



Welcome to Winter PTAC!

January 27, 2018



For those of you familiar with our Annual Preschool Teachers Adventure Conference held in the summer — we would like to welcome you to Winter PTAC!

For over 20 years PTAC has been helping those in the field of Early Childhood Education keep their training current and their motivation strong during our three day summer 'adventure!' We sponsor this one day Winter version to serve those who missed training at the summer conference and/or those who would like a mid-year motivational 'push' to greet the New Year!

Working with children and their families is an important God-given task. Whether you work with infants & toddlers or preschoolers, in either a Christian or a secular setting, or you supervise people who do, you have the power to influence lives every day — "one heart at a time."

It is our hope that Winter PTAC will educate and inspire you — fill your spirit & entertain you! We pray that you will leave Winter PTAC renewed in body and spirit — ready to have a positive impact on the lives of the children and families that you work with! Thank you for joining us!

Your Day at Winter PTAC

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
7:30 — 8:00 am	Registration/Continental Breakfast
7:50 — 8:05 am	Praise & Worship
8:10 — 9:10 am	Keynote Speaker — Ellen Booth Church
9:30 — 10:20 am	Session #1 Workshops
10:30 — 11:20 am	Session #2 Workshops
11:30 am — 12:20 pm	Lunch #1 OR Session #3 Workshops
12:30 — 1:20 pm	Lunch #2 OR Session #4 Workshops
1:30 — 2:20 pm	Session #5 Workshops
2:35 — 3:30 pm	Footnote Speaker — Nazareth

Disclaimer

The opinions expressed by presenters and/or exhibitors are their own, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Conference Planning Committee, The Adventure Preschool, Kardia Christian Academy or Windwood Presbyterian Church. The Conference Planning Committee does not officially endorse any particular product, program, teaching method, activity or handout presented at this conference.

Featured Speakers



Keynote Speaker — Ellen Booth Church

Ellen was born to a family of musicians and educators. She feels that her family's creative and playful approach to living inspired her to study early childhood education and to later become a Preschool and Kindergarten teacher. Her unusual approach of combining cognitive learning experiences with creative play caught the attention of Scholastic Publishing — and she became instrumental in the development of Early Childhood Today magazine. She wrote the Circle Time and Ages and Stages columns for the magazine. In fact, if you go to scholastic.com and type her name in the search bar — all of her years of articles are there to use! Ellen was an

Associate Professor of Early Childhood and taught at SUNY Farmingdale, NY. Ellen is currently writing and consulting for a variety of publishers and schools around the world.

Footnote Speaker — Nazareth

Nazareth, originally from the Holy Land, has been honing his talents as a comedian for 25 years. Prior to moving to the United States to attend college at the University of Toledo Ohio, he uprooted from Kuwait with nothing other than a passion to make the most of the life he had been given. His passion for comedy ignited when he asked himself one day, "What do I want to do in life that if I never get paid for it, I'd still do it to the best of my ability?" Making people laugh was the only thing that came to mind. Nazareth has seen much success in his 25 year comedic career. His dedication and unrelenting commitment to giving his audience his best performances have bore much fruit. One of the roles that he takes great joy in is being a director for a ministry that supports Christians in the Gaza Strip. Added to this joy, is his role as co-founder of a ministry that reaches out to thousands of refugees fleeing Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan and Iran to find refuge in Southern California.



Session 1 Workshops

9:30—10:20 am

Leadership During a Paradigm Shift

Our whole society is undergoing a paradigm shift. The Judeo-Christian ethics that once defined our country and its laws are being moved away from and a new understanding of what society is, and what society is supposed to do, is in the making. This is every bit as significant as the industrial revolution was, and just as wide spread. How do you go about leading during such a paradigm shift? What should we be looking at, and looking for, in these changing times? We will look at how to get ahead of "the curve" of these changing times and how not to simply be reactionary.

Speaker: Rev. Kevin Rudolph

FA: Professional Development

Audience: Directors

Room: A128

Growth Mindset for Educators: How to Prevent Fear & Low Expectations from Limiting Your Potential

Mistakes make your brain grow! Join us to learn how the latest brain research can inform your work with children and your own professional development. We'll watch videos from Stanford researchers Carol Dweck and Jo Boaler as they explain the brain's amazing elasticity and the power of hard work to improve achievement in math and other areas. Interactive activities and role plays will help you reframe your thinking, classroom interactions, and language to adopt a growth mindset for your children and your staff.

Speaker: Dr. Carrie Cutler

FA: Professional Development

Audience: Directors

Room: A124

The Benefits of Music with Infants & Toddlers

Studies have shown that early musical training benefits children even before they can walk or talk. Your infants and toddlers that participate in interactive music classes will smile more, communicate better, and show earlier and more sophisticated brain responses to music. This session will show you how to integrate music into your everyday routine. (1,4)

Speaker: Brooke Wright

FA: Music & Movement

Audience: MDO

Room: A120

The Messy Blessing of Early Childhood Education

Our world is full of hurt, heartache, and troubled times. Even for our youngest children, even for our families who are Christ-followers, even for our staff and their personal lives; we all carry around baggage. The blessings of Early Childhood Education can be a ministry for all people. Let's discuss how to find beauty in the midst of hardship and a sinful world. We will talk about how to keep our eyes on Jesus and God's goodness every day.

Speaker: Kara Gore

FA: Child Growth & Development

Audience: MDO

Room: A125

Potty Training 101

Come learn the ins and outs of potty training! Learn how to read a child's cues to know when they are ready to conquer potty training and how to partner with parents to make this transition easy and exciting!

Speaker: Christi Priddy

FA: Child Growth & Development

Audience: MDO

Room: C145

21st Century Littles: How & Why YOU Need to Become a Connected Educator!**Audience: MDO/Pres**

Education is rapidly shifting. The world of edtech has created amazing new opportunities for us to connect with our students and other professional educators like never before! We are truly in an uncharted era of technology resources both for our own Professional Development (Have you heard of PD in your PJ's?) and innovative 21st Century ways to engage our youngest learners! I challenge you to learn what a Professional Learning Network is and how to incorporate teaching Digital Citizenship to our Littles. They ARE going to be handed a phone to play with — it's not going away — let's begin the conversation of HOW and WHY becoming a connected educator can help us embrace 21st Century Learning. (1,3)

Speaker: Erika Sanchez**FA: Professional Development****Room: C150****Learning at it's BEaST!****Audience: MDO/Pres**

Everybody has an inner learning animal that guides how we process information and operate as learners. In this insightful workshop, you'll discover your own learning personality, why you do better with certain students, and how to teach all styles with better effectiveness. (1,5)

Speaker: Dr. Rick Chromey**FA: Advance Physical & Intellectual Competence****Room: A126****Exciting Object Lessons****Audience: Preschool**

Object lessons speak louder than words — and that's why I use them! You'll really enjoy this class as Bubba shares some of his secrets with you!

Speaker: Gene Wright**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: Summit****The Out-of-Sync Student: Understanding Sensory Procession Disorder****Audience: Preschool**

Ever wonder why some of your children seem to be out-of-sync with others and respond in unusual ways to differing environments, classmates, teachers, and ordinary classroom activities? Sensory Integration may be the reason! SI can create problems that affect the mood, development, and education of many students, yet chances are you have never heard of it. Join Gregg as he helps you better understand SI problems and how to become more "in sync" with those children who seem to be "out-of-sync" in your classrooms.

Speaker: Gregg Catalano**FA: Advance Physical & Intellectual Competence****Room: Youth****Embracing Change****Audience: Preschool**

Change is never easy and it can often make us uncomfortable, but in our field, change happens to make our programs safer and more effective. The childcare industry changes every day, and so do the rules for your program. As the laws change regarding the governing of your facility, we will look at ways to evaluate and implement these changes in your classroom.

Speaker: Albert Wright**FA: Professional Development****Room: Sanctuary****If You Can't Stand the Heat. . . Keep Cooking!****Audience: Preschool**

Cooking with young children can be a daunting task, but it can be done. In this workshop, we will explore the HOW and WHY of cooking with children even when we use NO BAKE recipes. You don't need heat to cook. Participants will leave this workshop with a cookbook full of recipes, tips for the classroom, and time management during food preparation experiences.

Speaker: Kendolyn Pope**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: C112****You Are What You Speak — The Power of Words****Audience: Preschool**

This workshop will allow participants to see and understand the importance of proper word usage in a professional manner. Many teachers lack the tenacity to utilize words as building blocks and not stumbling blocks. Learn how words can build or break a child or co-worker and how to approach difficult situations in an uplifting manner.

Speaker: Natasha Owoseni**FA: Child Growth & Development****Room: F110****Fine Motor Skills. . .Write Out of the Box!****Audience: MDO/Pres**

Engaging and hands-on presentation of the fine motor development of young children 3-6 years old. This session contains essential, rarely addressed information for educators of all young children, which supports pencil grasp and pre-writing development across the curriculum. Activities and techniques are ready to use in the classroom tomorrow!

Speaker: Marianne Gibbs**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: Journey****Effects of Media on Young Children****Audience: Preschool**

We are experiencing a significant increase in television programming and advertising that is targeted at young children with no shortage of devices available for them for access to television, games, and videos. Research is coming out every day pointing to the effects of over-exposure to media and technology on the cognitive, emotional, physical, and social development of young children. How can we educate and support parents in promoting healthy balance in this technology filled world?

Speaker: Lori Buxton**FA: Professional Development****Room: C114**

Math in Preschool — What Directors Need to Know**Audience: Directors**

How much time should be devoted to math in preschool? What concepts are DAP? What teaching formats and materials work best for learning math? Find out answers to these nagging questions and many more in this engaging, informative session taught by a professor of early childhood and elementary mathematics methods. You'll leave inspired to pump up the math in your facility!

Speaker: Dr. Carrie Cutler**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: A124****Assessment — Don't Get Anxious, Get Evidence!****Audience: Directors**

Authentic assessment helps teachers get to know their children's abilities and needs. The process may seem intimidating, but it doesn't have to be. All it involves is gathering evidence about children from different sources in different times and places, then organizing and interpreting the information. You'll leave ready to better assess the children in your facility and use the information more effectively!

Speaker: Diane Goyette**FA: Observation & Assessment****Room: A128****Transitions to Manage Behavior****Audience: MDO/Pres**

Transitions can be one of your best tools for managing behavior in your classroom management tool belt! These quick interludes can positively redirect attention, calm and center, release extra energy and tension, and gently guide behavior. In this session, Ellen Booth Church, expert in Circle Time and Transitions, will take an interesting look at ways we can use transitions as mini-teaching opportunities and as a joyful approach to managing behavior with compassion and clarity.

Speaker: Ellen Booth Church**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: Sanctuary****Wonderfully Made Toddlers****Audience: MDO**

Toddlers are wonderful and weird! They are working towards important developmental milestones that can be challenging at times. Additionally, they lack crucial social skills and need extremely specific environments! Through humor and hands-on fun, we will put ourselves in their shoes. You will look at your toddler students with a whole new perspective after this session! (2,5)

Speaker: Kara Gore**FA: Child Growth & Development****Room: A125****Temper Tantrums 101****Audience: MDO**

Come and learn how to decipher why a child tantrums, what is normal behavior, and how to help a child overcome tantrums before they become a distraction in the classroom.

Speaker: Christi Priddy**FA: Discipline & Guidance****Room: C145****Learn With Me, Play With Me!****Audience: Preschool**

Little children learn best through authentic experiences and play. Almost all early childhood professionals will agree with this often stated philosophy — but do you know WHY? Come enjoy a crash course in Early Childhood Theory — think Vygotsy, Piaget, and Gino! Don't worry though — we know that everyone learns best while having fun, so we will Play too! Walk away with the theoretical reasons we know that children learn best through play and a SMILE!

Speaker: Erika Sanchez**FA: Child Growth & Development****Room: C150****Reaching Millennial Parents****Audience: MDO/Pres**

The celebrated "Baby On Board" generation (born 1982—2004) is now parenting the emerging iTech Generation (born since 2005). Millennial parents don't 'helicopter' like Gen Xers and Boomers did, but they do drone 'hover' parent. In this insightful session you will learn the latest research and historical analysis on Gen Y and why you will need to change some things as you teach and lead this new generation of parents (in the 20's and early 30's).

Speaker: Dr. Rick Chromey**FA: Parent Communication****Room: A126****A-B-C's of Becoming the Best ME!****Audience: Preschool**

We all learned our A-B-C's, but how well do you know the A-B-C's to a healthy, vibrant YOU?? Join Gregg, The Physician of Phun, in this lively, creative, and high energy workshop as he goes through the alphabet providing you with information, tips, and strategies on how to live happier, healthier, and more energized life!

Speaker: Gregg Catalano**FA: Professional Development****Room: Youth****Balloons — Beginner Balloon Workshop****Audience: Preschool**

Balloons are enjoyed by everyone, young and old! In this workshop you will learn how to tie balloons and make a few animals as well!

Speaker: Gene Wright**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: Summit****Teachers: The REAL Superheroes****Audience: Preschool**

Teachers are superheroes! They have superpowers, from super hearing, to hear problem before they escalate, to super vision, to see the difference between a child who is struggling and a child with bad behavior. Superhero teachers challenge and inspire their class and make a difference in each child's life. Come learn how to be a true superhero teacher!

Speaker: Albert Wright**FA: Professional Development****Room: A120**

Session 2 Workshops (continued)**10:30 — 11:20 am****Let's Talk! Communicating with Parents in Tough Situations****Audience: Preschool**

It all begins with respect and being sensitive to each person's individual needs. Parents, especially the parents of young children, have needs that play into how they interact with teachers and administrators. Come to this workshop to develop a tool box of ideas for how to communicate with parents in even the most sensitive situations.

Speaker: Kendolyn Pope**FA: Professional Development****Room: C112****The Power of Praise — Encouraging Children****Audience: Preschool**

Motivation is the factor in all that we do for the young children we serve. We will discuss positive affirmations and motivational tips to encourage the children in our classrooms.

Speaker: Natasha Owoseni**FA: Advance Physical & Intellectual Competence****Room: F110****Errorless Learning. . . Who Knew?****Audience: Preschool**

This session involves significant self-reflection and interaction using a strategy for reflective learning called Errorless Learning. The session engages learners in a meta-cognitive approach to assessing their own teaching strategies and shares a new way to evoke children's esteem during the process of acquiring academic mastery. (2,5)

Speaker: Marianne Gibbs**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: Journey****Preventing & Responding to Relational Aggression in a Preschool Classroom****Audience: Preschool**

Teachers are spending more and more time trying to put out these raging infernos of emotion in young children. How can we reach and teach children who are struggling to self-regulate? What is driving the outbursts and can it be managed? What kind of environment can we create that promotes appropriate responses to extreme emotion? Join the conversation as we discuss strategies for these challenging behaviors.

Speaker: Lori Buxton**FA: Discipline & Guidance****Room: C114****Session 3 Workshops****11:30 am — 12:20 pm****NOTE: Lunch 1 is served during this time period.****Calming Your Classroom: Helping the Explosive Child Cope****Audience: MDO**

Sometimes children may react explosively to certain situations. Their behavior is telling us that they don't have the skills to handle the demand appropriately. If we work to solve the underlying problem and help them learn new skills, they will be better able to cope. With fewer explosions, our classrooms will become calmer places!

Speaker: Diane Goyette**FA: Child Growth & Development****Room: A126****Discipline & Guidance Techniques for the ECE Professionals****Audience: MDO**

Do you have to have special certifications or education to teach children with challenging behaviors? Does a defiant child, an aggressive child, an emotional child, or a child who bites require a more qualified teacher? The answer is almost always, "NO". Armed with knowledge, confidence, and a creative plan, you can break through those challenging behaviors and find a way to bless each child! Let's discuss effective discipline and guidance techniques for ECE.

Speaker: Kara Gore**FA: Discipline & Guidance****Room: A125****Developmental Milestones 2.0 (12 months to 3 years)****Audience: MDO**

This session contains an overview of developmental milestones for children ages 12 months to 3 years.

Speaker: Christi Priddy**FA: Observation & Assessment****Room: C145****21st Century Littles: How & Why YOU Need to Become a Connected Educator!****Audience: MDO/Pres**

Education is rapidly shifting. We are truly in an uncharted era of technology resources both for our own Professional Development (Have you heard of PD in your PJ's?) and innovative 21st Century ways to engage our youngest learners! I challenge you to learn what a Professional Learning Network is and how to incorporate teaching Digital Citizenship to our Littles. They ARE going to be handed a phone to play with — it's not going away — let's begin the conversation of HOW & WHY becoming a connected educator can help us embrace 21st Century Learning. (1,3)

Speaker: Erika Sanchez**FA: Professional Development****Room: C150****Boys Will Be Boys — What Make Little Boys Tick****Audience: MDO/Pres**

Boys will be boys and girls will be girls — buy why? Learn about brain-based research behind why boys will be boys and how you can create the ultimate learning environment that supports the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development of every boy in your preschool classroom!

Speaker: Gregg Catalano**FA: Advance Physical & Intellectual Competence****Room: Youth**

Session 3 Workshops (Continued)**11:30 — 12:20 pm****Diversity in the Classroom — Children With Special Needs****Audience: Preschool**

Childcare today is becoming more diversified and it is essential for childcare providers to receive all the information and updates necessary to provide quality care for our children. The purpose of this training is to discuss ADHD and Autism signs and symptoms, classroom and schedule management, identification of symptoms and ways to teach to enhance child growth and development.

Speaker: Natasha Owoseni**FA: Special Needs****Room: F110****The Importance of Good Mental Health****Audience: Preschool**

It has been said that working in the childcare field can be one of the most demanding and stressful jobs out there. It can also be the most rewarding, as long as you know how to create a support system for yourself. The job doesn't get easier, we have to get better! There's a difference between being driven and being called. Come and learn how to increase your mental health, so that you can invest more into your kids!

Speaker: Albert Wright**FA: Advance Physical & Intellectual Competence****Room: A120****Children of the 21st Century****Audience: Preschool**

Most of today's children are growing up in very different families than children did a generation ago. More than 50% of births in America are now to single mothers, and that percentage is growing. For those children with two parents at home, more and more are not married, and almost all are families where both parents work outside the home. Join us as we look at what things are different, and what things have stayed the same for the children of the 21st Century! A hint—God will still be with them! That's the most important message we have to convey!

Speaker: Rev. Kevin Rudolph**FA: Professional Development****Room: Summit****Session 4 Workshops****12:30 — 1:20 pm****NOTE: Lunch 2 is served during this time period.****Finders, Keepers — Becoming the Provider of Choice****Audience: Directors**

"Mirror, mirror on the wall — How do I become the best provider of all?" Such a great question! In our time together, we will evaluate what "the best" looks like from the perspective of the child, the family, the staff, and the community. We will answer questions like, "Do I know what they need and do I have it?" and "Do I understand what they want and can I provide it?" We will then turn those answers into both our invitation to enroll and our inspirations to stay!

Speaker: Lori Buxton**FA: Professional Development****Room: A128****Check Your Face & Other Body Parts at the Door****Audience: Directors**

Spend this session checking out yourself and how your physical affect and actions may impact the young children you serve. A unique opportunity to reflect on your physical self and how that contributes to building esteem and trust in young children.

Speaker: Marianne Gibbs**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: A124****Superior Circle & Sensational Calendar: Simple Adjustments for Getting the Most Out of Whole Group Instruction****Audience: MDO**

Learn tips, routines, songs, and finger plays for taking circle time from boring and tedious to engaging and meaningful. We'll talk about scheduling, pacing, ensuring participation, even seating! In addition, we'll discover ways to update calendar time to make it developmentally appropriate. Learn how to build children's number sense, counting, patterning, listening, attention, and more. Don't wait! Make circle time great!

Speaker: Dr. Carrie Cutler**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: Youth****Science is the Art of Invention****Audience: MDO/Pres**

How is science an art and art a science? We will explore the ways that young children use science thinking and processing skills in everyday art, and the activities you can use to encourage deeper exploration. This session will be fun and interactive!

Speaker: Ellen Booth Church**FA: Math & Science****Room: Sanctuary****Why Kids Misbehave****Audience: Preschool**

Controlling a classroom is similar to fire prevention and protection. You have only two choices! SNIFF or SNUFF! Smoke detector or fire extinguisher — proactive or reactive. In this workshop, teachers will learn the reason children misbehave and how to respond.

Speaker: Dr. Rick Chromey**FA: Discipline & Guidance****Room: A126****The Benefits of Music with Infants & Toddlers****Audience: MDO/Pres**

Studies have shown that early musical training benefits children even before they can walk or talk. Your infants and toddlers that participate in interactive music classes will smile more, communicate better, and show earlier and more sophisticated brain responses to music. This session will show you how to integrate music into your everyday routine. (1,4)

Speaker: Brooke Wright**FA: Music & Movement****Room: A125**

Session 4 Workshops (continued)**12:30 am — 1:20 pm****Learning Through Play — Centers & Circle Time****Audience: MDO/Pres**

Centers and circle time are exciting ways of learning for little minds and hands! We will share many teaching games and manipulatives that are fun and can be incorporated in with your lesson plans. A fun and exciting learning experience promotes a confident and joyful child and sends them on their way better prepared for the next step in their education. (4,5)

Speaker: Leisha Davis**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: Journey****Advanced Balloon Workshop****Audience: Preschool**

Do you like a challenge? Then you will love this workshop! It goes beyond the 'beginner' class offered in Session 2. Come in and enjoy the laughter, fun, and fellowship!

Speaker: Gene Wright**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: Summit****Connecting Our Favorite Stories with Math & Science****Audience: Preschool**

Story time is often a teacher's favorite time of the day, and science or math might be a least favorite. Learn how to extend classic stories into simple math and science lessons that can be taught quickly with minimal prep and supplies. Come and learn how favorite stories can be wonderful starting points for lessons across the curriculum!

Speaker: Kendolyn Pope**FA: Math & Science****Room: C112****Document, Document, Document!****Audience: Preschool**

Years ago, no one would have given a thought to filing a lawsuit against a church or Christian school. Those times have changed! This workshop is designed for the early childhood professional and will demonstrate that documentation can protect you not only legally, but also in dealing with others!

Speaker: Cindy Pirtle**FA: Professional Development****Room: A120****Session 5 Workshops****1:30 — 2:20 pm****B is for Balance****Audience: Directors**

"Balance" always look good on paper, but how in the world do we get to that magical place? Is it real? Is it a mirage that we will chase for the rest of our careers? A balanced life doesn't have to be a dream. Join us for this important discussion about intentional leadership and intentional living. Remember, if you aren't okay, no one else can be okay!

Speaker: Lori Buxton**FA: Professional Development****Room: A128****How to Engage Preschool Children in After School Programs****Audience: Directors**

After-school programs don't just offer opportunities for preschool kids to work on educational work, but they also give preschoolers the chance to work on life skills. It is important to know your student population in order to build an effective afterschool curriculum that engages the children in your program. We will talk about the struggles as well as the purpose of having preschoolers in an after-school program.

Speaker: Albert Wright**FA: Age Appropriate Curriculum****Room: A124****Wonderfully Made Toddlers****Audience: MDO**

Toddlers are wonderful and weird! They are working towards important developmental milestones that can be challenging at times. Additionally, they lack crucial social skills and need extremely specific environments! Through humor and hands-on fun, we will put ourselves in their shoes. You will look at your toddler students with a whole new perspective! (2,5)

Speaker: Kara Gore**FA: Child Growth & Development****Room: A125****Round Table Discussion on Infant Play****Audience: MDO**

Come and join in the discussion about developmentally appropriate infant play. Bring your tried and true activities to share — and learn some new ones!

Facilitator: Christi Priddy**FA: Child Growth & Development****Room: C145****Tried and True Positive Guidance Strategies that Work****Audience: MDO**

Learn the 15 "Guides to Speech and Action" that have been used successfully for decades and are still relevant today. Come away with proven strategies that will promote positive child behaviors and reduce challenging ones.

Speaker: Diane Goyette**FA: Discipline & Guidance****Room: C114****Learning at it's BEaST!****Audience: MDO/Pres**

Everybody has an inner learning animal that guides how we process information and operate as learners. In this insightful workshop, you'll discover your own learning personality, why you do better with certain students, and how to teach all styles with better effectiveness. (1,5)

Speaker: Dr. Rick Chromey**FA: Advance Physical & Intellectual Competence****Room: A126**

Make Melody In My Heart**Audience:** *Preschool*

You'll not want to miss this workshop! Even if you can't carry a tune in a bucket — you'll feel right at home here! Come on out — and let's make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Speaker: *Gene Wright***FA:** *Music & Movement***Room:** *Summit*
The Importance of Early Intervention in EC Classrooms
What To Do Right When You Know Something Is Wrong
Audience: *MDO/Pres*

Children's special needs are evident sometimes long before they are formally diagnosed. Preschool personnel often need to address tough issues when realizing that a child's development is atypical. This session focuses on the basics of effective documentation, the Early Intervention process, Special Education in the public school setting, as well as partnering with parents.

Speaker: *Erika Sanchez***FA:** *Child Growth & Development***Room:** *C150***Errorless Learning. . . Who Knew?****Audience:** *Preschool*

This session involves significant self-reflection and interaction using a strategy for reflective learning called Errorless Learning. The session engages learners in a meta-cognitive approach to assessing their own teaching strategies and shares a new way to evoke children's esteem during the process of acquiring academic mastery. (2,5)

Speaker: *Marianne Gibbs***FA:** *Advance Physical & Intellectual Competence***Room:** *A120***Learning Through Play — Centers & Circle Time****Audience:** *Preschool*

Centers and circle time are exciting ways of learning for little minds and hands! We will share many teaching games and manipulatives that are fun and can be incorporated in with your lesson plans. A fun and exciting learning experience promotes a confident and joyful child and sends them on their way better prepared for the next step in their education. (4,5)

Speaker: *Leisha Davis***FA:** *Advance Physical & Intellectual Competence***Room:** *Journey***Bring the Drama: Incorporating STEM into the Dramatic Center****Audience:** *Preschool*

The dramatic play center is a wondrous place with many opportunities to explore, create and imagine. In this workshop, learn how to make those experiences even more impactful and rich by incorporating math and science into each dramatic play scenario.

Speaker: *Kendolyn Pope***FA:** *Age Appropriate Curriculum***Room:** *C112***Effective Communication: Professionalism in the Classroom****Audience:** *Preschool*

As childcare professionals, our primary concern is the total well being of the children that we care for. In our daily operations, it's essential to maintain professionalism and open, effective communication. In this workshop, we will explore areas of professionalism and how to incorporate effective communication consistently.

Speaker: *Natasha Owoseni***FA:** *Parent Communication***Room:** *F110***Get a Move On: Movement-Infused Math for Preschool****Audience:** *Preschool*

Kids learn best when their brains and bodies are active. Integrating movement with math subtracts stress, adds fun, and maximizes brain function. Join us to learn the research behind movement in the classroom and over twenty games and activities to pump up the movement in your math lessons.

Speaker: *Dr. Carrie Cutler***FA:** *Math & Science***Room:** *Youth*

Additional Information & Reminders!



- ◆ *Last minute cancellations will be posted outside the session rooms and highlighted in our morning announcements.*
- ◆ *Some of your chosen sessions might be full, but be aware that some of the workshops will be repeated during later sessions.*
- ◆ *We recommend that you have an alternative workshop already chosen in advance for each session time. In fairness to all participants, saving more than one seat in a session is prohibited.*
- ◆ *The Director's Track is available only to Directors. Workshops are will be available for Mother's Day Out Providers and Preschool Teachers.*



Workshop Leaders



Lori Buxton has been involved in Early Care & Education since 1995 and has served children & their families on many levels, including classroom teacher, trainer, children's pastor & executive child care administrator. Lori is the founder of the Gulf Coast Directors Network in southeast Texas.

Gregg Catalano is recognized as one of the nation's top educational, recreational, and motivational speakers. Gregg blends activities, humor, insight, and practical ideas into workshops that leave participants energized and truly believing in themselves. Gregg holds a Masters Degree in Counseling Education.

Dr. Rick Chromey is the Founder and President of MANNA! Educational Services International, a non-profit organization that creates "training that's curiously Divine!" He travels widely empowering leaders to lead, teachers to teach, and parents to parent. His website is: www.mannasolutions.org.

Dr. Carrie Cutler is a frequent presenter at local, regional, and national conferences on mathematics and early childhood education. She is also an adjunct professor in the College of Education at the University of Houston, and at the University of Houston-Downtown.

Leisha Davis has been teaching and shaping little minds for over 10 years. There is nothing more rewarding to her than seeing a young child's eyes light up while learning. Prior to working in the education field, Leisha worked at IBM for 20 years in various roles. During her year at IBM she volunteered many hours to tutoring K-2nd grade reading and math skills.

Marianne Gibbs, MOT,OTR, is an occupational therapist & education speaker. She is a national speaker and the creator of "*Fine Motor Skills. . . Write Out of the Box.*"

Kara Gore is a Christian wife and mother. She has worked in the Early Childhood field for over 20 years in various capacities. Several past roles she is grateful for are caregiver, Inspector/Investigator for Child Care Licensing, Legal Consultant for ECE abuse cases for TASA, and adjunct instructor at Brazosport College. Kara is the Director at Saint Mark Lutheran Preschool and operates her own training/consulting company. Kara wants to glorify the Lord every day, in every way.

Diane Goyette is a Master Registered Level Trainer with the Texas Early Childhood Professional Development System, a Child Development Specialist, & a certified Child Care Health Consultant. She is the owner of Early Childhood Specialties LLC, and serves as adjunct profession at Sam Houston State University.

Natasha Osoweni is the founder, presenter, and executive owner of Integrity Training & Professional Services. She has many years of education experience in both childcare and traditional school settings. She is currently the owner/director of Heritage Love Academy.

Cindy Pirtle was educated at both the University of Oklahoma and Oxford University in England. Cindy practiced trial law for ten years

and continues to maintain her Texas law license. In 2012, she completed her Certificate of Christian Studies from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Kendolyn Pope has worked in the field of early childhood education for over 15 years. She has both a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education/Child Development and a Master's Degree in Museum Education. Kendolyn loves working and playing with children and engaging them in conversation. She brings her experiences as a nanny, classroom teacher and Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the Children's Museum of Houston to her current work as Director of Faith Schools.

Christi Priddy is a 2006 graduate of the University of Mary Harden-Baylor. Following graduation, she worked for 8 years as an Early Intervention Specialist before moving into the private classroom setting. Her work history has enhanced her extensive knowledge of child development with a focus on developmental delays & intervention strategies. Christi is currently the Co-Director of Weekend Children's Ministries and serves as a consultant in the community on appropriate developmental behaviors in children.

Rev. Kevin Rudolph the author of the book, *The Bible Tour Guide: A 365 Day Spiritual Journey*, Kevin has been busy pastoring at Windwood during which time the church has grown and in 2002 relocated from the 8 acre site on Grant Road to the new facilities on the 57 acre site on Spring Cypress Road. Kevin is looking forward to the future God has in store. "God has set before us a great adventure of faith as we share the transforming love of Jesus Christ with the many neighbors, new and old, that surround us. I am excited to be here!"

Erika Sanchez has been passionate about doing what is right for little children for over 20 years. She holds an M.Ed. In Special Education and a B.A. in Special Education and Early Childhood. The opportunity to work in a variety of settings, public and private and as a preschool administrator has given her a wealth of experiences to share! Erika is currently a Spec. Ed. Kindergarten Inclusion teacher for Cy Fair ISD.

Albert Wright is a Master Level Registered Trainer with over 20 years of experience in the childcare industry. His focus has always been doing what is best for children by training directors and teachers on achievement motivation and how it benefits today's classroom. Albert is the owner of Wright One Training.

Brooke Wright is a singer/songwriter from Dallas, Texas, who has a huge passion for music and teaching children. With a BA in vocal performance, she is also a member of the American Christian Songwriters Association. Brooke has toured the nation singing and has led workshops for many conferences. Brooke has led worship for children for the past 15 years, teaching music & movement & sharing the gospel!

Gene Wright has served as a Children's Pastor for over 23 years. He now travels the country doing Adult Revivals, Children's Camps, VBS, and a variety of programs in churches and public schools.