOP

Andrea Hopgood (page 82)

Everyone wants to know how to better engage kids—this workshop will help! Explore teaching models to better understand your ministry philosophy. Wrestle with the pros and cons of combining large and small groups, lessons specifically for small groups, and rotating groups. Walk away with hands-on activities that help instantly engage kids in the lesson.

Check THE YELLOW SHEET for room locations and updates!

🕒 10:30 AM—12:30 PM SATURDAY

TRAINING ZONE 1**The Generator Track:
TRACK***Cynthia Crane (page 81)***Session 1: A Surge of Experiences**

People remember more when they experience something, as opposed to just hearing it. Learn how to make real, memorable, experiential lessons that'll stick with kids for a long time. You'll have on-the-table ideas you can experience yourself—and then take back to your ministry!

**Helping Kids Grow in
Their Faith: HALF-TRACK***Danielle Bell (page 81)***Session 1: Planting Seeds in Kids and
Nourishing the Soil of Their Faith**

Discover hands-on ways to clearly present the gospel, creative ways to encourage kids to study God's Word, and strategies for partnering with parents in their kids' faith journey.

**Hurried, Worried, and
Weary—Offering Hope to
Hurting Families: TRACK***Katie Wetherbee (page 87)***Session 1: Body-Building: Including Families
Affected by "Hidden" Disabilities**

"Hidden" disabilities, such as ADHD, autism, and mental health issues, can pose tremendous challenges. Discover how hidden disabilities affect faith development, and practice strategies for including kids with these special needs. Identify strategies for building relationships with parents of kids with disabilities. Analyze methods of building a church culture that strengthens the kingdom by including the gifts of ALL.

**Jesus-Centered
Ministry: TRACK***Rick Lawrence (page 83)***Session 1: The Jesus-less Gospel**

Have well-meaning ministry strategies subtly erased "the real Jesus" from your menu? Explore how different environments mold us, compare the power of kids' environments with the influence of flawed "formulas" for spiritual growth, and consider the limitations of an understand-and-apply approach to ministry.

**Making Church Irresistible
to Kids: HALF-TRACK***Ricardo Miller (page 83)***Session 1: Big Church vs. Kids Church**

The debate over big church vs. kids church has been raging for years. No matter where your kids worship, this session will teach you how to help kids experience church at their level. Explore the pros and cons of big church and kids church while you get dozens of practical ways to make church meaningful and life-changing for kids of all ages.

**Making the Most of
Learning Styles: WORKSHOP***Kal Otis (page 83)*

Because of learning styles, people understand and express faith differently. You'll master this topic by taking a simple inventory to discover your learning and teaching style. Learn how you can become more effective in reaching ALL learners by adapting lessons, communicating, teaching, and evaluating your success.





Nursery Ministry That Matters: WORKSHOP

Sheila Halasz (page 82)

The nursery ministry is so much more than changing diapers and holding babies! Learn about developmental insights for this age, the importance of environment, and ways you can specifically reach this unique age.



Practical Ideas for Growing Kids' Faith: TRACK

Steve Alley (page 81)

Session 1: How Kids' Faith Grows

Understand how faith grows from a kid's perspective. We'll explore the ways kids grow—through listening, struggles, prayer, fellowship, actions, watching, and much more. You'll become an expert at influencing every kid's life.



Preteen Ministry: HALF-TRACK

Nick Diliberto (page 82)

Session 1: Your First Two Years

Launching a preteen ministry? New to preteen ministry? Come and learn everything you need to know your first two years in preteen ministry. You'll learn what makes preteens tick, effective programming from A-Z, how to help kids own their faith in Jesus, how to best launch a preteen ministry, and more.



Secrets to Sustainable Children's Ministry: TRACK

*Jeff Dunn-Rankin (page 82)
and Annette Safstrom (page 85)*



Session 1: Five Reasons You Might Be Stuck

Despite our best efforts, most children's ministries today remain chronically stuck. Identify the patterns that persistently show up in stuck ministries, and learn the principles for moving beyond stuck—toward a ministry that moves strategically forward.



S.E.R.V.E.— Building a Thriving Volunteer Team: TRACK

Dale Hudson (page 82)

Session 1: Select a Winning Team

Get ready to double the size of your team! Dig into what *not* to do when you're desperate for volunteers, and learn simple secrets for building a great volunteer team. Explore how to "onboard" new volunteers, and help them hit the ground running!



Strategic Leadership: HALF-TRACK

Gina McClain (page 83)

Session 1: Becoming a Leader Who Leads Others

To shepherd and empower other leaders, we have to grow ourselves. Learn about the four types of leaders—and the pros and cons of each one. Examine how you lead those in your ministry and how you can increase the leadership potential of people around you.

🕒 10:30 AM—12:30 PM SATURDAY

TRAINING ZONE 1**Surviving to Thriving:
HALF-TRACK***Gloria S. Lee (page 83)***Session 1:** Check-In: How Am I Really Doing?

It's easy to see the "problems" in other people, but so hard to see the plank in our own eyes. Explore—through an honest self-test—whether you're burned out or on your way there. Then we'll work through recovery, prevention, and reconnection with God.

**Transforming Lives in
Surprising Ways: TRACK***Jody Brolsma (page 81) and
Christine Yount Jones (page 87)***Session 1:** R.E.A.L.-ly Transform Your Ministry

The secret's out! R.E.A.L. learning will transform your ministry and the way kids learn! Discover how you can have a ministry that kids beg to come back to. Experience Group's R.E.A.L. learning as you dive into the philosophy and research behind Group's Hands-On Bible curriculum and Group's Living Inside Out Sunday school curriculum.

**The Unconventional
Kidmin: TRACK***Patty Smith (page 85)***Session 1:** Breakthrough Thinking

Immerse yourself in creative activities and conversations as you discover how to get out of a ministry rut. Master the seven steps to create a climate of ideation in your ministry. Learn which of the four types of Creatives you are—and more! Arrive early—seats fill up fast!

**Winning Leadership—
Overcome Any Obstacle:
TRACK***Steve Adams (page 81)***Session 1:** Embrace Leadership

God's given you a unique set of talents, skills, and opportunities. So rather than compare your gifts with other people's, embrace what you've been given. Explore how to use those gifts and reignite your passion for ministry. Learn how God blesses those who use what they've been given.



JOIN US FOR A MISSION EXPERIENCE JUST FOR PRETEENS!

PRETEEN
WEEK
OF
HopeSM
community service youth mission trips



Basic value systems are set for life before most youth are only 13 years old. Your role as their children's minister or youth pastor is crucial. Help make serving others an integral part of your 5th- and 6th-graders' lives. During a fun-filled, 5-day experience at Preteen Week of Hope, they will grow closer to Jesus and each other as they put their faith into action. **It's never too early! Join us for this specially designed experience in 2015.**

2015 DATES AND LOCATIONS

 **FORT COLLINS, COLORADO**
June 14 -18, 2015 **FULL**

 **PASADENA, MARYLAND**
June 21-25, 2015

 **SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**
June 21-July 3, 2015

 **MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA**
June 28-July 2, 2015

 **CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA**
July 5-9, 2015

 **ORLANDO, FLORIDA**
July 12-16, 2015

 **YORK, PENNSYLVANIA**
July 12-16, 2015

 **AUSTIN, TEXAS**
July 19-23, 2015

 **KENOSHA, WISCONSIN**
July 26-30, 2015

CONFERENCE ONLY OFFER!

1 FREE ADULT AND UP TO 4 STUDENTS AT \$99 EACH WHEN YOU SIGN UP AT KIDMIN.

VISIT OUR AWESOME MISSION TRIP ADVISORS at the Group Mission Trips booth to learn more or sign up for Preteen Week of Hope!

CALL 800-385-4545 OR VISIT GROUPMISSIONTRIPS.COM



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mission trips

MUSIC, HAND MOTIONS AND FAMILY DEVOTIONS

THE ONLY COMPLETE SYSTEM FOR
MODERN WORSHIP AND SCRIPTURE MEMORY

"Thanks for helping us get the Word in kids so the Holy Spirit can do what only He can do!"

Patti Chapman Children's Resource Specialist My Healthy Church

*Kids learn
Scripture
Different
Ways!*



MINISTRY RESOURCE (New Volumes Quarterly)

Audio CD with Full Mix
Audio CD with Performance Tracks
DVD with Full Mix Lyric Videos
DVD with Performance Track Lyric Videos
DVD-Rom with All Videos in MP4 format
DVD with Hand Motions and Tutorials
JumpStart3 Ministry Training System

FOR AT CHURCH

FAMILY RESOURCE (New Volumes Quarterly)

Audio CD with Full Mix
DVD with Hand Motions and Tutorials
DVD with Family Devotions in PDF Format

FOR AT HOME

JumpStart3 helps your church to equip families to worship and learn scripture 24/7

We have created an exciting and innovative way for kids to memorize God's word and hide it in their hearts! We've done this by combining lyrics straight from the Bible with modern music in the style of today's hits. **Our songs are being used in churches, schools (and minivans!) around the world!**



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Enter to win!!!!

go to www.JumpStart3.com/kidmin to enter

\$500 Giveaway

Drawing Sunday night at our Booth
Immediately Following General Session (Must be present to win!)

WHO'S WHO For more information on our Presenters, go to the page number after each name.

🕒 2:30 PM—4:30 PM SATURDAY
TRAINING ZONE 2

DEEPER LEARNING TRACKS

Four intense, 2-hour sessions for a total of eight hours focused on a specific topic. Lots of time to learn, interact, discuss, and apply.

HALF-TRACKS Two 2-hour sessions (four hours total) on a variety of topics. The perfect alternative for digging deep while allowing more variety.

WORKSHOPS

Practical 2-hour sessions scheduled throughout the conference on a broad scope of subjects. It's the most flexible option.

NAVIGATE BY TOPIC

Want to go deeper in a ministry category such as leadership, understanding kids, or something else? Check out our "Navigate by Topic" guide on page 96.

LISTED ALPHABETICALLY BY TITLE



Basic Tech Tips—Practical, Affordable, and Doable Ideas: WORKSHOP

Brandon Early (page 82)

Experience creative ways to leverage everyday technology to communicate God's message to a young audience. Walk away with links to great content and discount codes for fun things to use in your ministry. And we'll give away some excellent tech toys, tools, and apps!



The Bottomless Cookie Jar—Never Run Out of Creative Ideas: HALF-TRACK

Jeff White (page 87)

Session 2: More to Chew On—A Biblical Approach to Creativity

We'll unpack the surprising emphasis the Bible places on creativity, along with super-practical ways to let your creativity do the heavy lifting in your ministry. Experience fun activities that'll boost your ministry creativity, and develop and practice useful skills to make you more creative. Walk away as a creative powerhouse!



Build a Family-Friendly Children's Ministry: TRACK

Jim Burns (page 81)

Session 2: Develop Confident Parents

One of the purposes of the church is to mentor parents, help parents mentor their children, and as a result, the legacy of faith continues from generation to generation. This session will provide practical ideas and programs to help parents be more effective with taking on the main role of spiritual leadership.



Creative Outreach: WORKSHOP

Andrea Hopgood (page 82)

We often focus on what's inside our walls, but what about when we reach out? Brainstorm awesome ideas, and walk through the steps of building events that have value and purpose. Leave with evaluation tools for your children's ministry designed to give you meaningful feedback for your outreach endeavors.



Double Your Volunteers: HALF-TRACK

Christiaan VandenHeuvel (page 85)

Session 2: The Message

Traditional recruiting methods can actually keep people from serving in your ministry. Change your message and you change your results—you'll double your volunteers in 12 months!

🕒 2:30 PM—4:30 PM SATURDAY
TRAINING ZONE 2



**The Generator Track:
 TRACK**

Cynthia Crane (page 81)

Session 2: A Surge of the Extemporeous

Sometimes you're forced to do things on the fly. But if you *plan* for those times, it'll change everything. Leave with fun ideas and games to use (after playing with them, of course!). See how big God is when we let him change things according to his plan instead of panicking that ours isn't going to happen.



**Helping Kids Grow in
 Their Faith: HALF-TRACK**

Danielle Bell (page 81)

Session 2: Pruning and Replanting
 the Fruit of a Child's Faith

Grapple with ways to apply God's Word so we challenge children to be lifelong "doers" of the Word. Wrestle with ways to actively engage families in accountability and encouragement. Learn to challenge kids as you provide opportunities to share their faith so they can flourish and bear fruit.



**Hurried, Worried, and
 Weary—Offering Hope to
 Hurting Families: TRACK**

Katie Wetherbee (page 87)

Session 2: Desperate Households:
 Helping Families Choose
 Christ Over Culture

Examine ways to combat cultural pressure to win the "race to the top," and discuss ways to help families achieve balance rooted in Christ. We'll explore ways to help build kids' faith and empower families to be a light in a stressful and hurried world.



**Jesus-Centered
 Ministry: TRACK**

Rick Lawrence (page 83)

Session 2: Answering the Best
 Question of All Time

Jesus asks us today the same question he asked his disciples thousands of years ago: "Are you going to leave me, too?" The way we help children answer this question now will impact the rest of their lives.



**Making Church Irresistible
 to Kids: HALF-TRACK**

Ricardo Miller (page 83)

Session 2: Keys to the Wow Factor

Learn to create the ultimate wow experience for kids and make your weekly children's ministry one that kids *can't* resist. Get practical tips on how to make children's church the highlight of each child's week. Additionally, this session will take you on a journey where you create a foundation for your children's ministry that's fun, kid-friendly, and unforgettable.



**Partnering With the Modern
 Family: WORKSHOP**

Anthony Prince (page 83)

Parents aren't the enemy! Discover the best ways to create a church environment where families in your community feel welcomed and *want* to partner with your team. Discuss the common pitfalls that family models fall into that limit their ability to impact nontraditional families. You'll get simple ways to make your ministry more family-friendly.



Practical Ideas for Growing Kids' Faith: TRACK

Steve Alley (page 81)

Session 2: Key Ingredients for Spiritual Growth

Discover what every kid needs to grow spiritually. Understand the big picture of a kid's world and how everything in it can either enhance or thwart spiritual growth. Go beyond the lesson, and become a significant person in kids' lives. Learn to set realistic expectations for lifelong success.



Preteen Ministry: HALF-TRACK

Nick Diliberto (page 82)

Session 2: Build a Dream Team of Volunteers

Although there are many common principles to follow when building any team, there are specific principles unique to building a preteen ministry team. Learn to recruit and train volunteers who "get" the quiriness of the preteen years—who "own it" rather than just show up, and who help preteens own their faith in Jesus. And discover the secrets to keeping volunteers for the long haul.



Secrets to Sustainable Children's Ministry: TRACK

Jeff Dunn-Rankin (page 82)
and Annette Safstrom (page 85)



Session 2: Building Blocks for Sustainable Ministry

Sustainable children's ministries are ones that can continue even after you leave. Learn how to make an amazing children's ministry that isn't about you and how to build the climate and systems that'll move you from a short-term patchwork ministry to a sustainable one.



S.E.R.V.E.— Building a Thriving Volunteer Team: TRACK

Dale Hudson (page 82)

Session 2: Equip Volunteers to Serve

Once you have people on the team, you need to give them the right tools. Learn how to develop strategies, resources, and training that'll equip your volunteers for success. Create initial and ongoing training in a rhythm that your volunteers will connect with.



Strategic Leadership: HALF-TRACK

Gina McClain (page 83)

Session 2: Leading Strategically Toward Change

As we examine your goals for your ministry, you'll learn the right action steps to get you there. We'll explore how to lead well through change, deal with naysayers, and apply the process of a marathon to your ministry. Come away a new leader!



Surviving to Thriving: HALF-TRACK

Gloria S. Lee (page 83)

Session 2: Where Do I Go from Here?

We've assessed how burned out you are. Now discover practical ways to reconnect with God and take better care of your soul. Tap into the power of reflection. We'll also spend some time renewing and refreshing our souls before we head back to our ministries back home!

🕒 2:30 PM—4:30 PM SATURDAY
TRAINING ZONE 2



**Teach Kids to Pray:
 WORKSHOP**

Mary Sims (page 85)

Maximize prayer in fresh and exciting new ways while you teach kids to pray at different ages. Experience multiple prayer styles, from The Lord's Prayer to using music and art to pray. Take home LOTS of creative prayer strategies to your children's ministry.



**Team-Building Games:
 WORKSHOP**

Kal Otis (page 83)

A strong team makes for a strong children's ministry. This interactive workshop will help you use games and experiences to build a culture of teamwork as you communicate a shared vision for the future. Plus, you'll learn how to focus your team's energy to achieve that vision.



**Transforming Lives in
 Surprising Ways: TRACK**

Jody Brolsma (page 81) and
 Christine Yount Jones (page 87)



**Session 2: Supernatural Ways
 to Reach Families**

Family ministry doesn't have to be another program—it fits what you're already doing! Think family events, milestone celebrations, Sunday programs. Experience Group's R.E.A.L. learning as you dive into the philosophy and research behind Group's FaithWeaver NOW curriculum, Family Outreach Events, Family Faith Milestones, and more. Maximize what you're already doing to reach today's families.



**The Unconventional
 Kidmin: TRACK**

Patty Smith (page 85)

Session 2: Innovation Lab

Explore the four types of Creatives. Learn the keys to implementing innovation from successful organizations, and walk out with your own specific innovation plan to address any current pain-point or to create a new plan for the future.



**Winning Leadership—
 Overcome Any Obstacle:
 TRACK**

Steve Adams (page 81)

Session 2: Empowered for Impact

How many of us are actually utilizing the power we have at our disposal? Explore practical ways to develop and utilize our God-given P.O.W.E.R.: Potential, Opportunity, Wisdom, Engagement, and Relevance.



Don't look for big things,
just do small things
with great love.

—Mother Teresa



Lifetree Family is a new ministry effort from Group for YOUR family and the families in your church and community! It's designed to simply supplement your current family ministry efforts and give you a trusted place to point parents for support throughout the week.



At **LifetreeFamily.com**, parents (and grandparents) will discover a loving community through blog posts, articles, and resources where *everyday* families can find hope, humor, and practical ideas for growing in relationship with Jesus and each other in *everyday* ways.

Join our **Lifetree Family** and stop by our booth for FREE apps and resources you can give your families!

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**CROSS CULTURE
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Everything
you love
about VBS—

plus a fresh way to
ignite kids' faith
by immersing them
in another culture.

Start your Trek!

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SATURDAY EVENING

GENERAL SESSION

🕒 6:45 PM—9:30 PM

Turning the Tide



BRIAN DAVIS BAND



THE SKIT GUYS



JON ACUFF



JASON GRAY



LINDSAY MCCAUL



UNSPOKEN

This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength..." Isaiah 30:15

KEYNOTE**JON ACUFF**

Jon is the *New York Times* best-selling author of four books including his most recent *Start: Punch Fear in the Face, Escape Average and Do Work That Matters*. For 15 years he's helped some of the biggest brands in the world tell their story, including the Dave Ramsey Team. Jon has a blog read by 4 million people and close to 225,000 Twitter followers.

God, I want to repent and return to you...



Teach as Jesus taught!

When Jesus taught, he used everyday objects like coins, fish, and plants to help people remember God's truth.

Hands-On Bible Curriculum does the same thing. Just like Jesus, you use everyday items—gizmos—to help kids learn the Bible. And they never forget it. Since children experience what they're learning, it sticks with them for a lifetime.

You can teach like Jesus! It's easy, too. With step-by-step teacher guides, gizmo-packed Learning Labs, music, and lots of extras, Hands-On Bible Curriculum helps your volunteers make a lifelong impact.

Use captivating gizmos to bring kids closer to God!



WHY HANDS-ON BIBLE CURRICULUM WILL WORK FOR YOU!

- 6 AGE LEVELS:** Toddlers—Grade 6
- SCOPE AND SEQUENCE:** 2 years
- FORMAT:** Classroom setting
- LENGTH:** 30–60 minutes



2-minute overview

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at group.com/sunday-school
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Group

Real. Bold. Love.

SUNDAY MORNING

GENERAL SESSION

9:00 AM—10:00 AM

It Takes a Team



BRIAN DAVIS BAND



PAT VERBAL

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!” Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

SUNDAY MORNING

GENERAL SESSION

🕒 9:00 AM—10:00 AM

WORSHIP



BRIAN DAVIS BAND

Read about the Brian Davis Band on page 34.

KEYNOTE



PAT VERBAL

Pat is the Manager of Curriculum Development at Joni and Friends Christian Institute on Disability. She's a children's ministry veteran with decades of experience as a Christian education pastor, teacher, school administrator, and consultant.

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🕒 10:30 AM—12:30 PM SUNDAY
TRAINING ZONE 3

SUNDAY

DEEPER LEARNING TRACKS Four intense, 2-hour sessions for a total of eight hours focused on a specific topic. Lots of time to learn, interact, discuss, and apply.

HALF-TRACKS Two 2-hour sessions (four hours total) on a variety of topics. The perfect alternative for digging deep while allowing more variety.

WORKSHOPS Practical 2-hour sessions scheduled throughout the conference on a broad scope of subjects. It's the most flexible option.

NAVIGATE BY TOPIC Want to go deeper in a ministry category such as leadership, understanding kids, or something else? Check out our "Navigate by Topic" guide on page 96.

LISTED ALPHABETICALLY BY TITLE



Build a Family-Friendly Children's Ministry: TRACK

Jim Burns (page 81)

Session 3: Empower Kids With Morals and Values

In this session we'll empower you to teach kids a biblical worldview of morals and values. We'll look at healthy sexuality, creating a media-safe home, drug and alcohol education, integrity, and dealing with complicated faith issues.



Build a Kidmin That Impacts Home: HALF-TRACK

Brian Haynes (page 82)

Session 1: Church and Home: A Simple Plan

What if you could lead a kidmin that was so influential it changed the home life of the children in your ministry? Learn about how parents are the primary faith influencers in kids' lives, and create a plan for intentionally helping them with that role. Explore Plan B for when parents are spiritually uninterested or checked out. In either case, walk away with a plan that can change kids' lives!



Children's Pastor as "Pastor": HALF-TRACK

E.C. Cunningham (page 81)

Session 1: Who Does a Kidmin Pastor Pastor?

Being a pastor can be lonely—you're supposed to have it all together. But we're just as human as the parents we encounter every week. Discover what being a pastor to children and families really means.



Creating a Quality Preschool Ministry: HALF-TRACK

Sheila Halasz (page 82)

Session 1: Building Blocks of Effective Ministry

Move beyond babysitting to giving preschoolers what they need. Learn how to create a vision, understand children in their ages and stages, maintain discipline, and implement progress reports.



The Generator Track: TRACK

Cynthia Crane (page 81)

Session 3: The Sound of Surge

There's a pressure to keep up with current kid trends but also help kids find peace in the simplicity of Jesus. You can do both! Find out what the BIG THING is right now and how to leverage that to reach kids. Experience fun activities that put this all into practice.

Check THE YELLOW SHEET for room locations and updates!

🕒 10:30 AM—12:30 PM SUNDAY

TRAINING ZONE 3



Help! We're a Small Church: WORKSHOP

Ricardo Miller (page 83)

Do you feel the challenge of being a small church with limited resources? No staff, yet you have a vision and a passion to reach young people? Help is here! This workshop will provide practical strategies on how to thrive in your environment. You'll walk away with plenty of reasons to LOVE being a small church.



Hurried, Worried, and Weary—Offering Hope to Hurting Families: TRACK

Katie Wetherbee (page 87)

Session 3: First Aid: Supporting Families in Crisis

Crisis comes in many forms: a devastating diagnosis, the loss of a job, addiction, death. Often these issues can lead to isolation. Explore crises many families face, and unpack the unique aspects associated with those issues. Learn about common reactions to trauma, and delve into the process of grieving. Identify practical ways your church can support families in crisis.



Jesus-Centered Ministry: TRACK

Rick Lawrence (page 83)

Session 3: Helping Children Find Their True Names

Jesus wants kids to discover early on who they really are. So many things in their lives are telling them lies about their identity. But we can help kids discover their true names—their true identities in Jesus.



Leading Kids in Worship: HALF-TRACK

David Wakerley (page 85)

Session 1: The Creative Leader

Take a creative approach to worship, and explore ways to praise that extend beyond the walls of your church. Become a creative worship leader, and discover how to cultivate a lively and vibrant worship experience. Kids worship in unique ways; walk away with unique ideas!



Leveraging Technology for Ministry: HALF-TRACK

Brandon Early (page 82)

Session 1: 20 Tech Resources to Make You Look Like a Pro

It's easier than you think to make your ministry cutting-edge and outstanding. These 20 games, gadgets, and tools will send your productivity, communication, and fun factor through the roof—all while making you look uber tech-savvy.



Ministry Productivity Hacks: WORKSHOP

Nick Diliberto (page 82)

Do you have a never ending to-do list? Do you reach the end of the day filled with anxiety because you didn't get enough done? In this workshop, you'll learn little-known secrets to getting more done with less effort and maximizing your effectiveness in ministry.



Moms Rock! Why Moms Ministry Matters: WORKSHOP

Amy Nappa (page 83)

Wondering if you should start a moms ministry? Or do you want to refresh the ministry you have? This workshop will explore why a ministry to moms is important and look at a few models for this kind of ministry. Come for great ideas, uplifting encouragement, and innovative inspiration!



Opening Doors for Kids With Limiting Disabilities: HALF-TRACK

Pat Verbal (page 85)

Session 1: Understanding the Unique Needs of Children With Limited Abilities

Children with disabilities often need a helping hand at church. With awareness and acceptance, they have so much to give. Explore reasons your church needs to have a special needs ministry. Learn the steps you can take to be more inclusive. Be prepared to answer kids' questions about their own disabilities—or the disabilities of others.



Practical Ideas for Growing Kids' Faith: TRACK

Steve Alley (page 81)

Session 3: Building Lessons That Impact Faith

Learn how to create lessons that go home with kids. Grapple with ways to incorporate the learning modes to attract kids, regardless of their various learning styles, and learn how to inspire them to make personal decisions to develop their own personal faith. Walk away with guaranteed ways to capture and keep kids' attention.



R.E.A.L. Solutions for Real Challenges: HALF-TRACK

Gary Lindsay (page 83)

Session 1: Secrets to Get Volunteers to Stick

We're challenged to help kids grow in their relationships with Jesus! But how do we do that in a learning environment filled with different types of learners and abilities? Discover specific learning approaches that reach all of God's learners and help them grow in their relationship with Jesus. You'll walk away with a tool to reach every child.



Recruiting That Works: HALF-TRACK

Anthony Prince (page 83)

Session 1: Better Than the Bulletin

Learn proven strategies to build and lead a thriving volunteer team for your children's ministry. We'll focus on recruitment strategies that go beyond bulletin announcements and will equip you with lots of new ideas to try as soon as you get home.



Secrets to Sustainable Children's Ministry: TRACK

*Jeff Dunn-Rankin (page 82)
and Annette Safstrom (page 85)*

Session 3: Working Together: Building Teams That Win

Every children's ministry rises and falls with the volunteers who get placed on the field of ministry. Learn how *you* being healthy is crucial to your recruiting. Explore how to recruit with intentionality to build the best volunteers you can get!

🕒 10:30 AM—12:30 PM SUNDAY

TRAINING ZONE 3**S.E.R.V.E.—
Building a Thriving
Volunteer Team: TRACK***Dale Hudson (page 82)***Session 3:** Relate and Validate:
Motivate Volunteers

Relationships are the glue that keep people serving. Build a powerful volunteer team and watch it transform your ministry. Discover how to move beyond managing your volunteers to nurturing your volunteers. Explore proven strategies to let them lead and soar.

**Spiritual Development in
Children: WORKSHOP***Kal Otis (page 83)*

Each developmental stage brings profound changes that impact the way children learn and grow. Discover what the Scriptures have to say about the need for appropriate environments and stimuli to impress biblical truths for impact. Explore ways to create and modify teaching materials, design environments, and partner with parents.

**Succeeding on a Church
Staff: WORKSHOP***Christiaan VandenHeuvel (page 85)*

How do you work with your church staff, elders, and senior staff to get what you need? Grab hold of skills to get the resources you need for ministry. You'll uncover the need for conflict, how to communicate so others hear, and how to lead up to your senior leader.

**Transforming Lives in
Surprising Ways: TRACK***Jody Broelsma (page 81) and
Christine Yount Jones (page 87)***Session 3:** Supersize Your
Summer Ministry

Experience Group's R.E.A.L. learning as you dive into the philosophy and research behind Group's amazing vacation Bible school programs. Get insider information that'll supersize your summer outreach efforts—including the keys to small groups, understanding millennial parents, and using VBS as hands-on training for fall volunteers.

**The Unconventional
Kidmin: TRACK***Patty Smith (page 85)***Session 3:** Outside the Lines

Leaders today face several common challenges, among them driving change, challenging the status quo, and leading teams to solve complex problems. These challenges require specific skills, including creativity and creative thinking. Discover how to unlock barriers that prevent your best creative work, and identify strengths and areas for development as creative leaders.

**Winning Leadership—
Overcome Any Obstacle:
TRACK***Steve Adams (page 81)***Session 3:** Equipped to Lead With Love

You have to properly equip yourself if you want to last long in children's ministry. Explore every aspect of the seven key components for longevity: a tender heart, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, and love.





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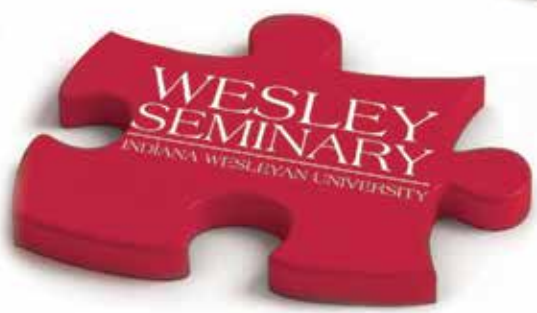


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-Sarah Ledeboer,
*Student Pastor,
Legacy Christian Church, Lakeland, Florida*



seminary.indwes.edu

WHO'S WHO For more information on our Presenters, go to the page number after each name.

🕒 2:30 PM—4:30 PM SUNDAY
TRAINING ZONE 4

SUNDAY

DEEPER LEARNING TRACKS Four intense, 2-hour sessions for a total of eight hours focused on a specific topic. Lots of time to learn, interact, discuss, and apply.

HALF-TRACKS Two 2-hour sessions (four hours total) on a variety of topics. The perfect alternative for digging deep while allowing more variety.

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LISTED ALPHABETICALLY BY TITLE



4 Acts of Love for Children's Ministry: WORKSHOP

Thom & Joani Schultz (page 85)

Learn how radical hospitality, fearless conversation, genuine humility, and divine anticipation can TRANSFORM your ministry. Discover practical, profound, simple, magnetic ways to touch lives in your children's ministry with Jesus-style love.



Build a Family-Friendly Children's Ministry: TRACK

Jim Burns (page 81)

Session 4: Become a Healthy Leader

Healthy leaders model a healthy lifestyle. This session will focus on the private life of a ministry person. We'll deal with the delicate role of balancing family and ministry, as well as dealing with sticky church expectations that can hinder your spiritual growth.



Build a Kidmin That Impacts Home: HALF-TRACK

Brian Haynes (page 82)

Session 2: Discipleship at Home

We'll discuss solid strategies to help families lead their kids spiritually at home. Explore the five things parents desperately need—that you can teach them: parenting with intentionality, faith talks, God moments, celebrating milestones, and the art of blessing your child.



Children's Pastor as "Pastor": HALF-TRACK

E.C. Cunningham (page 81)

Session 2: Tools for Effective Kidmin Pastoring

Children's ministry is super-specialized. Strategies for adults and teenagers just won't work for this age. Walk away with practical tools that will help you minister to this unique and rewarding age group. Grow in your calling!



Church Growth for Any Size Church: WORKSHOP

Gina McClain (page 83)

Identify effective ways to reach into your community, draw kids and families into your church, and prepare a framework to sustain the growth. You'll discover how to create a structure for growth and deliver a team of volunteers that makes kids want to come back for more.



Creating a Quality Preschool Ministry: HALF-TRACK

Sheila Halasz (page 82)

Session 2: Amazing Activities to Do With Preschoolers

Preschoolers straddle the line between the nursery and the older kids. We have to be intentional. In this workshop you'll get tons of ideas to work with preschoolers' multiple intelligences, pray with this age group, and engage parents.

Check THE YELLOW SHEET for room locations and updates!

🕒 2:30 PM—4:30 PM SUNDAY

TRAINING ZONE 4**Extrava-GAME-za:
WORKSHOP***Toby Rowe (page 85)*

Dive in for two hours of high-energy interactive games that have been tried and tested with more than 350,000 young people in Workcamps and Week of Hope all over the United States. Come play and learn the best of these incredible games that'll send you back to the kids in your ministry with fantastic, new ideas.

**The Generator Track:
TRACK***Cynthia Crane (page 81)***Session 4: A Little Bit of Surge-ry**

Ministry can wear you out! But God is right here with ways to refill you and replenish your heart, energy, and passion. Engage in time with just you and God. Find fun ways to make meetings a time to encourage your team members in their relationships with the Lord. Remember just how much you love your ministry!

**Growing as a Kidmin:
WORKSHOP***Gloria S. Lee (page 83)*

We've been given lots of resources and tools to help kids grow—from Sunday school lessons to crafts and games. But what are YOU doing to grow personally? Explore ways to develop as a kidmin leader through personal retreats, study, conferences, and FUN! A healthy YOU makes for a healthier ministry.

**Hurried, Worried, and
Weary—Offering Hope to
Hurting Families: TRACK***Katie Wetherbee (page 87)***Session 4: One Size Doesn't Fit All:
Welcoming All Kinds of Families
at Church**

We need to be prepared to welcome families into our congregations. Examine demographics to develop an understanding of the challenges nontraditional families face. Identify ways in which our language, church publications, and social media might hinder the attendance of nontraditional families. Discuss ways to support and nurture the children in these families—and their parents.

**Jesus-Centered
Ministry: TRACK***Rick Lawrence (page 83)***Session 4: A Beeline for Everything
in Ministry**

What are your conventional ministry practices subtly communicating to kids? How are your strategies forming their view of God and themselves? Explore what a children's ministry looks like when your everyday practices and activities all orbit around Jesus.

**Leading Kids in Worship:
HALF-TRACK***David Wakerley (page 85)***Session 2: Break Down the
Worship Experience**

Dig into the nuts and bolts of worship. What does it take? What are some ways you can accomplish worship in any environment? Explore what's working for you, what's not working for you, and practical ways you can take your worship to the next level.





Leading Through Transition: **WORKSHOP**

Andrea Hopgood (page 82)

New job? New pastor? New team? Explore ways to increase team morale while evaluating the way you cope with change. By exploring personality and conflict management test results, you'll gain insight into how you work best and why you respond the way you do to change.



Leveraging Technology for Ministry: **HALF-TRACK**

Brandon Early (page 82)

Session 2: Teaching and Reaching With Technology

There are lots of great resources available—but how do we find and use these tools for ministry? We'll unearth some of today's best tech tools to help teach and communicate with kids and parents. You'll walk away with LOTS of new ideas, strategies, and tools.



Opening Doors for Kids With Limiting Disabilities: **HALF-TRACK**

Pat Verbal (page 85)

Session 2: "Can Do" Plans for Children With Physical Challenges

Does your classroom function well for everyone? If not, come explore some of the excellent equipping tools available to help you open doors for kids with unique physical challenges. Including them may take a little extra lesson planning and volunteer training, but it's worth it to ensure that they feel welcome, safe, and successful at church.



Practical Ideas for Growing Kids' Faith: **TRACK**

Steve Alley (page 81)

Session 4: More Ideas Than You Can Count

Experience a veritable cornucopia of practical ideas for stimulating kids' faith. You'll walk away with LOTS of new ideas you can use *right away*—including service projects, family events, prayer experiences, games, and so much more!



R.E.A.L. Solutions for Real Challenges: **HALF-TRACK**

Gary Lindsay (page 83)

Session 2: Classroom Challenges—Solved

Do you ever wonder why some kids won't sit still or why your classroom seems out of control? Your environment may be causing the chaos! Discover the key ingredients to R.E.A.L. learning that squelch discipline issues—or stop them before they start.



Recruiting That Works: **HALF-TRACK**

Anthony Prince (page 83)

Session 2: Beyond the Basics

Learn next-level tips and tricks for volunteer recruitment and retention. Discover how to target specific age groups for your volunteer teams, and discuss proven strategies that'll help you reach out to, connect with, equip, and keep new team members. This session will give you concrete take-aways that'll help you grow your volunteer pool both deep and wide.

🕒 2:30 PM—4:30 PM SUNDAY

TRAINING ZONE 4**Secrets to Sustainable Children's Ministry: TRACK***Jeff Dunn-Rankin (page 82) and Annette Safstrom (page 85)***Session 4:** Assessing Your Ministry and Designing Your Blueprint

A sustainable children's ministry is one that's prepared. Examine a 25-point diagnostic checklist for the health of your ministry. And develop a step-by-step calendar for building a sustainable, deep-impact children's ministry.

**S.E.R.V.E.— Building a Thriving Volunteer Team: TRACK***Dale Hudson (page 82)***Session 4:** Empower Volunteers to Lead

Are you ready to have more volunteers who are leaders of other volunteers rather than just doers? Learn how to empower your volunteers and see them assume roles of increasing responsibility. You'll gain key strategies to advance volunteers who have shown themselves to be faithful, trustworthy, and effective.

**Transforming Lives in Surprising Ways: TRACK***Jody Brolsma (page 81) and Christine Yount Jones (page 87)***Session 4:** R.E.A.L. Kids and R.E.A.L. Ministry

Discover kids' top cries today and how your ministry can give them what they long for—a loving relationship with Jesus! Explore the things that could truly derail your kids' faith. What's innocent or insidious? Experience Group's R.E.A.L. learning as you dive into the philosophy and research behind Group's Buzz and Grapple curriculums, and more.

**The Unconventional Kidmin: TRACK***Patty Smith (page 85)***Session 4:** Status Quo, Oh No!

Bring creativity and creative thinking skills to your ministry, and discover a deliberate creativity process that'll help you transform your work, ministry, and outcomes. Discover the 4 C's: Creativity, Collaboration, Communication, and Critical Thinking—and how they help kids move from a static, informed faith to a transformed, vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Winning Leadership— Overcome Any Obstacle: TRACK***Steve Adams (page 81)***Session 4:** Enabled for Kidmin Mastery

In this session, we'll take a look at the "self discipline," or sensible and purposeful thinking, that's available to each of us. Discover the steps we can take each day to be mentally prepared for the challenges in children's ministry. Learn to master your moods, emotions, and the fundamentals of how to do this.



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SUNDAY EVENING

GENERAL SESSION

⌚ 6:45 PM—9:30 PM

Victory in Jesus



BRIAN DAVIS BAND



THE SKIT GUYS



DEVON FRANKLIN

"Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:57

SUNDAY EVENING

GENERAL SESSION

🕒 6:45 PM—9:30 PM

WORSHIP



BRIAN DAVIS BAND

Read about the Brian Davis Band on page 34.

COMEDY



THE SKIT GUYS

Read about The Skit Guys on page 30.

KEYNOTE



DEVON FRANKLIN
DeVon is a rarity: an African-American studio executive at the forefront of Hollywood’s hit machine. He currently serves as Senior Vice President of Production for Columbia TriStar Pictures. DeVon is also a preacher, a motivational speaker, and the author of *Produced By Faith: Enjoy Real Success Without Losing Your True Self.*

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🕒 9:00 AM—11:00 AM MONDAY
TRAINING ZONE 5

MONDAY

WORKSHOPS Practical 2-hour sessions scheduled throughout the conference on a broad scope of subjects. It's the most flexible option.

NAVIGATE BY TOPIC Want to go deeper in a ministry category such as leadership, understanding kids, or something else? Check out our "Navigate by Topic" guide on page 96.

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Building Blocks for Sustainable Ministry: WORKSHOP

Jeff Dunn-Rankin (page 82) and Annette Safstrom (page 85)



Sustainable children's ministries are ones that can continue even after you leave. Learn how to make an amazing children's ministry that isn't about you and how to build the climate and systems that'll move you from a short-term patchwork ministry to a sustainable one.



Desperate Households: Helping Families Choose Christ Over Culture: WORKSHOP

Katie Wetherbee (page 87)

Examine ways to combat cultural pressure to win the "race to the top," and discuss ways to help families achieve balance rooted in Christ. We'll explore ways to help build kids' faith and empower families to be a light in a stressful and hurried world.



Develop Confident Parents: WORKSHOP

Jim Burns (page 81)

One of the purposes of the church is to mentor parents, help parents mentor their children, and as a result, the legacy of faith continues from generation to generation. This session will provide practical ideas and programs to help parents be more effective with taking on the main role of spiritual leadership.



Enabled for Kidmin Mastery: WORKSHOP

Steve Adams (page 81)

In this session, we'll take a look at the "self discipline," or sensible and purposeful thinking, that's available to each of us. Discover the steps we can take each day to be mentally prepared for the challenges in children's ministry. Learn to master your moods, emotions, and the fundamentals of how to do this.



The Jesus-less Gospel: WORKSHOP

Rick Lawrence (page 83)

Have well-meaning ministry strategies subtly erased "the real Jesus" from our menu? Explore how different environments mold us, compare the power of kids' environments with the influence of flawed "formulas" for spiritual growth, and consider the limitations of an understand-and-apply approach to ministry.



More Ideas Than You Can Count: WORKSHOP

Steve Alley (page 81)

Experience a veritable cornucopia of practical ideas for stimulating kids' faith. You'll walk away with LOTS of new ideas you can use *right away*—including service projects, family events, prayer experiences, games, and so much more!

Check THE YELLOW SHEET for room locations and updates!

🕒 9:00 AM—11:00 AM MONDAY
TRAINING ZONE 5



**Outside the Lines:
 WORKSHOP**

Patty Smith (page 85)

Leaders today face several common challenges, among them driving change, challenging the status quo, and leading teams to solve complex problems. These challenges require specific skills, including creativity and creative thinking. Discover how to unlock barriers that prevent your best creative work, and identify strengths and areas for development as creative leaders.



**A Surge of the
 Extemporaneous:
 WORKSHOP**

Cynthia Crane (page 81)

Sometimes you're forced to do things on the fly. But if you *plan* for those times, it'll change everything. Leave with fun ideas and games to use (after playing with them, of course!). See how big God is when we let him change things according to his plan instead of panicking that ours isn't going to happen.



**Select a Winning Team:
 WORKSHOP**

Dale Hudson (page 82)

Get ready to double the size of your team! Dig into what *not* to do when you're desperate for volunteers, and learn simple secrets for building a great volunteer team. Explore how to "onboard" new volunteers, and help them hit the ground running!



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-Lisa Jost, VBD Director

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**MONDAY
MORNING**
GENERAL SESSION

11:15 AM—12:15 PM

Charge!



BRIAN DAVIS BAND



CYNTHIA CRANE

"It is God's way of preparing us in every way, fully equipped for every good thing God wants us to do."

2 Timothy 3:17 (NLT)

MONDAY MORNING

GENERAL SESSION

🕒 11:15 AM—12:15 PM

WORSHIP



BRIAN DAVIS BAND

Read about the Brian Davis Band on page 34.

KEYNOTE**CYNTHIA CRANE**

As a veteran children's minister, Cynthia attends and serves at Beachpoint Church in Fountain Valley, California. She offers insight and ideas for how to reach kids in meaningful and energetic ways in conferences and camps across the country.

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Presenters

Our presenter team is here for you 24/7. Share lunch or coffee. Pick their brains. They're some of the brainiest kidmins in the world!



Steve Adams

Steve serves as the Global Children's Pastor and Executive Pastor

for Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California. For 25 years, Steve has mentored children's ministry leaders all over the world and currently leads a dynamic staff serving seven California campuses and three international campuses.



Steve Alley

Steve is the Children's Pastor at Harvest Christian Fellowship in Irvine,

California. He's also a ministry professor at Hope International University in Fullerton, California. Steve wrote *Growing a Healthy Children's Ministry* and co-authored the SKITuations curriculum with his wife, Cora.



Greg Baird

Greg has served in children's and family ministry for nearly 25 years, including in four San

Diego-area churches. Greg is the founder of KidMin360 and currently works with at-risk children and those who serve them around the world.



Danielle Bell

Danielle is passionate about helping children experience Jesus. She serves as a

minister to children at Dawson Memorial Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. Danielle writes a blog about kidmin and faith at dandibell.com.



Jody Brolsma

Jody is the Vacation Bible School Executive Editor/Champion at Group in

Loveland, Colorado. She'll be the first to tell you that it is truly the "funnest" job in the world! (That's why she's been doing it for 20 years.)



Jim Burns

Jim is President of HomeWord and Executive Director of the HomeWord

Center for Youth and Family at Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, California. He has more than 1.5 million resources in print, published in more than 25 languages. He's the family ministry columnist for *Children's Ministry Magazine*.



Cynthia Crane

As a veteran children's minister, Cynthia attends and serves at Beachpoint

Church in Fountain Valley, California. She offers insight and ideas for how to reach kids in meaningful and energetic ways in conferences and camps across the country.



E.C. Cunningham

With more than 23 years of experience in children's and youth ministry, E.C. is

the Downtown Campus Pastor at Lake Hills Church in Austin, Texas. He consults for churches and conferences in the area of leadership and children's ministry development.

Presenters



Nick Diliberto

Nick is the creator of *preteenministry.net* and is the Director of Pursuit for preteens at the Northshore Vineyard Church in New Orleans, Louisiana.



Jeff Dunn-Rankin

Jeff has been the Director of Youth at Christ United Methodist Church in Venice, Florida, since 1998 and often helps in kidmin. He has an MBA from Vanderbilt University. Jeff is a leader in taking the principles of sustainable youth ministry and customizing them for children's ministry.



Brandon Early

Brandon has been serving in youth ministry as a storyteller and creative communicator for nearly 20 years. He's currently the Director of Student Ministries at Valley Church in West Des Moines, Iowa, has written for *Group Magazine*, and writes a blog at *morethandodgeball.com*.



Sheila Halasz

Sheila founded a Christian preschool where she directs and coordinates an early childhood Sunday program. Sheila has co-authored curriculum and multiple books involving teaching young children. She hosts the site *powerofpreschoolers.com*.



Brian Haynes

Brian serves as Lead Pastor at Bay Area First Baptist church in League City, Texas. He's the author of *Shift: What It Takes to Finally Reach Families Today* and *The Legacy Path: Discover Intentional Spiritual Parenting*.



Andrea Hopgood

Andrea has served as a children's pastor, consultant, and presenter at various conferences. She's the Elementary Ministry Director at Elmbrook Church in Brookfield, Wisconsin, and a columnist for *Children's Ministry Magazine*.



Dale Hudson

Dale has been in children's ministry for more than 25 years. He directs the children's ministry at Christ Fellowship Church in Palm Beach, Florida. Dale has co-authored five books, including *100 Best Ideas to Turbocharge Your Children's Ministry*. He's a leadership columnist for *Children's Ministry Magazine*.



David Jennings

David has served kids around the world the majority of his life. From Texas to Romania, he has followed God's lead. David worked for six years as a children's director in Alabama. He's now an associate editor for Children's Ministry resources at Group.

Presenters



Rick Lawrence

Rick has been editor of *Group Magazine* for 26 years. He's written and edited thousands of magazine articles and is the author, co-author, or editor of 34 books, including the small-group curriculum *In Pursuit of Jesus*.



Gloria S. Lee

A graduate of UC Berkeley and Talbot School of Theology, Gloria has been committed to children's ministry for more than 18 years. She leads workshops at various conferences and is a contributor to many kidmin resources. She currently leads Children and Family Ministry at two churches in the Los Angeles area.



Gary Lindsay

Gary, a 15-year children's ministry veteran, is passionate about equipping others to reach kids for Jesus. He's currently the Children's Pastor at Irving Bible Church in Irving, Texas. He regularly writes and teaches about children's ministry.



Gina McClain

Gina leads children's ministry at Faith Promise Church, a multi-site movement based in Knoxville, Tennessee. For more than 14 years, she's learned that children's ministry is unpredictable and leadership is an art.



Ricardo Miller

Ricardo has more than 17 years' experience in children's ministry and is a consultant, motivational speaker, and leadership development coach. He serves as the Student Ministry Pastor at Pathway of Life Church in Dallas, Texas.



Amy Nappa

Amy is Champion and Executive Editor for Adult and Church Leadership resources at Group. She spends a lot of time connecting with friends in ministry to learn more about their dreams and challenges—and then works to create resources to address those needs.



Kal Otis

Kal has more than 27 years of team-building and management experience in secular and ministry settings. She's the Family and Children's Pastor at South Park Church in Park Ridge, Illinois. She's also a columnist for *Children's Ministry Magazine*.



Anthony Prince

Anthony is a husband, dad, and pastor—in that order. He's a graduate of the School of Theology at Azusa Pacific University. He's been in children's ministry for 13 years. He currently directs children and family ministry at Glenkirk Church in Los Angeles.

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Toby Rowe

Active in youth ministry for more than 20 years now, Toby has helped lead more mission trips than he can remember. He's served at two churches and currently is the Program Manager for Group Mission Trips and Simply Youth Group.



Annette Safstrom

Annette has been involved in children's ministry for more than 20 years. She has been a member of the Ministry Architects team since January of 2012. She enjoys working with children's ministry leaders and helping them build sustainable ministries and balanced lives.



Thom & Joani Schultz

Thom and Joani creatively lead Group's teams that create vacation Bible school, Sunday school curriculum, *Children's Ministry Magazine*, children's ministry resources, the KidMin Conference, and more. Thom is Founder and President of Group, and Joani is Chief Creative Officer.



Mary Sims

Mary is in her 15th year as a children's pastor at the Dallas First Church of the Nazarene in DeSoto, Texas. For the past few years, Mary and her team have intentionally focused their ministry on teaching kids to pray. Together they've proved that big things happen when kids pray!



Patty Smith

Patty is the unconventional church lady who inspires and motivates people to think differently about reaching kids for Jesus. She's the Director of Children and Family Ministries in the Tennessee Conference of the United Methodist Church where she equips kidmins in more than 400 churches.



Christiaan VandenHeuvel

Christiaan is a 20-year children's ministry veteran in the San Francisco area. He has a lot of hands-on experience and insight into what it takes to lead a growing ministry.



Pat Verbal

Pat is the Manager of Curriculum Development at Joni and Friends Christian Institute on Disability. She's a children's ministry veteran with decades of experience as a Christian education pastor, teacher, school administrator, and consultant.



David Wakerley

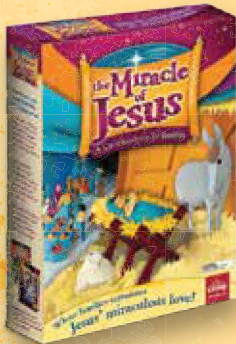
David is a pastor and the Creative Director of Hillsong Kids and has been part of the team at Hillsong Church in Sydney, Australia, for more than 13 years. He's the creator of the exciting Hillsong Kids BiG curriculum and a children's ministry blog at davidwakerley.com.

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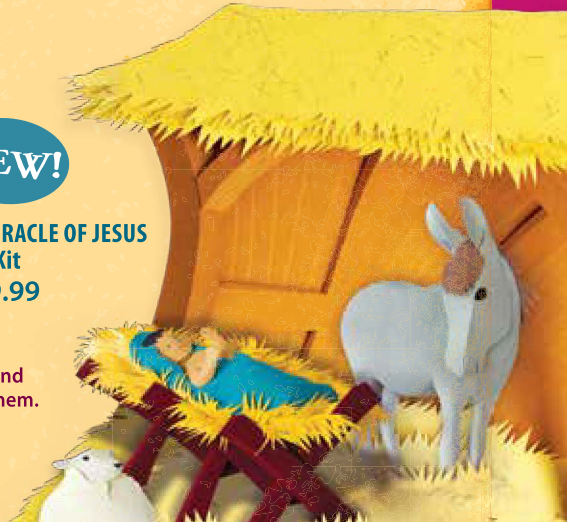
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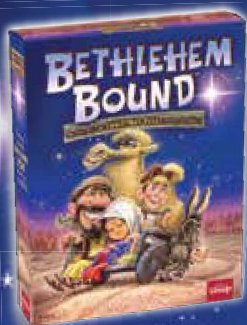
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Katie Wetherbee

A ministry and educational consultant, Katie loves helping families, schools, and churches work together so every child feels welcome and included. She's a columnist for *Children's Ministry Magazine* and frequently writes and blogs about special needs. Her first book, *Every Child Welcome*, will be published in 2015.



Christine Yount Jones

Christine has more than 26 years of children's ministry experience. She is the Executive Editor of *Children's Ministry Magazine*, has authored many books and articles on children's ministry, and serves as Group's Children's Ministry Champion. She's responsible for development and innovation of new resources.



Jeff White

Jeff is the author of *Holy Wow*, a book about creativity in ministry. He serves as Development Champion at Group, where he works with teams to create new digital resources. A graduate of Biola University, he's produced creative work for AT&T, Warner Bros., Sunkist, and others.



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NEARBY (1-5 minute walk)

- The North Market (just two short blocks away) has a wide variety of dining options—including international cuisine and grocers with fresh food grown and raised locally. Check out the Farmers' Market on Saturday. \$ - \$\$\$
- A HUGE variety of restaurants is nearby on the Short North (on N. High Street) and the Arena District (a 5-minute walk). For more information, visit urbanspoon.com/columbus and look in the Arena District and Short North sections for full dining lists. Informational maps for restaurants can also be found at the KidMin registration desk or obtained from a Hyatt concierge. \$ - \$\$\$\$

STAFF PICKS

- **JENI'S SPLENDID ICE CREAMS** in the North Market (part of the Short North) \$
- **MARCELLA'S RISTORANTE** (Italian) in the Short North area \$\$
- **MARTINI MODERN ITALIAN** in the Arena District \$\$\$
- **LEMONGRASS FUSION BISTRO** (Asian, Thai) in the Short North area \$\$
- **HAPPY GREEK** (Greek, Mediterranean, subs and sandwiches) in the Short North area \$\$
- **MAX & ERMA'S** (American) in the Arena District, next to the Crowne Plaza \$\$

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Abingdon Press VBS Utilizing African American culture and history as a lens through which to teach biblical truths and spread the gospel of Jesus Christ, this program will help participants of all ages to hear about the importance of shining as children of God!

With *Shining Star: See the Jesus in Me!*, participants will:

- Discover the Bible as a light for life's path!
- Realize that each one has Star Power in Jesus Christ!
- Have community fun shining like stars for God!
- Be encouraged to believe that Jesus is the light that shines in them!



Bethel Seminary is among the 15 largest accredited seminaries in the United States. Nearly 1,400 seminary students are enrolled through our programs in St. Paul, San Diego, and online. Our graduates develop biblical and theological grounding, personal and spiritual character, and leadership skills, transforming into passionate followers of Christ and purposeful leaders.



Children's Ministry Magazine We're partnering with you to make Jesus irresistible to kids. *Children's Ministry Magazine* has been the leading magazine for children's ministry for over 24 years! It's designed to equip you with useful tools and information to change children's lives forever with the message of Jesus' love. With advice from today's ministry experts and veterans, you'll get authentic and innovative ministry ideas to help change children's lives. childrensministry.com



Christ In Youth (CIY) has been providing events, missions experiences and resources that amplify Christ's call on student lives for more than 45 years. More than 70,000 students and leaders attend at least one of CIY's 95 age-specific programs held each year. One of those programs is SuperStart! a two-day interactive program designed specifically for 4th, 5th and 6th grade students offered in 12 separate locations nationally. Each weekend engages the growing minds and hearts of preteens to teach them more about themselves and the Bible. For more information, visit ciy.com.



Destiny Rescue is a Christian, nonprofit organization that has been dedicated to rescuing children from sex trafficking and sexual exploitation since 2001. We rescue the sexually exploited and enslaved, restore the abused, protect the vulnerable, empower the poor, and are a voice for the voiceless. Find out more at destinyrescue.org.

Ministry Partners



Easy Risers is a portable, stackable, durable, and convenient way to turn any environment into a dynamic amphitheater. Improve your space in seconds, giving your children's ministry versatility, visibility, and high impact with stadium seating and so much more. easyrisers.net



Good to Go is on-demand video training for your children's ministry volunteers. With Good to Go, you can be sure your volunteers are ready to roll week after week with consistent training that's fun, practical, and easy to use. Get a free one-week trial at goodtogotraining.com.



Group Children's Curriculum Explore the Group difference in children's curriculum. Group is a highly trusted publisher of Sunday school and children's church curriculum—and it's the R.E.A.L. deal. The fact our resources work isn't a fad. Not a fantasy. They genuinely help kids know, love, and follow Jesus. Learn more about our R.E.A.L. approach to learning and see all of our life-changing curriculum options at group.com/sunday-school.



Group for Women provides innovative resources for women's ministry, including all-inclusive retreat kits, easy moms ministry curriculum, Bible studies, devotions, leadership training, and more. Every resource is designed to build strong relationships between women and create deeper faith and connection to God. group.com/women



Group VBS offers life-changing programs that make it easy to create your church's best VBS yet! We're with you every step of the way with easy directions, easy training, and easy-to-lead lessons. You'll love leading VBS—we guarantee it! In 2015, Group has an amazing lineup of VBS programs. *Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power* is an icy expedition that anchors kids in rock-solid Bible truths. The all-new *Cross Culture: Thailand Trek* is everything you love about VBS—plus a fresh way to ignite kids' faith by immersing them in another culture. Find out more and pick the VBS that's right for you at group.com/VBS.



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Hillsong Kids BiG is a children's ministry curriculum presenting Christ-centered, Bible-based teaching that is relevant to practical living and empowers children to lead and impact in every sphere of life. Come by the Hillsong stand and say hello! hillsong.net



HomeWord seeks to advance the work of God in the world by educating, equipping, and encouraging parents and churches to build God-honoring families from generation to generation. HomeWord is a Christian organization designed to provide assistance to adults worldwide as they help young people make wise decisions and lead positive, vibrant, Christian lifestyles.



Hunger Crunch is a video game for and by Rice Bowls, a ministry feeding orphaned children around the world. When you play, you can help provide much-needed food to these awesome kids. Host a Hunger Crunch game competition party with your group for a fun and purposeful experience. hungercrunch.com



Joni and Friends is an international ministry, celebrating 35 years of service to families with special need through Family Retreats, Wheels for the World, and the Christian Institute on Disability. We accelerate Christian ministry in the disabled community and equip churches to evangelize and disciple people with disabilities. joniandfriends.org.



JumpStart3 is redefining worship and Scripture memory. With our resources you get everything you need to lead worship while helping your kids memorize Scripture and have fun. Combining modern Music, Motions, Lyric Videos and Family Devotions creates accelerated learning. Sharing our faith is as easy as sharing a song. jumpstart3.com



KidCheck provides secure children's check-in solutions designed for churches. Streamline your check-in process, improve security, and create a positive parent and visitor experience. From easy-to-use software, including mobile check-in; to complete check-in stations, plus free support, KidCheck has you covered. Contact us for a demo or for more information. kidcheck.com; or 855-543-2432

Ministry Partners



Lifetree Family is a new ministry effort from Group for YOUR family, and for the families in and outside of your church! It's designed to supplement your current family ministry efforts by giving you a trusted place to point everyday families for everyday faith. Visit LifetreeFamily.com for free resources, community, and more!



Motive Entertainment Partnership Orphaned by the brutal Sudanese civil war, young victims walked thousands of miles for safety. In 1998, a humanitarian effort brought 3,600 lost boys and girls to America. Starring Reese Witherspoon, *The Good Lie* is the story of several of these extraordinary refugees and the faith that saved them. TheGoodLieResources.com



Parenting Christian Kids is the customizable monthly newsletter that will help you connect with the families in your ministry. Each month you get a complete newsletter that will keep parents informed—with a minimal amount of work by you! It's easily accessible in Word or Publisher or as a PDF. Plus...it's easy to distribute! Parenting Christian Kids will help you reach families in the name of Jesus! parentingchristiankids.com



Planning Center Check-Ins lets you manage your kids, organize your volunteers, and simplify your check-in process. It's affordable and beautifully designed. Turn any iPhone, Android, or iPad into a real-time check-in station. Print child labels and connect barcode scanners for extra security.



Preteen Week of Hope Group's Preteen Week of Hope is an affordable summer mission trip packed with practical acts of love and service. Your preteens will build meaningful connections as they serve people through local ministries and nonprofit organizations. You don't want to miss these community service mission trips! groupmissiontrips.com/week-of-hope



Shepherd's Watch Group loves the church and we're committed to helping you keep it safe with Shepherd's Watch. We've partnered with a leading risk-management provider to bring you affordable, national background checks with accurate results. There are no minimum orders, no monthly billing fees, and no hidden fees. group.com/sw

Ministry Partners



Simply Youth Ministry helps youth workers do what matters most. As part of fulfilling that mission, we produce LIVE Curriculum, an editable, online resource written specifically to meet your content needs in ministry. Check out LIVE 5th & 6th Grade Curriculum. Matty can answer all your questions at the booth!



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Need some help deciding what training to attend? Preview the full scope of sessions by topic, and then explore the complete descriptions and schedules on the pages listed after each title. Check out **THE YELLOW SHEET** for room locations and any last-minute schedule changes. For Presenter bios, look at pages 81-87.

FAMILY MINISTRY

Ideas for reaching families and strategies for partnering with parents. From postmodern to modern families, single-parent families to stepfamilies, and everything in between.

TRACKS

Build a Family-Friendly Children's Ministry

Session 1: Build Strong Marriages (page 37)

Session 2: Develop Confident Parents (page 43)

Session 3: Empower Kids With Morals and Values (page 57)

Session 4: Become a Healthy Leader (page 63)

Hurried, Worried, and Weary—Offering Hope to Hurting Families

Session 1: Body-Building: Including Families Affected by “Hidden” Disabilities (page 38)

Session 2: Desperate Households: Helping Families Choose Christ Over Culture (page 44)

Session 3: First Aid: Supporting Families in Crisis (page 58)

Session 4: One Size Doesn't Fit All: Welcoming All Kinds of Families at Church (page 64)

HALF-TRACKS

Build a Kidmin That Impacts Home

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Session 2: Discipleship at Home (page 63)

Making Church Irresistible to Kids

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Develop Confident Parents (page 73)

Moms Rock! Why Moms Ministry Matters (page 59)

Partnering With the Modern Family (page 44)

MINISTRY CONVERSATION

Competing With Sports (page 26)

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TRACK

The Generator Track

- Session 1:** A Surge of Experiences (page 38)
- Session 2:** A Surge of the Extemporaneous (page 44)
- Session 3:** The Sound of Surge (page 57)
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HALF-TRACK

Leveraging Technology for Ministry

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WORKSHOPS

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- Bringing the Bible to Life** (page 37)
- Creative Outreach** (page 43)
- Extrava-GAME-za** (page 64)
- More Ideas Than You Can Count** (page 73)
- A Surge of the Extemporaneous** (page 74)

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Discover the key to dynamic leadership, ministry branding, strategic planning, and more. All while you learn to recruit, train, and keep your volunteers! Plus...get great team-building ideas.

PRE-CONFERENCE TRAINING

- Controlling Chaos: Keys to Effective Children's Ministry** (page 22)
- Reinvigorated Children's Ministry** (page 23)

TRACKS

Secrets to Sustainable Children's Ministry

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- Session 2:** Building Blocks for Sustainable Ministry (page 45)
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Winning Leadership—Overcome Any Obstacle

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Experience intimate encounters with Jesus, personal support and encouragement, and transformative self-discovery. All while fueling your heart and soul for life and ministry.

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Spiritual Self-Care for Kidmin Leaders (page 23)

HALF-TRACKS

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Hope for Home (page 26)

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Navigate by Topic

UNDERSTANDING KIDS

Dig deep into the world of kids. Enrich your knowledge of the ever-changing culture that influences kids' behavior, interests, learning, and spiritual health...and how to reach them based on their age and development.

PRE-CONFERENCE TRAINING

R.E.A.L. Learning Lab—How Kids Really Learn Best (page 22)

TRACK

Practical Ideas for Growing Kids' Faith

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HALF-TRACKS

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