

President's Equip Conference Workshops

Wksp #	Session	Leader Name	Occupation, Position, Avocation	Church or School	Workshop Title	A Brief Description of the Workshop	Speaker Biographical Information	The primary audience for this workshop
31	A	Megan Miessler	Director of Programs	Lutheran Counseling Services	Anxiety in Children	Anxiety will rear its head in children differently than what we as adults experience. How can you tell if a student you are working with is struggling with anxiety? What can you do to assist the child and the family? Join Megan Miessler, LCSW, as she leads a discussion around the symptoms of anxiety in children and how to respond as teachers and loved ones.	Megan Miessler is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a trained Director of Christian Education in the Lutheran Church Missouri-Synod. She currently serves as the Director of Programs at Lutheran Counseling Services. Megan has experience working in the private and public school setting as a school social worker, and began the School Counseling Ministry at Lutheran Counseling Services. She has worked in disaster response to crisis and tragedies with organizations, schools and congregations in North Dakota, Virginia, and Florida. She specializes in counseling children, couples, and families. Megan is married to her husband Matthew. They are blessed with three beautiful children which bring joy and activity to their lives.	All
32	A	Kim Fritz	Administrative Coordinator	Our Savior Lutheran Church and School	Plan It Right: Meeting and Special Events	Does your church or school hold training sessions, meetings, and/or special events? Uncertain about the best approaches to ensure success? Learn about effective and efficient meeting/special event planning from a seasoned professional. Strategies, tips and tricks will be shared to help attendees return to their office ready to plan it RIGHT!	Kim Fritz serves as Administrative Coordinator at Our Savior Lutheran Church and School in St. Petersburg FL. She has worked in non-profit, for-profit, and educational settings throughout her administrative career including Eckerd College and the YMCA of Greater St. Petersburg. Kim has produced dozens of meetings, events and fundraisers of various scopes and complexities which have been highly regarded by all facets of participating constituents. She has received numerous awards for special event planning including the International Special Event Society's Max B. Goldblatt Endowment Award and ISES Orlando Chapter's Best Planning for Non-Profit Event as well as the Association of YMCA Professionals Regional Innovation Award.	Anyone who is interested in producing the most seamless and professional meeting/special event possible for your group!
40	A	Michael Hageman	Pastor	Trinity Lutheran Church and School	Flooding Children to Life	"Baptism Now Saves" and yet our conversations in our schools, church parking lots, extra curricular activities and families are about other "damp" situations. During this workshop, we will be exploring best baptismal practices and fundamental scriptural approaches on how to communicate the importance of baptism in the life of people around you. The intention of this workshop is to bring these individuals to the waters of Holy Baptism. Whether you are a teacher, principal, lay person or pastor you will find this basic topic helpful in leading you to hear the glorious question by the Spirit's prompting, "What's preventing me from being baptized?"	Michael Hageman serves as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church and School of Rockledge, Florida. He was called to Trinity in the fall of 2009. In addition to regular pastoral duties, Hageman teaches Latin and other subjects in the small school and leads weekly chapel. He also is serving as vacancy pastor of Grace Lutheran Church and Pre-school where he serves the pre-school ministry by connecting families to the life of the church. Last year the saints of Trinity celebrated the baptism of 25 individuals. A native of Abilene, Kan., Hageman graduated from Concordia University, Neb., in 2000; and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo., in 2004. Hageman was called to the inner city of Cleveland, Ohio, to Zion Ev. Lutheran Church in 2004 and served on multiple boards and outreach activities involving the youth of Cleveland. Hageman and his wife, Shanna, have two daughters that have attended Lutheran elementary schools.	Primary audience will be Pastors, Principals and Educators. All should benefit from this simple topic on baptism by living out our baptism through our multiple vocations.
41	A	Jeffrey Shanks	Senior Pastor	St John Lutheran Church and School	Worship Beyond the Benediction	We put a lot of preparation and energy into our worship services, but how can we be more strategic in carrying them beyond the benediction and closing songs? Pastor Jeff Shanks and Anette will present practical ways to carry the themes of worship into the Monday through Saturday realms of discipleship, family and outreach.	Pastor Jeff Shanks is serving as Lead Pastor at St John in Ocala, Florida. He has previously served as Sole or Senior Pastor in congregations in Arkansas and Tennessee, and as Worship Pastor in Omaha, Nebraska and Cleveland, Ohio.	Pastors, Worship Leaders, Family Life Directors and those with an interest in seeing worship lived out (Romans 12:1) beyond the sanctuary setting.
45	A	Craig Mathews	Pastor	Hope Lutheran Church	Empowered by Staying Strong	Ministry is demanding and often very demanding. Not only do we deal with stress, but many of us sit too long, too many days. And it takes a toll on our bodies. What we need is movement, especially movement that stimulates the muscles to demand more energy (calories). That, coupled with proper nutrition and portion control will help with weight issues. This workshop is hands on. In essence, it will be a small group bodyweight training workout that you can take home with you and use. Come dressed appropriately.	DCE for 23 years. Pastor for 17 years, currently serving Hope Lutheran Church in Bradenton, FL. Since 2003, I have also had an interest in fitness. I have participated in several "sprint triathlons", several 5K races and the past 7 years have participated in the American Lung association's Fight for Air Climb at the Bank of America building in downtown Tampa. This is a race up 42 flights of stairs or 914 steps. Certified Personal Fitness Trainer through American Council on Exercise since August 2016.	Pastor, Educator, Lay Person Any person who wants to gains some insights on bodyweight workouts to improve their physical health.
60	A	Stephen Carretto	Pastor	St. Paul Lutheran Church and School	Church and School Kingdom Teamwork	Last year St. Paul in Boca saw 37 baptisms come from school families. It takes a total team effort from the first letter that goes out at the beginning of the year to parents, to the teachers having a baptism week that includes other people teaching baptism in the classroom/church (Pastor/DCE/teacher), to the welcoming by the pastor at the front door of school each morning. This workshop will be designed with practical ways that gets the conversation of baptism into the homes of families.	Steve Carretto is the Senior Pastor at St. Paul Lutheran in Boca Raton, FL. He has been pastor at St. Paul for 7 years. The Church/School relationship is a passion of Pastor Steve's as his wife is a Lutheran Educator and sees the everyday impact of how we make disciples and outreach through a school ministry. Last year St. Paul saw 37 baptisms come from school families.	Pastor, School Admin, Teachers
62	A	Sara Willocks	Kindergarten Teacher	St. Paul Lutheran School, Boca Raton, FL	Partnering with Parents: Working Together to Help Our Children Succeed	Research has shown that when we build relationships with families and partner with them, the children benefit. We will discuss a variety of ways to include parents in their child's education. I will explain a program called "Book Buddies" that can be implemented in early childhood classrooms to help involve parents in a fun way!	My name is Sara Willocks. I received my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. However, my 12 years of teaching experience has been in Early Childhood classrooms; from 3 year olds through 1st grade. I am currently working on my Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education.	Early Childhood Educators

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68	A	Michael Mast	Mission Facilitator, Northern IL District LCMS	St. Paul, Aurora	Reaching People in Your Culture	Culture has changed. Along with that change, instead of the church being "standard equipment" in someone's life, it has in many instances been regulated to a mere "choice" among many different options. Because of this, people are no longer coming to us as they did in the past. Expecting unchurched folks to just show up at our facility on the weekend because of publicity or a nice sounding program just does not work. This workshop focuses on how a congregation and it's members can connect and engage with people in a genuine way in the midst of our changing culture.	Rev. Michael Mast is a certified coach, coach trainer and coach mentor. He has planted six churches throughout the LCMS, and is currently a Mission Facilitator for the Northern Illinois District of the LCMS, working with congregations and their leaders to help them in the areas of mission, vision, attitude change, strategic planning and implementation, outreach, and finding ways to connect and engage with the people of their surrounding communities. He works directly with congregations to help them focus on their community with the intention of assisting them in starting something new to reach new people for Jesus.	Anyone interested in reaching out to people in the midst of a changing culture.
71	A	Jacob Hoyer	Pastor/Teacher	Holy Cross Lutheran Church/ (Satellite: Wellspring Church)	Equipping Teachers for Ministry in the Classroom and Beyond	Join Pastor Jacob Hoyer for a discussion around what it looks like to help Lutheran School workers understand their unique position as ministers to children and families they reach through education. In this session you'll explore goals, strategies, and tactics for mobilizing workers as missionaries to children and families in the classroom and beyond. We'll deal with a practical definition of what "ministry" can be, creative ways to introduce Lutheran doctrine to lifelong Lutherans as well as those with little Christian or Lutheran background, and we'll talk about initiatives you can install right away to help workers grow in their faith personally and in their confidence to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all those they encounter.	Pastor Jacob Hoyer has a passion for vision and strategy. As a church planter himself, he strives to lead with clarity that drives discipleship multiplication within his congregational context. As a certified God Dreams Navigator he helps churches to clarify who God has made them to be and where God is taking them in the future.	Educators, Pastors, Administrators, DCE's
76	A	Emma Pinter	Administrator	Woodlands Lutheran Church and Early Learning Center	Decline of the church and what to do about it	The workshop will be in two parts. The first will address the recent LCMS study regarding the decline of the church and will provide an overview of the findings as well as the not so very helpful solutions. The second part will include sharing ideas on how to connect to the community in which a church is located, including how to look up demographic information and comparing how the congregation looks vs. how the community looks (in schools, Publix, Walmart, movie theaters, etc.). It will conclude in a brainstorming session of how we can reach the people within our communities by providing them with temporal solutions to their problems while modeling a Christian lifestyle.	Emma Pinter is a life-long Christian having been introduced to the Church of England by her "best friend," at the age of 7. Born and raised in London, England, as a young woman Emma had the opportunity to travel the world and lived in Malaysia and New Zealand before coming... and staying in America. She discovered First Lutheran Church of Sunderland, and became a member of the LCMS shortly thereafter. She lived in Maryland for 18 years and moved to Florida in 2003. Emma has strong Christian values and has served in a variety of ministerial and support positions including Nursery, Sunday School Teacher, VBS Leader, Chair-Christian Education, Chair-Youth Ministry and Congregational Vice President. She has created and implemented many successful in-reach and outreach events. In 2010, Emma was hired by Woodlands Lutheran Church in Montverde as their Administrator where she provides business management, ministerial support and administrative oversight for both the Church and Early Learning Center.	All
78	A	Karen Wilhelms	Financial Wellness Educator	Concordia Plan Services	Financial Wellness: Concordia Plan Services and You	Get back to the basics of money management, Learn more about the retirement plan benefits available from Concordia Plan Services and how to use the tools and resources to inspire you to work toward a more secure future. Re-Form the way you think about money today.	Karen Kirchner Wilhelms is a Financial Wellness Educator at Concordia Plan Services. With a background in financial advising, she is passionate about helping others to live generously. Having personally witnessed how faulty financial beliefs can affect a family, her mission is to inspire, motivate and transform Christians on their journey to financial well-being.	Pastors and Educators
90	A	Annalisa Fitzsimons, Austin Schubert & Michaela Kraft	DCE	Youth - LYF report	Cultivating Youth Leaders	Two high school students one from Florida and Georgia represented our district at the Lutheran Youth Fellowship Leadership Training in St. Louis. They were equipped with resources to share with adults and youth. This workshop will be an interactive look at the LYF resources, how it helped them to be leaders in their congregations, and how you can do the same with youth in your congregations.	Annalisa is a DCE at Living Hope in Kennesaw, Ga. She is in her second year of DCE ministry and has loved it incredibly! She is a member of the District Youth Ministry Council and in her free time loves to spend time with her family. Austin Schubert is a junior in high school in Kennesaw, Georgia. He loves to play baseball in his free time and hopes to play in college. He is the son of Pastor John Schubert, and he hopes to follow in his dad's footsteps by going to seminary. Michaela Kraft is a senior in high school in Cooper City, Florida. She loves to read, to write and to dance. She hopes to pursue social work in college and specialize in non-profit management.	DCE's, Pastors, Lay people

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6	B	Larry Schaefer & Sanya Parson	Pastor	Our Savior Lutheran Church, Orlando, FL	A Simple Tool To Help Churches Teach Children How To Grow and Go In Christ	Reaching more children in our communities and training them to replicate that effort is an effective way to grow our ministries. By using a simple tool to address a definite need youth in our neighborhoods can grow in every aspect of their lives, most importantly spiritually. By empowering young people to grow in their faith we can teach more of them how to reach out and share God's message of love with even more youth in our neighborhoods. "One plants, one waters, but God gives the increase"... Rebecca's Garden of Hope provides a unique tool that gives congregations a simple way to plant Christ centered seeds in the lives of young people, while developing long term relationships with our neighbors. Our goal in teaching others to use this tool is therefore designed to assist laity by helping them live out their faith in practical, measurable, reproducible ways. In addition we will also share information from other congregations about how their Gardens of Hope have and are continuing to grow. Come and hear how you can plant a Garden of Hope in your church.	Larry Schaefer, a farm boy, born in Ellsworth Kansas. Lutheran School Teacher 30 years. Pastor 22 years. Rebecca's Garden of Hope 8 years. Sanya Parson, a pastor's daughter, a servant filled with compassion for children and their leading the church.	Lay People and other servant leaders
16	B	Pastor Philip J. Rigdon	Senior Pastor	First Lutheran Church and School	Classroom Literature and Writing Skills through Under the Bridge to the Seeds of Light	Rev. Philip J. Rigdon, Senior Pastor of First Lutheran Church and School in Clearwater, Florida, will present teaching literature, reading skills and writing in the classroom through his Christian fantasy novel Under the Bridge to the Seeds of Light. Based in part his own experience in childhood, Pastor Rigdon's novel includes themes such as courage, perseverance and friendship. Through an engaging and fantastic adventure, Under the Bridge to the Seeds of Light also offers Christian theology through allegory. Rigdon will share information on inspiring students through his experience with publishing, a complete program on guided reading and language arts, and more.	Born and raised in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Pastor Rigdon attended Bethlehem Lutheran School and Concordia High School. He is a graduate of Concordia University, Chicago, with a degree in Lutheran Secondary Education: Social Science. Prior to entering the ministry, Pastor Rigdon served as a missionary in Taiwan R.O.C., led outreach ministry at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and taught elementary and middle school. He has earned Master of Education degree from Indiana University. In 2008 Rigdon completed studies at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, soon after which he was ordained at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Avon, Indiana. He currently serves as Senior Pastor of First Lutheran Church and School in Clearwater, Indiana. He has published two novels and numerous Sunday School materials for Concordia Publishing House. He and his wife, Jamelyn enjoy traveling, trying new restaurants and taking care of their pet chinchilla, Sunshine.	Educators, DCEs, Pastors
22	B	Charles Crownover	Minister of Music	Woodlands Lutheran Church and ELC	Worship In A Blender!	We examine the practical and spiritual aspects of "blended" worship from a musical perspective. * Moving beyond "worship wars" * Respecting musical heritage * Singing a new song * Encouraging creativity * Who do we serve?	Charles Crownover is Minister of Music at Woodlands Lutheran Church and Early Learning Center in Montverde, Florida. He has been involved in music for most of his life, performing on guitar for both high school and college jazz bands. A graduate of the University of Central Florida with a B.A. in Psychology with graduate work in Education, Charles spent many years in the entertainment industry, performing with such notable acts as the Platters, Spencer Davis, Gene Chandler, and Martha Reeves, as well as various show and dance bands. Thirteen years ago, God called him into full-time ministry at Woodlands. He has been blessed to work with children as their music teacher, and is Orff certified. He also leads the Worship Band, Youth Praise Band, Men's Choir and Woodlands Brass. He is a songwriter and arranger, and is a member of BMI, CCLI, and SGA. You may contact him through his website: charlescrownover.com or by calling 407-469-2525.	Music Leaders, Pastors, Lay persons involved in worship bands.
29	B	Rick Armstrong & Megan Miessler	Directors	Lutheran Counseling Services	God's Care in Time of Crisis	We can't blink without being exposed to some type of crisis in our world today. Crisis can take many forms on our campuses and in our own personal lives. Are you prepared for crisis? Is your campus equipped to respond to crisis when it takes place? Join Rick Armstrong, LMFT and Megan Miessler, LCSW as they discuss how you can properly prepare yourself and your campus to respond to small and large crisis in your community and on your campus.	Rev. Dr. Richard Armstrong is the Executive Director of Lutheran Counseling Services in Orlando, FL. He is a Fellow in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in the State of Florida. Rick served for over 25 years in the parish ministry of the LCMS. He is Co-author and trainer of "God's Care in Times of Crisis", "God's Care For Congregations in Times of Crisis" manuals for selecting and training crisis teams in Christian Schools and Churches to prepare for, respond to and provide aftercare in crisis situations. Rick and his teams have been part of Lutheran disaster response to tragedies in Denver, New York, D.C. as well as the Florida and Gulf Coast hurricanes. He has received the "Distinguished Service Award" Lutheran Schools Association Metropolitan New York and the "Distinguished Alumni Award 2006" Concordia University – Austin, Texas. In addition to serving as the Executive Director at LCS, conducting individual, marriage and family system therapy sessions, Dr. Armstrong is also involved in facilitating organizational consultations and leadership coaching. Rick is happily married to his wife Kristi and they have two daughters, two sons-in-law and six grandchildren. Megan Miessler is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a trained DCE in the LCMS. She currently serves as the Director of Programs at Lutheran Counseling Services. Megan has experience working in the private and public school setting as a school social worker, and began the School Counseling Ministry at Lutheran Counseling Services. She has worked in disaster response to crisis and tragedies with organizations, schools and congregations in North Dakota, Virginia, and Florida. She specializes in counseling children, couples, and families. Megan is married to her husband Matthew. They are blessed with three beautiful children which bring joy and activity to their lives.	tbd

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30	B	Megan Miessler	Director of Programs	Lutheran Counseling Services	Fundraising in the New Generation	The world of fundraising has progressed from car washes and bake sales to online giving. Crowdfunding is a new and innovative way to reach beyond your community for support and share your story. Join Megan Miessler, LCSW as she shares with you how crowdfunding has helped Lutheran Counseling Services raise money for their School Counseling Program and share their story to a wider audience.	Megan Miessler is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a trained Director of Christian Education in the Lutheran Church Missouri-Synod. She currently serves as the Director of Programs at Lutheran Counseling Services. Megan has experience working in the private and public school setting as a school social worker, and began the School Counseling Ministry at Lutheran Counseling Services. She has worked in disaster response to crisis and tragedies with organizations, schools and congregations in North Dakota, Virginia, and Florida. She specializes in counseling children, couples, and families. Megan is married to her husband Matthew. They are blessed with three beautiful children which bring joy and activity to their lives.	tbd
43	B	Paul Burtzloff	Pastor	Our Savior Lutheran Church and School	"Spill Over": Practical ways to strengthen personal relationships and positively impact ministry	Accumulated stresses whether in the home or office often "spillover" into other aspects of life negatively impacting relationships and ministry. Healthy personal relationships positively impact outlook, attitude and ministry. This workshop will briefly provide a theoretical framework to the importance of healthy relationships as well as provide practical strategies and approaches to strengthening personal relationships which will positively "spillover" into ministry and other facets of life.	Paul Burtzloff has been married to his wife Suzanne for 24 years. They have two daughters, Sydnee (20) and Reagan (18). Paul currently serves as Pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church and School, St. Petersburg & Clearwater, FL. Paul received his M.Div. from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis; A Master of Science in Marriage and Family Therapy from Stetson University, DeLand, FL and a Ph.D. in Counselor Education specializing in Marriage and Family from the University of Florida.	Anyone who wants to strengthen their marriage or personal relationship
50	B	Michael Popp	Vicar & FLGA Dir of Athletic Ministries	Grace Lutheran, Jacksonville	Bridging Church and School Relationships through your Athletic Ministry	Schools and churches are always looking for ways to build relationships between school families and church families. I'd like to share some ways we have used our athletic ministry to do this in the past and some ways we are planning to do it in the future. Please come with examples of how you've attempted to do this as well and together let's explore some ways we can all bridge that divide in the years to come with a purpose of sharing Christ and His message of Salvation as often as possible.	This is my 20th year of teaching in Lutheran schools (Columbus, Nebraska, Davenport, Iowa, and Jacksonville). I am currently half way through the SMP program at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis to be the Associate Pastor of Family Ministry. I was an athletic director for 12 years and am currently the Director of Athletic Ministries for the FLGA District.	Athletic Directors, Coaches, Principals, Pastors, Admissions Counselors... anyone who has a passion for sharing Christ..
51	B	Michael Nowicki	Training Manager for SunTrust Bank, Congregational President	Ascension Lutheran Church	Empowering Volunteers and Staff to Excellence	This workshop will help you know how best to coach staff and volunteers to excellence in their vocation or avocation. You will learn how to determine the readiness of volunteers and staff for their willingness to be coached, then learn how to vary your coaching style based on their readiness to be coached. A special emphasis will be placed on how to have difficult conversations with staff and volunteers. You will learn a four-step process that will help make those difficult conversations much easier to work your way through.	Michael Nowicki is a 1983 graduate of Concordia University -- Wisconsin. He served as a professional church worker from 1983 to 2000. He is now Training Manager/Team Lead for SunTrust Bank where he coaches trainers and delivers development programs for senior leadership. Mike also serves as President of Ascension Lutheran Church in Casselberry, Florida, and plays drums and bass for the worship team at Ascension.	Pastors, Principals, Lay Leaders, or anyone who works with volunteers.
75	B	John List	Communications	District Team	Christ like Communication at a Moment's Notice	We've all been in unplanned and unexpected situations where at a moment's notice something that is said -- or done -- can underscore or make an indelible mark on our congregation or school in our local community -- or even worldwide because of a cellphone video having the ability to go viral. We represent our congregations, our pastors, our schools, our principals and our teachers -- and in essence Jesus -- to our members and parents to our community at large. The goal of this workshop is to identify times when we can act quickly and make a Christ-like impression with a reaction and response that shows love and compassion rather than judgment, anger or disdain.	John List is Communications Director for the Florida-Georgia District and Eileen Bishop is Lutheran Life editor. Both have extensive experience in crisis situations working with the media. Using YouTube video examples (the airlines, the government, schools, sporting events) to show how in a moment we have the ability to damage the reputation of our congregation or school - or make a shining, bright example to a potential worldwide audience (when a cell phone video can easily go viral) -- this workshop will underscore how our congregation or school image can be enhanced or damaged by words or actions that aren't carefully thought out when time is of the essence.	All. These situations happen at our sporting events, school concerts, class trips, community events and anywhere we "represent" ourselves to our communities at large.
77	B	Shirley Wild	Evangelism member	Beautiful Savior LCMS	Greeter/Usher Ministry	Greeter Workshop would include a PP presentation of approximately 13 slides. Participants also receive a set for themselves to write notes on. It is meant to educate those who are or will be Greeters/Hosts/Hostesses. The presentation will not only instruct participants on what to do and how to act but let them know how to set up this program in their church so that they will get and maintain people to carry out the Greeter duties. It may also include Usher duties/procedures as well as a Welcome Center inclusion idea for churches.	Originally from CT. Married 54 years, 2 children, 4 grandchildren. Been at BSLC 9 years. Past leader of Evangelism and church council, current member of Evangelism. Maintain and coordinate Greeter Program and Welcome Center staffing. Organized outreach training utilizing LHM materials. Active in all areas.	Lay persons.
83	B	Renee Varga	CPA, FL-GA District Treasurer	Best Practices for Church Treasurer	You're the Church Treasurer.....Now what?	For the first time or seasoned church treasurer. We will discuss:church accounting and its similarities and differences to secular accounting; what's up with all these funds; who should be doing what; best practices and procedures.	Renee has been a practicing CPA for 28 years. Focus on small-mid size business and non-profits.	Church Treasurers, Lay Persons, Business Managers

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88	B	Tim Droegemueller	Pastor	Living Faith Lutheran Church	Church Planting in Mission Field USA!	How to plant a Lutheran Church in the rich harvest fields of Florida and Georgia!	Around 11 years ago, Rev. Tim Droegemueller was called to be the pastor at Living Faith Lutheran Church in Cumming, Georgia, for a mission restart. In concert with all Circuit pastors in Atlanta, he co-leads a church planting network in North Georgia with Joe Scarpacci. He and his wife, Susan, have six children: Jacob, Luke, Isaac, Elijah, Matthew, and Anna.	Lay people, pastors and others who have a desire to reach out to the many people around us through starting of a new church.
1	C	Cassie Moore	Director of Christian Education & Author	Our Savior Lutheran Church & School, St. Petersburg, FL	Timeless Vs. Trends: Understanding Today's Youth	The teenage years are a confusing, complicated time for both students and the adults in their lives. In this session, you'll learn about the mindset of adolescents, how to successfully engage them, and why they desperately need your guidance as they navigate this tricky phase of life. You'll explore the timeless milestones that all teenagers go through, as well as the unique trends that today's students are facing as they grow up. Whether you're new to working with youth or a veteran, you'll come away encouraged and equipped in dealing with the younger generation.	As an author, speaker, and Director of Christian Education, Cassie Moore oversees kids and youth ministry at a multi-site church and school in St. Petersburg, Florida. She recently released her first book, "Authentic Youth Ministry: Straight Talk About Working With Kids, Teens & In-Betweens". She's worked with students from coast-to-coast, maintains an international youth ministry column at youthEsource.com, writes freelance curriculum, and speaks nationally for many organizations and conferences. A graduate of Concordia University Irvine, she's served as a Gathering Planner for the last two National Youth Gatherings. She is passionate about ministry and outreach, and enjoys observing culture and talking to strangers.	Lay people, pastors, DCEs, educators, coaches, parents
4	C	Rusty Huseman	President	Lutheran Legal League	Emerging Legal Issues affecting our Churches & Schools	This session will help attendees understand how the legal landscape is changing and what effect those cases will have on the LCMS Church & School.	Rusty Huseman, Esq. serves a General Counsel to the Florida-Georgia District and is the President of the Lutheran Legal League. Mr. Huseman has a law practice in Jacksonville where he live with his beautiful wife Kris.	All
8	C	Jeffery Moore	Interim Pastor	Our Savior, Plantation	Intentional Interim Ministry	.This workshop will explore the advantages of Intentional Interim Ministry for the congregation, as well as describing the process for becoming a trained and credentialed Intentional Interim Pastor.	Rev. Dr. Jeffery C. Moore is a 1980 graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, also earning STM and DMin degrees from there in 1996 and 2012, respectively. After serving several parishes, and serving as the Director of Admissions at CSL, he received training from the National Association of Lutheran Interim Pastors and is currently serving his second Intentional Interim pastorate at Our Savior, Plantation, FL.	Pastors and Lay Persons
9	C	Tom Eggebrecht	Pastor	Ascension Lutheran Church, Casselberry, FL	Creative Help for Uncreative People	Are you looking to refresh, rekindle, renew...or FIND your creativity? In this workshop you will be given a boatload of ideas to get you off the creative dime. No matter if you are a professional church worker or a lay leader in the church, creativity is an essential tool for doing ministry in the 21st century. Come discover your creative gifts and use them for the Kingdom.	Pastor Tom Eggebrecht is Senior Pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church in Casselberry, Florida. He is a prolific writer and blogger (www.tomeggebrecht.com) on the topics of creativity, ministry, culture, social media (Twitter and Instagram: @renaissanceegg), and the church. His writing has been published in Portals of Prayer, The Lutheran Witness, by Creative Communications for the Parish, and in various other church-related publications. He recently wrote and released the book, Fully and Creativity Alive: How to Live a More Joyfully Fulfilling Life. You can find the book on Amazon.com.	Lay People, Pastors, Educators, DCE's...anyone!
12	C	Lois Ford	Lutheran Teacher	Faith LC Eustis	LWML and Beyooooond	Women's ministry in your congregation. How do you motivate, equip and organize women.	Past LWML FL-GA district President, Lutheran school teacher (Concordia New York graduate) for over 40 years, district scholarship chair and member of the District BOD.	All women and pastors who want to know what the women are up to.
17	C	Kim Ketola	Writer and Broadcaster	Faith Lutheran, Sharpsburg, GA	The Case for Life--A persuasive pro-life apologetic	PRO-LIFE TRAINING Defend the case for life in one minute or less What is the unborn? - The Case from Science. When does life have value? - The Case from Philosophy. What is moral reasoning? - The Case from Logic. What does the Bible say? - The Case from Theology. This workshop will equip you to argue for and defend the prolife position as you learn to: •Simplify the issue •Argue evidence from science and philosophy •Employ effective tactics for answering objections Includes basic outlines to motivate neutral parties and to win over those on hostile turf. Based on The Case for Life by Scott Klusendorf Recent research from Wallbuilders indicates that abortion is the #1 social issue conservative Christians want to know more about. Yet few pastors are preaching it. The study results are here: https://wallbuilders.com/gods-people-want-know/	Kim Ketola is an award-winning writer and broadcaster whose faith and life experience unveil the spiritual impact of abortion on the women and men who choose it—as well as the hope available to make a better choice. She hosts daily and weekly broadcasts aimed at preventing abortion and helping those it hurts. Cradle My Heart Today currently airs on over 600 stations daily. Kim was inducted into the Minnesota Broadcasting Hall of Fame in 2013 for her work while known as Kim Jeffries in the Twin Cities. Her book Cradle My Heart, Finding God's Love After Abortion won First Place at the 2010 Blue Ridge Mountains Christian Writers Conference, is an Amazon #1 bestseller, and was a Finalist for the Evangelical Christian Press Association's Book of the Year in 2013, and features a Foreword by Ruth Graham. Kim teaches pro-life apologetics in pregnancy centers and Christian colleges and high schools in partnership with Life Training Institute. She's a Cast Member of Life is Best, a 13-part series featuring leading voices on the life issue today. Find out more at cradlemyheart.org and kimketola.com .	This workshop is for Pastors, Educators and Lay Persons and would also be helpful for those working with high school and college students.
20	C	Doug Kalleesen	Pastor - Mission Exec	Hope	"I once WAS lost"	A look at real life stories of young millennials and the five thresholds they crossed through when becoming a believer in Jesus.	Doug serves as the Executive Director of Missions and Outreach for the FLGA District and personally enjoys sharing his faith and living missionally. He is a practitioner and will share insights and obstacles learned on his journey.	Lay Person, although suitable for all.
34	C	Peter LeBoriosis	DCE	Mt. Calvary - Warner Robins	Turning Volunteers Into Partners	Participants will be challenged to examine how they lead & recruit the people within their school/church. Then examine ways to better raise up and support volunteers to be partners in ministry.	Pete has been a DCE involved in congregational ministry for the past 25 years. Over this time, and with the help of fantastic lay members, Pete has learned a lot about leading people through relationship and equipping them for ministry.	Pastors, DCEs, Principals, Teachers, and anyone who is relies on volunteers to keep their ministry vibrant.

President's Equip Conference Workshops

Wksp #	Session	Leader Name	Occupation, Position, Avocation	Church or School	Workshop Title	A Brief Description of the Workshop	Speaker Biographical Information	The primary audience for this workshop
38	C	Rev. Thomas Waynick	CEO/Director	Pastoral Institute, Columbus GA	"Moral Injury and Healing of the Soul: An Existential and Spiritual Crisis at the Juncture of Our Moral Limits."	This workshop will offer a description and understanding of Moral Injury in relationship to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The participant will learn to recognize how Moral Injury is distinct from PTSD and how it often times relates to PTSD. Therapeutic and theological ramifications, as well as treatment options will be discussed. Through a variety of means, participants will gain knowledge of how the nature of war downrange or in the homeland can wound the human spirit. Discussions will center on what we know and what we are learning about moral injury, as well as how this affects the course of treatment for wounded souls. Perspectives of pastoral counseling will be provided with an eye on intervention for the damaged spirit. Case examples will be presented and group discussions will be facilitated.	CH (COL) Thomas C. Waynick (Ret.) is an Iraq combat veteran and currently the Director/CEO of the pastoral institute in Columbus, GA. He holds three master's degrees and has served as the Clinical Director and Supervisor of the Fort Benning Family Life Training Center. He is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in Georgia and Louisiana. He is a Diplomate in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, a Diplomate in the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy, and a Clinical Member and Approved Supervisor of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. He has written several book chapters for counseling textbooks, as well as journal articles and is a frequent speaker on topics concerning trauma, moral injury and the military family.	Specifically of interest to pastors and pastoral counselors. All who counsel and care for those who have faced the moral dilemma of having to do what is right in the moment, but at the same time violated their core values.
52	C	Bonne Faherty	Co Principal/Kindergarten teacher	Immanuel Brandon	Differentiating reading instruction for early readers	Using techniques such as guided reading, close reading, centers and cooperative learning to reach each child in the classroom and encourage reading success	Ms. Bonne (as the children know her!) is originally from Long Island, NY and has lived in Florida for 15 years. She and husband Bill have been married for 33 years and have 3 daughters and 1 son. She is currently Co-Principal PK-3rd grade and Kindergarten teacher. Bonne holds a Masters degree in Emergent Reading and is passionate about literacy. She believes if a child loves to read, and can do it well, the possibilities are endless! She feels blessed to be a part of the Immanuel Lutheran family where she can share the love of Christ with her small students. Bonne loves to spend time with her family and enjoys reading. If she can do them both while at Disney or on a cruise ship, even better!!	Educator, lay person, pre-k -2nd grade
54	C	Rev. Joseph Song	President	Stepping Stone Mission	Sharing the Hope of Jesus Christ with the Homeless	The Stepping Stone Mission, through the grace of God and with volunteers from Christian churches in the Atlanta area, is helping to build bridges into the faith community for our homeless brothers and sisters. We are ambassadors for Jesus in connecting the homeless, poor, and needy with Him. This outreach provides our homeless brothers and sisters with a community set apart from the streets, centered in Christ, and designed for spiritual transformation, so that God's love will unite us, His children, across social barriers as we grow together into the fullness of Christ. During this workshop, we will discuss how God is mobilizing His children on the streets of Atlanta to be His powerful disciples for reaching the lost and those feeling forsaken and bringing them into His Kingdom. Praise the Lord, with the power of the Holy Spirit, several of God's lost children have come home to our Father through this ministry as their vessel, including 31 souls who have been baptized into Christ and thousands of others who have heard the Gospel proclaimed! Workshop attendees will hear from our ministry leaders including a member of our homeless leaders team. The workshop will cover the following topics: community outreach, ministry to the next generations, reaching a multi-cultural community, gathering and keeping new members, and worship. More information on the Stepping Stone Mission can be found at www.stepsingstonemission.net .	Rev. Joseph Song has served as a pastor for more than 35 years. Joseph grew up in very difficult circumstances in South Korea during the 1950s and 1960s. Through American missionaries and soldiers that God chose to bring the Gospel and Love of Jesus to Joseph and provide him with life-saving faith in Jesus Christ, his Lord and Savior. Prior to launching the Stepping Stone Mission in 2009, he served as pastor for the Korean Community Lutheran Church then-housed at Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church in Alpharetta, Georgia, which remains his home church, and with a number of Korean churches in Georgia and North Carolina. Joseph has served as president of the Korean Pastors Association of North Carolina and of the Southeastern District Presbytery. Prior to serving in ministry in the States, he was a missionary in Malaysia. He graduated from seminary in 1979 and ordained as a pastor in the LCMS at Oak Road Lutheran Church in 2000. It was through serving as a mentor during a youth mission trip to Washington D.C. that the Holy Spirit called Joseph to serve the homeless in America. He has served as mission leader for Stepping Stone since its inception. This call was also confirmed in the heart of his wife, Sharon, who also devotes her full-time energies in serving the homeless through this mission.	All
61	C	Sara Willocks	Kindergarten Teacher	St. Paul Lutheran School, Boca Raton, FL	PLAY - Pathway to Learning and Academic Yearning	The focus of education has shifted to academics and assessment, and this has been pushed down into early childhood classrooms. However research has shown that a child's social and emotional growth is equally important to their academic success and success later in life. Providing opportunities for children to play is vital to helping them develop these necessary skills. This workshop will show how early childhood classrooms lay the foundation for future learning. It will provide ideas that can be implemented in early childhood classrooms to help children develop socially, emotionally, physically, and cognitively.	My name is Sara Willocks. I graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. However, my 12 years of teaching experience has been in Early Childhood classrooms; from 3 year olds through 1st grade. I am currently working on my Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education.	Early Childhood Educators

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66	C	Jan Tumminello	Teacher	St. Paul Lutheran Boca	Teaching with Interactive Notebooks	This workshop is designed to show how to set-up and use an Interactive Notebook system in the classroom. Interactive Notebooks are a great way for students to become organized and accommodates multiple learning styles. The students will be able to "teach back" what they have learned, through personal responses. Personal responses are fun, colorful, and creative. Interactive notebooks can easily be used in grades 4-12 and can be used in any subject. Handouts will be provided.	I have been teaching for a total 27 years, 23 of those years at St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, in Boca Raton, Fl. My husband Jim and I have been married for 35 years and have three children. I am currently teaching upper PreAlgebra, Geography (6th grade), Civics (7th grade) and American History (8th grade).	Educators
72	C	Gerhard Michael	Pastor	St Peter Dahlonga	Exploring the Pastor's Role in Equipping the Whole Priesthood for its Service and Witness in the World	How does the congregation's inner life equip it's members for their life in the community? What is the pastor's task in this respect? We will explore life in the family, work place and in the community.	Pastor St Peter Lutheran Church Dahlonga, GA. Former President FL-GA District 1997-2009. Executive Director of Luther Institute SE Asia 2010-2015. Pastor in Wisconsin and at Mt Calvary Warner Robin, GA. Seminary field work in the inner city. Missionary in Japan.	Pastors
81	C	Bruce Sutherland			The Faith Sharing Compass..."Navigating Conversations His Way"	Are you looking for a simple, relational & Biblical framework for sharing the Gospel? If so, come and experience the Faith Sharing Compass. The highly practical session will help you recognize and navigate the unique crossroads within the faith sharing conversations and journeys. you will receive a complimentary USB flash drive with training videos, worksheets, graphics files, training material, and presentation for personal or congregational use.	Bruce Sutherland is a Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) staff member and congregational lay leader. He has trained hundreds of lay people in witnessing to their faith and regularly leads evangelism teams into public places to tell others about Jesus. In addition to sharing the Gospel, he is interested in assisting leadership teams in building a culture of outreach. At LHM he is responsible for communicating its outreach ministry resources and programs to congregations and professional church workers.	All
5	D	Leslie Sullivan	DCE	Christ The King Lutheran Church	You Don't Know the Half of It: DCE Ministry in Full View (title in progress)	This workshop will focus on how there are many aspects to DCE ministry in a church and how we can help the life of a congregation through more than just youth and children's ministry. Come learn about all the things that DCE's can do to help your congregation as you grow, teach and serve together for the future.	Leslie Sullivan, DCE has been a DCE for 13 years and serves at Christ The King in Largo.	All
11	D	Robert Scudieri	President, Mission Nation Publishing	Peace, Naples	How to Receive God's Missionaries to America	Dr. Ed Wescott pointed out there is a centrifugal mission, where we send missionaries overseas, and a centripetal mission, where God sends people from overseas to the US to hear the good news of Jesus. At the same time God is sending missionaries from overseas to spread the gospel in America. The workshop will look at Scripture to understand how the Lord has wanted us to treat new Americans, and provide an opportunity to hear the voices and stories of new missionaries - all to understand how your church can be a part of the "centripetal" mission of God.	Twenty five years of giving leadership to outreach to the new Americans. Graduate of Concordia Bronxville, Concordia Senior College and Concordia Seminary. Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Yale Divinity School, where he wrote a book used by both LCMS send, Apostolic Church. The book was translated into Spanish, and Russian. In 2016 he became the president of Mission Nation Publishing, a 501 (3) (c) organization to " Give a voice to the missionaries to America."	All
14	D	Bruce Lieske	Retired pastor/missionary	Prince of Peace Lutheran Church	Cross and Crescent: the Christian Response to Islam in America	Islam as a political/religious ideology is growing in America. There are currently over 3,000, 000 Muslims and 3,000 mosques in America. The workshop will attempt to answer four questions: 1. What do Christianity and Islam have in common? 2. In what ways do Christianity and Islam differ? 3. Do we have a responsibility to criticize Islam? 4. How do we evangelize Muslims?	Rev. Lieske is a retired LCMS pastor/missionary living in Orlando, FL, with his wife Barbara. He has been blessed by God with a series of challenging careers, including a year in Antarctica and two years in the Arctic as a research meteorologist. During his time at Pt. Barrow, AK, he felt the call into the ministry and after graduating from Concordia Seminary, Springfield, IL, he served three congregations and was the founding pastor of two of them. After his pastoral experience he founded an evangelistic ministry to Jewish people, viz., Burning Bush Ministries, and more recently has been involved in evangelism to Muslims. He is the head of the Florida-Georgia District Task Force on Muslim Evangelism. He has three children and eight grandchildren.	All
21	D	Teri Crownover	Layperson	Woodlands Lutheran Church	PRAYER: Putting the horse before the cart!	The purpose of my presentation is three-fold: 1. To encourage the Biblical teaching of praying, first and foremost; and of praying together, particularly in a group setting; 2. To share the experience of our longstanding Woodlands group that meets every Sunday 1/2 hour before the service begins; 3. To offer practical tips to those interested, and prayer to those in need.	I am a beloved child of God! Truly...what more do you need to know? Let's see... I have attended Woodlands Lutheran Church in Montverde for over 17 years. I am heavily involved in the music ministry and prayer ministry at our church. These are two of my greatest passions, as I seek to serve the Lord by inviting others to serve Him. My husband, Charles, is the minister of music. We have 4 grown children. I am soon to be 58 years old; however, I plan to never retire from participating in working for God's Kingdom - not until He calls me home! I so strongly believe in the power of prayer, and I have a fervent passion for teaching fellow Christians to let go of the fear of praying with others.	Lay persons.

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25	D	Sanya Parson & Larry Schaefer	Dir. Rebecca's Garden of Hope	Our Savior Lutheran	Evangelism, Is that for Children Too?	How do we teach our children to become ministry leaders, regardless of their age? How can we prepare youth to more purposely share God's love with their friends, schoolmates and others in our communities. This workshop will help congregations use the RGOH youth evangelism template to invite children to "GROW", "GO" and "SHOW" God's love using resources and tools they have access to each day. Social media has changed the way young people communicate. Why not teach them to plant healthy, Christ centered seeds using this powerful tool? Come and hear more about ways to build bridges with youth as they begin to learn how to serve others in ministry. This workshop targets elementary and middle school children but can be adapted for youth of all ages. Learn about another creative way to help your youth ministry grow.	Sanya Parson was elected in Jan 2011 by the Board of Directors to serve as the Director of Rebecca's Garden of Hope tutoring and mentoring after school program. Her primary responsibility as Director included developing a user friendly Christ based training template for other schools, churches and organizations, interested in starting their own unique tutoring and mentoring program for "at risk" youth. In addition to that responsibility she continues to be responsible for coordinating the support staff and resources needed to run the program, organizing training sessions, developing brochures and newsletters and finding additional resources to support the organization's efforts. She is also responsible for providing a national network system of resources and information to support other RGOH partners around the country. As the Founder and Director of a local tutoring and mentoring program located at Our Savior Lutheran Church, she is responsible for coordinating the program schedule, recruiting and training tutors, scheduling meetings and also scheduling training sessions. Additionally, she assists with fund raising efforts and coordinates efforts for the Bonus Bucks Program, Fun Friday and other offsite activities. She also organizes details in the computer lab and ensures IT staff maintains the equipment and keeps all computers running smoothly. One of her other roles is to develop lasting relationships with parents and youth by contacting them on a regular basis to see how they are doing. She accomplishes this by making herself accessible via phone or visits. This is all a part of the ongoing mentoring support needed providing to encourage parents and offer a level of stability in each child's life. Each week she also texts parents to confirm their child's attendance for the tutoring sessions, worship/Sunday School and other activities related to helping children develop a firm foundation, in Christ. Finally she actively engages in mentoring youth taking them on various offsite activities to foster continued growth and enhance personal development.	All
27	D	Rick Armstrong	Director	Lutheran Counseling Services	Anxiety in Life and Leadership	What is anxiety? How can you recognize anxiety in your life and in others? Join Dr. Rick Armstrong, LMFT as he defines anxiety and the ways it impacts self, other and congregations. His discussions in this workshop will help you recognize anxiety in your life, respond to anxiety in more productive ways, and offer ways for church leaders to lead through anxious times.	Rev. Dr. Richard Armstrong is the Executive Director of Lutheran Counseling Services in Orlando, FL. He is a Fellow in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in the State of Florida. Rick served for over 25 years in the parish ministry of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. He is Co-author and trainer of "God's Care in Times of Crisis", "God's Care For Congregations in Times of Crisis" manuals for selecting and training crisis teams in Christian Schools and Churches to prepare for, respond to and provide aftercare in crisis situations. Rick and his teams have been part of Lutheran disaster response to tragedies in Denver, New York, D.C. as well as the Florida and Gulf Coast hurricanes. He has received the "Distinguish Service Award" Lutheran Schools Association Metropolitan New York and the "Distinguished Alumni Award 2006" Concordia University - Austin, Texas. In addition to serving as the Executive Director at LCS, conducting individual, marriage and family system therapy sessions, Dr. Armstrong is also involved in facilitating organizational consultations and leadership coaching. Rick is happily married to his wife Kristi and they have two daughters, two sons-in-law and six grandchildren.	All
33	D	Curtis Deterding	Senior Pastor	Zion Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Center	Strategic Planning for Dummies	There are so many complicated strategic methods and plans being provided to congregations that have numerous phases and steps that quite frankly makes the entire process arduous and exhausting. I have discovered that many of these strategic planning tools for congregations have the same basic core that I believe has helped me assist several congregations to learn how to develop specific plans for each of their ministries and organizations. It's really not all that complicated and the end result is a wonderfully formatted and organized Annual Report and Strategic Plan. Those who love to organize and plan really rave about the simplicity of this very simple strategic ministry planning process. So if you'd like to try a strategic planning method that is simple, be sure not to miss this workshop. If you want to do more than just maintain a pattern of ministry that changes occasionally when a new idea comes along may find this workshop very helpful. Here is a way to keep the creative and progressive juices flowing as all of your ministries and organizations learn a simple way to plan based on the goals and objectives established by the congregation. It's exciting to hear all the new and exciting things that God does among his people who have used this process.	Rev. Dr. Curtis Deterding, began his professional church career as a middle school Lutheran School teacher at Holy Cross Lutheran School in North Miami, Florida. After graduating from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis in 1987, he was called to serve as Assistant Pastor of Family and Youth in Claremont, North Carolina. From there, Pastor Curtis was called to serve the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod through special grants as Coordinator of Project Samuel, a church careers recruitment project housed at Concordia University, St. Paul, Minnesota. Serving as an interim campus pastor his last year there, he became sole pastor of Faith Lutheran Church and School in Godfrey, Illinois. The Spirit then called him to serve at Trinity Lutheran Church and School in Fergus Falls, Minnesota before leading him to accept the call as Senior Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church and Early Childhood Center in Fort Myers, Florida. His lovely wife Jo Ann has served as a Lutheran school teacher for many years and they have been blessed with five children and three grandchildren.	Pastors, Lay Leaders
42	D	Anette Shanks	Director of Family Life	St. John Lutheran Church and School	Princesses, Knights and Special Events for Families	In an age when the church is faltering in reaching the next generation, this workshop will highlight two of the Family Events that we have used at our church to reach our church and school families, as well as families in our community. These events encourage students to bring their parents. This presentation will take you through the practical steps of putting together a Princess Party and Young Knights Celebration, as well as help you find the resources.	Anette Shanks is serving as the Director of Family Life at St John in Ocala, Florida. She has previously served as in our Lutheran Schools in Dearborn, Michigan and Fort Wayne, Indiana. She worked as an ESL teacher in Nashville Schools, and founded the HOPE Learning Center. She has served as Director of Family Life in Omaha and Cleveland, Ohio.	Family Life Directors, Children's Ministry, DCE's, Teachers and Volunteers .

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44	D	Scott Gress			Christian Coaching Basics: A New Way to Help!	Come and be introduced to a helping skill that does not involve telling people what to do! Rather it involves helping people talk to themselves and experience new insights and discoveries that turn into powerful actions for ministry results.	Scott Gress has 22 years of pastoral experience and is called by Lutheran Counseling Services of Orlando. He serves as an independent contractor in the areas of leadership training, consulting, coaching and coach training and works with the FL-GA district and other churches, groups and individuals. He has a master's in leadership and received coach training through The Coaches Training Institute, Internal Impact and Coach Approach Ministries. He is a Professional Certified Coach through the International Coach Federation and a Certified Leadership Coach through Internal Impact. Scott and his wife Maria have two sons and live in Boynton Beach Florida. You may learn more about Scott, read and subscribe to his blog at http://scottgress.com .	Pastors, Lay Persons
48	D	Bruce Jaeger	retired	St. Paul, Lakeland	What's a Witness	We will learn simple ways to be effective at sharing your faith story and connect others to Jesus.	We will learn simple ways to be effective at sharing your faith story and connect others to Jesus.	Pastors, laity
53	D	Cindy Hammerstrom	Secretary	FLGA District	Easy (and free) graphic & marketing tools	Using free (and inexpensive) web programs and tools that are readily available, this workshop will walk you through ways to create vivid images, graphics, blogs for using in a variety of ways - social media, emails, bulletins and so much more.	Cindy Hammerstrom has worked for the FLGA District for 14 years in the Youth and Outreach divisions. She loves to discover new ways to get things done and teach others what she learns.	Anyone
57	D	Don Bergwall	Congregation Advocate	Savior of All Cartersville	Strategic Planning	Don did the strategic planning for Savior of All and also in his employment. (now retired)	Don Bergwall was graduated from Valparaiso University with a BS degree in Civil Engineering. Upon graduation he began a 34-year career with General Motors and then Delphi Automotive Saginaw Division headquartered in Saginaw, MI. Don worked in various areas of engineering, sales, marketing and planning. He spent 6 years in Decatur, Alabama with GM, and a number of short-term assignments in Europe. Additional course work was complete at Central Michigan University, General Motors Institute, Michigan State University, Hillsdale College, The Crosby Quality College, The Wharton School at The University of Pennsylvania, and recently the FL-GA District Emergent Leadership Program. For close to five years Don served on the City of Marysville, OH Planning Commission and on the Mayor's Committee for development of a long-term plan for the City of Marysville. Don currently serves as President of Savior of All Lutheran Church in Cartersville, GA and as the Congregation Advocate there for the LCEF. Don is married to Jane Bullock Bergwall and has two sons and two grandchildren. Don is an avid photographer and Corvette enthusiast.	Lay persons.
13	E	Maggie Bowles	Development & Fundraising	Trinity downtown Lutheran Church & School	How To Build a Successful Development Program to Support Your School & Church	All parts of building a successful Development Program: Grants. Annual Giving. Estate Planning. Scholarship Funds. Foundations vs. Endowments. Restricted vs. Unrestricted. Matching Grants. Capital Campaigns. Alumni Events. Corporate Giving. Community Foundations. importance of Volunteer Hours. Answer the Question: Why is money the least important reason for starting a Development Program for your school & church?	Maggie Bowles, over twenty-five years helping churches, schools and non-profits start and grow successful Development Programs. Former Chair of LSF. Former member, FL/GA District Board of Directors. Former member FL/GA District Human Care Advisory Board. Former member National Alliance on Mental Health SWFL. Former member, DCF Community Base Care Advisory Board-Orange County, FL. Current member, DJJ FL Network of Youth & Family Services. Current member, Trinity downtown Lutheran School Board and Development/Finance Committees, Orlando, FL.	Church Leadership, School Administrators, Lay Finance & Stewardship Members.
15	E	Joe Guagliardo	Youth Minister (Retired)	Faith Viera	"Adventures in Youth Ministry ... "What I learned about youth ministry over the past 24 years"	As I never had formal training in Youth Ministry, I went through "The school of hard knocks," learning as I went. Making my share of missteps along the way, as well as my share of successes, my goal is to help equip those in and out of youth ministry as well as volunteers through the use of my own experiences, to better handle opportunities with students, motivate them to serve, as well as communicate with the youth of today.	I am a certified Lay Minister, and have a certification in Family Ministry. Recently retired after 21 years of full-time and 2 1/2 years part-time in youth ministry. Before entering the ministry I spent 28 years working in the retail industry (Food/Supermarkets). I have been married to my wife Kathy for 43 years and have a 29 year old daughter (Heather) and on grandson (Keegan)	DCE's and adult youth volunteers, Educators
18	E	Louise Weber	Retired Lutheran Educator	Zion Lutheran Church	Be Christ's Heart, Hands and Feet in Your Community	Zion Lutheran Church Fort Myers members' response to the Transforming Churches Network's program, Seasons of Discovery. We will share the challenges and successes of our three Vision Statement Target Objectives for 2016 into 2017: #1 centers around Zion's Early Childhood Center Families and Young Families in the Community; #2 centers on Zion's commitment to reach out to the multi-ethnic neighborhood of Harlem Heights by supporting efforts to meet the needs of families in this community; #3 focuses on Zion's commitment to reach out and meet the needs of independent seniors choosing to age in place without family nearby.	Louise is a retired commissioned minister of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, having taught/administered in Lutheran schools in New York, Hong Kong and Shanghai, China for 41 years. She serves on various boards/committees at Zion Ft. Myers, engages with children and adults through her clown persona, Ish, and writes devotionals for Hope-Full Living.	All

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26	E	James Wiggins	Rostered active LCMS Clergy	St. Paul, Jacksonville, FL	Reigniting Your Church and Community	Mission and Community Outreach: This workshop is designed for pastors, lay leaders and anyone interested in learning how to engage, impact and transform your local parish community through strategic planning, outreach and partnerships. Participants will learn valuable strategies to establish (or enhance current) community outreach efforts in the areas of Youth and Family and Neighborhood Development & Wealth Initiatives. Local pastors and congregations will be invited to partner with St. Paul, Jacksonville, FL.	Rev. James Wiggins, Jr. Pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, FL. "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11. James graduated from Concordia Teachers College – Seward, Nebraska in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education. He spent a year teaching at St. Peter Lutheran School in Chicago before entering the seminary. In 1986 he completed the Master of Divinity degree at Concordia Theological Seminary – Fort Wayne, Indiana. Having answered God's call, he was ordained into the office of pastoral ministry of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod in 1986 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Montgomery, Alabama. Since ordination, he has shepherded congregations at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Kannapolis, North Carolina [1986-1990], Outer Drive Faith Lutheran Church, Detroit, Michigan [1990-1998] and Peace Lutheran, Washington, D.C. [1998-2010]. He was installed as pastor of Saint Paul Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, FL on January 30, 2011. He is the former President of the Black Clergy Caucus of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. In the past he has served as First Vice President of the Southeastern District—LCMS, Chairperson and Board Member of the Board of Regents of Concordia College, Selma, Alabama, Member of the Board for Black Ministry Services—LCMS, and Circuit Counselor in the Michigan District of the LCMS. He remains a popular revivalist and keynoter for congregations and conference events. He most recently served as one of the Co-presidents of I-CARE (Interfaith, Coalition for Action, Reconciliation and Empowerment) organization for a more "just" Jacksonville, FL. He and his wife Loretta are the proud parents of five adult children: daughters, Tiffany, Catherine and sons, Jerome, Jonathan and James, III and seven grandchildren.	Pastors, lay leaders and anyone interested in community mission and outreach.
37	E	Nick Moss	DCE	St. Paul	Your Youth Minister is sitting in your pew	Want to see people scatter? Ask a room full of people to help with Youth Ministry. In this workshop you will come away with 3 specific ways in which you can start or restart your youth ministry.....without hiring a "professional."	DCE at St. Paul Lutheran Church and School since 2004. Married to Candace. 3 Children Natalie, Laura Kate, Hannah. Has no time for golf or long walks on the beach	Pastor, DCE, Youth Board member
56	E	Michael Miessler & Kevin Brockberg	Technology Implementation Specialist & Executive Director	Trinity Lutheran School - Orlando	An Hour of Code: Facets of a Comprehensive Computer Curriculum	In this hour, you will learn about the Hour of Code programming movement world-wide, and how Trinity Lutheran School locally delivers the content, skills, ethics, and safeguards for students to become technically-savvy and college-and-career-ready in this information age.	As TI Specialist, Michael Miessler manages devices, supports teachers, assists students, and augments the curriculum for Kindergarten through Grade 8. He also writes code. Kevin Brockberg does not write code. He does write relevant and robust curricula in his role as Executive Director.	Educators
59	E	Jacob Hoyer	Pastor/Teacher	Holy Cross Lutheran Church/(Satellite: Wellspring Church)	Finding and Focusing your Church's Future	This workshop will clarify for participants a framework for discerning and articulating the right amount of vision content at the right time for everyone on their leadership team. Participants will learn: 1.) the value of thinking long, 2.) the power of imagery to stir the heart, 3.) the tools to execute short-term objectives in service to a long-range vision within the rhythms of the life of the church.	Pastor Jacob Hoyer has a passion for vision and strategy. As a church planter himself, he strives to lead with clarity that drives discipleship multiplication within his congregational context. As a certified God Dreams Navigator he helps churches to clarify who God has made them to be and where God is taking them in the future.	Pastors, Church Planters, Lay People, Directors of Operations or "Executive Pastors"
63	E	John Rallison	Pastor	Journey of Life Lutheran Church	Social Media for Ministry & Outreach	This workshop will offer a detailed social media framework for ministry. Participants will leave with a coherent strategy for bringing the love of Christ into the digital world. Newbies will come away with a list of relevant web sites and ideas for content creation and dissemination. Experienced users may glean a thing or two and will likely add substantive perspective to our discussion.	Rev. John Rallison is a mission planting pastor at Journey of Life Lutheran Church in Orlando, Florida.	All
65	E	John Roth	Pastor	Thrive Community Church	Next Gen Church	Western culture is shifting rapidly. What will the church look like for the next generation? Beyond adopting a little the social media campaign and audio visuals in worship, learn how to reform your church culture to meet the challenge and disciple the next generation and beyond.	John Roth is founding pastor of Thrive Community Church and a campus ministry at Florida Gulf Coast University. He received his Dmin from Asbury Theological Seminary in 2012 with an emphasis on Leadership and Luther's Theology of the Cross. He received his Mdiv in 1987 from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. He's pastored three churches in university settings over the years. He's married to Lisa Roth since 1996 and they have two children, Justin and Emma.	All
67	E	Doug Kalleesen	Pastor - Mission Exec	Hope	Master Plan for Outreach	An outline of the necessary ingredients for successful outreach. Steps or modules will be suggested for congregations of all sizes to add to their current outreach strategy or to develop a new one. This presentation is a compilation of outreach practices that work in today's mission field.	Mission Executive of Missions and Outreach FLGA District. Doug formerly served in mission development.	Pastors, DCE's & Lay Persons
70	E	Jared Hartman	Associate Pastor of Youth and Outreach	Grace Lutheran Church & School	Fabulous & Faithful Family Nights	Engage your Day School, Sunday School, and Youth Group families with the worship life of the church through creative theming (Such as "May the Fourth Be With You" and "Slam Dunk Supper", faithful worship, fabulous food and awareness campaigns through cross-staff and cross-board integration. Digital & Real Food Samples, Brainstorming, Money Saving Strategies, Food Preparation Ideas, Volunteer Recruitment and Devotional Ideas are all part of this energetic workshop.	Rev. Jared Hartman is Associate Pastor of Youth and Outreach at Grace Lutheran Church & School in Saint Petersburg, Florida. He is married to Kelly and they have one beautiful daughter, Abigail, proudly four years old. His undergraduate degree is in Culinary Arts Management from The Culinary Institute of America, Hyde Park, New York. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army and is currently a doctoral student through the College of Theology at South University, Savannah, Georgia. He enjoys amusement parks, playing the piano, singing, teaching middle schoolers about Jesus and loves walking for exercise.	Fellowship and Outreach Lay Persons, DCE's, Youth Leaders, Educators, and Pastors.

President's Equip Conference Workshops

Wksp #	Session	Leader Name	Occupation, Position, Avocation	Church or School	Workshop Title	A Brief Description of the Workshop	Speaker Biographical Information	The primary audience for this workshop
79	E	Susan Merritt	Teacher - 1st Grade	St. Paul Lutheran School	Student-Led Chapel	<p>Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." Children of all ages love to share the message of our Lord and Savior. Why not let them bring the message to your school by leading weekly chapel services? At St. Paul Lutheran School in Boca Raton, all grades from PK3 through 8th have participated in leading weekly chapel. You will be amazed to see and hear the messages that even the youngest children share and how proud they are with their accomplishment! Leading a chapel for the entire school helps build confidence and also prepares students for future speaking and presentation opportunities.</p> <p>In this workshop, you will learn how to prepare a chapel message, what roles students can play (from simple skits to leading the entire service), incorporation of object lessons, and message delivery options. Participants will leave with a packet of proven student-led chapel lessons which can be used for any grade level.</p>	<p>Twelve years teaching experience - 11 years at St. Paul Lutheran School in Boca Raton. (First Grade)</p> <p>Participate on Religion and National Lutheran Schools' Week Committees</p>	Educators, grades PK3 - 8.
80	E	Keith Peterson	Ministry Resource Manager	Lutheran Hour Ministries	Lutheran Hour Power Tools for Sharing Your Faith	Share your faith! Every believer is vital in the sharing their faith with their community and world! LHM shares your desire to see others know and confess Christ. Find out about some tools that have been developed for you to share Christ with your neighbors, friends and family.	Keith Peterson serves The Lutheran Hour as the Ministry Resource Manager. Keith is responsible for sharing The Lutheran Hour message of "Bringing Christ to the Nations and Nations to the Church". He brings a unique perspective as a former high school teacher and coach. Following his high school career, Keith then spent six years coaching basketball at his alma mater – Concordia University, Chicago followed by a four year stint at North Park University. He then returned to Concordia–Chicago in a development role and served as Director of Alumni. The previous ministries have served as great preparation for his work with Lutheran Hour Ministries. Keith continues to be amazed at the impact The Lutheran Hour has on the Christian community and hopes to make just a small contribution in bringing more people to a relationship with Christ.	Lay Persons, Pastors, Teachers, DCEs
82	E	John Elliott		The Art of a Financial Review	The Art of a Financial Review	Not all congregations and RSOs can afford a professional audit of their finances. This workshop will address how a congregation can go about organizing a group of people to set up and perform a review of the "books" in order to test for fraud, abuse, and other irregularities. We will also discuss and define categories of restricted gifts.	Former CFO and COO in the construction industry, business owner, and now Business Manager of the FL-GA District for the last seven years (in Oct 2017).	Lay Persons, Treasurer, Financial Secretary
91	E	Bob Emeott & Mark Meyer	Real Estate Development	Foundry Commercial	Being a Steward of His Resources	Comprehensive Workshop equipping Lay people and staff for Practical Stewardship of all Ministry Real Estate	Bob Emeott serves as Senior Real Estate Advisor for Foundry Commercial's religious & educational team, bringing 30 years of commercial real estate experience to the Religious, Educational, and Not for Profit group. Prior to joining Foundry Commercial, Bob served as the Executive Vice President with Reformed Theological Seminary, which is a multi-denominational seminary with six campuses, two extensions, and global ministry reach. RTS trains pastors, counselors, teachers and leaders for the 21st Century Global Church through graduate level theological education. Mark Meyer serves as a Director of Project Management at Foundry Commercial and oversees a select team of architects, engineers and contractors through all phases of project sequence: site search/selection, due diligence, real estate transaction, planning, design, engineering, construction, commissioning, turn-over and operations. Mark has worked at Foundry Commercial for more than 20 years with nearly 30 years of combine experience in the real estate development not-for-profit marketplace. Prior to joining Foundry Commercial, Mark served as Project Administrator for Walt Disney World, Director of Real Estate for First Orlando and Project/Preconstruction Manager for McDevitt Street Construction Company, where he focused on pre-development, development and operations.	All