

Church Ministries Conference

AWE

HOW A HIGH VIEW OF GOD DRIVES CHURCH ENGAGEMENT



March 7-8, 2025

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, GRAND RAPIDS, MI

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Paul Davis

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

6:00 - 7:00 PM

REGISTRATION AND EXHIBITS OPEN

7:00 - 8:15 PM

GENERAL SESSION #1

8:15 - 8:40 PM

EXHIBITS AND VENDORS

8:40 - 9:30 PM

WORKSHOP SESSION #1

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

8:30 - 9:20 AM

WORKSHOP SESSION #2

9:20 - 10:00 AM

BREAK/EXHIBITS

10:00 - 11:15 AM

GENERAL SESSION #2

11:15 - 12:20 PM

LUNCH AND EXHIBITS

12:20 - 1:10 PM

WORKSHOP SESSION #3

1:10 - 1:40 PM

BREAK/EXHIBITS

1:40 - 2:30 PM

WORKSHOP SESSION #4

2:30 - 2:50 PM

BREAK/EXHIBITS

2:50 - 4:00 PM

GENERAL SESSION #3

CONFERENCE LOCATION:

Calvary Baptist Church, 1200 28th St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49508

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Paul Davis, ABWE



Paul and his wife, Martha, have served in pastoral ministry since 1989. In their lifetime of ministry, they have led church plants, Christian schools, and dynamic ministry teams. Additionally, they have given oversight to children's, youth, and college/career ministries. In 2017, Paul became the seventh president of ABWE. Paul and Martha are working hard to meet, support, and encourage the ABWE global team of missionaries as they help gospel-centered churches to become sending and supporting churches.

REGISTRATION

Pre-Registration:
Before Feb 24 = \$45

Regular Registration:
After Feb 24 = \$55

At the Door:
On March 7 = \$60

Check with your church representative for more information or register online at:

www.grchurchministriesconference.com

To register via mail, please make your check payable to the Church Ministries Conference and send to: **Rice Lake Baptist Church, PO Box 156, Grant, MI 49327**

EXHIBITORS

Jeremy Gordon Grinnell: Author, Teacher, Pastor

Reasons for Hope

Jeffrey Parker Architects, Inc.

Grand Rapids Right to Life

Focus on the Family

Cedarville University

Lake Ann Camp

Shepherds Care Ministries

Lincoln Lake Baptist Camp

CranHill Ministries

Children of the Nations

School of Missionary Aviation Technology

Seminary Bookshelf

Child Evangelism Fellowship

CBM Lakeshore Student Ministries

MI Bible Clubs

Student Statesmanship Institute

Bibles International

Cornerstone University & Theological Seminary

Libertas Christian School

Centennial Park Counseling

Guard Strong Inc

New Creations Prison Ministries

OurCommunity

Pine Ridge Bible Camp

Sustainable Discipleship

Camp Michawana

Keys for Kids Ministries

Billy Graham Evangelistic Association

Bridge Fellowship

Camp AoWaKiya

NEXT Manga

Accommodations

For discounted hotel rates scan QR code or contact the Holiday Inn Airport at (616) 285-7600 and ask for the Church Ministries Conference rate. *Reservations must be made by February 14, 2025.*



Holiday Inn Airport
3063 Lake Eastbrook Blvd
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

GENERAL

Room 30 – Praying the Psalms for Your Church and Other Churches

David Rodgers, Trinity Baptist Church

Prayer is essential in ministry. In this workshop we will learn how to pray actual Psalms for your church and other churches. We will talk about how to grow in your personal and churchwide prayer lives.

Room 34 – Serving God in a Godless Culture

Tom Lothamer, Calvary Baptist Church & ABWE

We will discuss how we can continue to confidently serve God in a culture whose belief systems contradict the moral principles set by God and are antagonistic to our beliefs and call from God. We will be encouraged to stay the course in ministry as we review the book of Habakkuk.

Room 54 – Semicolon Sunday

Matthew Sharpe, Hope & Wholeness Psychology Center

Participants will learn how their congregation can be empowered to provide humility, hope, and healing for people in suicidal crises. With a particular focus on the biblical basis and evidence-based practices, churches can be a redemptive, missional presence in their community.

Room 56 – How the Bible Changed the World

Robert Gillespie, Reasons for Hope

Have you ever wondered why Western cultures seem to prosper better than other cultures? It is basic common sense. When people function the way they were created, things will go better for them. It is not very politically correct to say the Judeo-Christian worldview is the way we were designed to function. The truth is, it is the Bible that has changed the world. This talk begins by laying down a Biblical worldview and then contrasts that with other worldviews. We conclude with the worldview clash in America between the Bible and Secular Humanism.

Room 64 – How Can the Church Minister to the Divorcing and Be the Church?

Kathy Batey, Keystone Community Church

People going through the trauma of divorce need the church. The church is the answer to this life trauma in giving hope, direction and support. Divorce ministry is an outreach into the community. Many people in my past 19 years of this ministry come from the unchurched or those hurt by the church. Ministering to the divorcing displays the compassionate hand of Christ.

DISCIPLESHIP

Room 32 – What Makes Biblical Counseling Biblical

Joshua Greiner, Berean Baptist

There are all sorts of theories and methods today that are being floated for methods of care within the church. This session answers the question and makes the argument for what Biblical Counseling is and why this is the method that churches should use for soul care with its congregants.

Room 50 – How to Do Bible Study with Others

Ben Marx, First Baptist Church of Holland

Who would you love to do Bible study with, if only you had a plan? Maybe a friend? Your significant other? Your children? Maybe a small group? No doubt, we all agree that Bible study is one of the most important things we can learn how to do. It is also one of the most rewarding, especially when you can bring others into the mix. Come and engage as we discuss and demonstrate a few simple methods for taking your group Bible times to the next level.

Pod C – Two Church Things that Block God’s Plan to Reach the World

Doug Burrier, Sustainable Discipleship

What do handcuffs have to do with disciple making? Join us for an interactive talk and discover how to remove the two classic barriers to your church reaching people for Christ. You might be surprised at the “two things” and how easy it is to solve them.

LEADERSHIP

Room 31 – Five Leadership Lessons Learned in 37 Years of Ministry

John Nixon, North Park Baptist Church

With more than 37 years in church ministry, John will share the biggest leadership lessons he's learned in this humorous and heart-felt session, you will benefit from his successes and failures (which are plenty)!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Room 58 – Your Story Matters

Marya Jones, Calvary Baptist Church of Greenville

Your testimony isn't a single moment of salvation; it's the ongoing story of Christ's work in your life, from small, everyday experiences to life-changing events. Together, we'll explore how laughter, sorrow, and even awkward moments can foster connection and understanding. Through reflective exercises and group discussions, you'll build confidence in sharing your story in meaningful ways and create authentic, lasting connections within your community.

Room 66 – Women Discipling Women

Denise Roberts, Berean Baptist Church, Portage

We live in a culture that challenges the godly role of a woman in the church, home, and community. Learn how you can develop discipleship among women that can have an impact beyond the walls of your church.

STUDENT MINISTRY

Room 126 – Creating a Thriving Teen Ministry in Changing Times

Ken Riley, Lake Ann Camp

A deep dive into youth culture while learning how to both meet needs and reach more students than ever before.

Room 128 – Youth & Missions

Rob Tahtinen, Calvary Baptist - Greenville / Bridge Fellowship

The who, what, and why of leading teens on mission trips. Also, we will discuss plans for churches to connect with other churches to help bring teens together and make mission trips accessible across the state.

CHILDREN

Room 122 – Tips for Teaching Young Learners

Todd Witters, CBM Lakeshore Student Ministries

Are you a new teacher looking for some tips before teaching your first class? Have you been teaching for years and find yourself in a rut? Are you looking for a few tools to add to your teaching "toolbox"? Come join us as we share things we have found helpful in our years of teaching students.

Room 124 – Safeguards & Stewardship: Child/Youth Protection Essentials for Leaders

Jeff Dalrymple, Evangelical Council for Abuse Prevention / Wagenmaker & Oberly

At this child protection workshop, you will learn the basics of child and youth protection, tap into helpful resources, and find out how ECAP can come alongside your ministry to help you protect the least of these.

Room 129 – Bible Verses More Than Memorizing

Anna Sytsma, Child Evangelism Fellowship

Have you ever wondered how to get the kids you teach interested in learning and memorizing Scripture? In this session we will discuss how effective Scripture memorization leads to salvation and spiritual growth. You will learn the value of teaching God's Word to children. You will also gain ideas and tips for how to apply verses to every child. Come and gain some fun ideas and tips for how to make learning Scripture fun and exciting for the children you teach.

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

Room 52 – Applying Paul's Motivation as a Missionary to the Gentiles to Our Evangelism Theology

Scott Klooster, Georgetown Bible Church

Paul expressed his desire to complete his ministry in Spain. Why Spain? Paul calls himself the missionary to the Gentiles just six verses prior, and it was his goal to do everything he personally could to hasten the "fullness of the Gentiles," and Spain had everything to do with that. Join us to understand how and to see how we need his heart in our own evangelism strategies.

WORSHIP

Room 38 – Why Do We Sing What We Sing?

Matt Olmstead, Regular Baptist Press

Simple principles to build a healthy music ministry in your church. Practical helps in song selection.



ARE YOU OPEN TO A MIRACLE IN YOUR MARRIAGE?

OR MAYBE YOU ONLY NEED A BREATH OF FRESH AIR.
Wherever you are on your marriage journey, find hope, help, and healing through Focus on the Family's two biblically based therapy programs:

HOPE RESTORED® MARRIAGE INTENSIVES | FOR COUPLES IN CRISIS

Experience nearly a year's worth of personalized counseling in 3-5 days addressing the root causes of deep struggles. Then work with aftercare coaches to practice on-going communication techniques as you move toward healing.
HopeRestored.com



FOCUS ON MARRIAGE WEEKEND GETAWAYS | TO GET RECONNECTED

Slow your pace at this tranquil retreat away from daily distractions. Refocus on one another and learn to grow in emotional intimacy. Return home with deeper levels of connection, refreshment, and satisfaction in your relationship.
FocusOnTheFamily.com/WeekendGetaway



FOCUS ON THE FAMILY
RETREAT CENTER
MICHIGAN

GENERAL

Room 30 – Church Budgets

Rob Summerfield, Trinity Baptist Church

What does your budget communicate about your church? How do you communicate your budget to your church? This workshop will help people think about how to spend their money and plan to spend their money.

Room 34 – Let's Talk About Politics

David Rodgers, Trinity Baptist Church

As we think about politics, we must remember that God is sovereign and holy, and man is limited and sinful. An election does not change these facts at all. How do we have conversations in our community and even in our churches that show these truths. This workshop will NOT fix politics but it will show you ways to have political conversations that show where your hope is.

Room 38 – Ministry in a Mental Health Crisis World

Benjamin Rudolph, Lake Ann Camp

What is spiritual and what is psychological? As we attempt to make disciples and serve others, how do we do so with anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues affecting so many people. It's important to know how to navigate these issues with both understanding and compassion and to address them with a biblical lens.

Room 56 – How Do I Know the Bible Is True?

Robert Gillespie, Reasons for Hope

This talk is not *How Can I Prove the Bible Is True?* Everyone starts out with a belief system, and proof of that belief system is always in the eye of the beholder. Are there good reasons to be confident in the Scriptures, or do we just have blind faith? This talk will explain why atheists are the ones who go by blind faith, while Christians have good reasons to believe the Bible.

DISCIPLESHIP

Room 50 – Starting & Developing a Marriage Ministry

Stephanie Teslaa, Crossroads Bible Church

God chose marriage to be a primary witness to the world and a foundational piece of His Kingdom. How is your church currently investing in the development and health of this vital relationship? Discover the value of starting a marriage ministry and developing a mentoring program for engaged couples or those who need coaching.

Mentoring can tap into the gifts of your church body, create opportunities for different generations to build relationships, and assist your pastor who may carry the load of marriage care.

Pod C – Five Reasons Churches Shrink

Doug Burrier, Sustainable Discipleship

What do honeybees and beehives have to do with us reaching the world for Christ? Bees were on the decline, but now they are thriving. Come discover the five things that solved the bee problem. Learn how to thrive and reach your community for Christ by using these five BE(e) fixes. You don't want to miss this interactive talk!

LEADERSHIP

Room 64 – Leading Healthy, High Performing Teams

Nathanael Wagner, Actuator Group

Building and leading effective teams is an essential skill leaders must cultivate. Ill-equipped leaders will operate in silos or allow unhealthy conflict to stifle progress, unable to harness the power of a dynamic team. Identifying great team players, fostering a collaborative environment, and normalizing redemptive conflict are just a few of the keys to leading healthy, high performing teams in both ministry and the marketplace.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Room 31 – Meaningful Men's Ministry

Gabe Hartfield, Crossroads Bible Church

Many people ask, "Why are so few men involved in church?" This workshop will address research and reasons for the decline in men's church attendance. It will also provide ideas and tools to help your church reach and build community among the men in your church.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Room 58 – Ready to Deepen Your Women's Ministry?

Marya Jones, Calvary Baptist Church of Greenville

Let's redefine success - not by how many show up at the annual Christmas party, but by how deeply we connect with the women in our church. From college students and stay-at-home moms to busy professionals and widows, each woman has unique needs and interests. Discover creative ways to meet them right where they are, even if it's just a few at a time! Learn to foster growth that builds a deeper relationship with God, a stronger understanding of Scripture, and a desire for Christian fellowship. You'll leave with practical tips and fresh ideas to enrich the lives of the women you serve.

Room 66 – Awareness is Step One

Darlene Larson, Hearts with a Purpose / Magnify Church

Are you seeing numbers shrink with women desiring to know the Word of God? If so, why is this? Are they attending Bible studies as a check off their to-do-list? Learn the struggle women are facing today with the gap between head knowledge and heart knowledge, which is pivotal for transformation. Learn how to merge the two to close the gap, so a woman can grow and become all He created her to be.

STUDENT MINISTRY

Room 126 – Shepherding the Hearts of Your Students

Ken Riley, Lake Ann Camp

Leading in ministry is both about you and your students. This workshop will help you understand what you are responsible for and what you are not when it comes to ministry. It will seek to give you the tools to get deep in the hearts of your students and assist them in the growth process.

Room 128 – How to Reach Gen Z

Wesley Crawford, West Cannon Baptist Church

Youth Ministry feels like an ever-changing ministry because of how fast culture changes. Gen Z is a generation that draws a lot of ire from older generations, but they are a generation that needs Jesus! This workshop will utilize some material from Kevin DeYoung's small book titled, *The 'Not So Secret' Secret to Reaching the Next Generation* and seek to understand this generation of students and how best to reach them for the sake of the gospel!

CHILDREN

Room 122 – Effective Use of Visuals

Marrena Ralph, Regular Baptist Press / Kids4Truth Clubs Program Specialist

Object lessons, illustrations, and visual aids help capture and keep the attention of your audience and enhance your lesson. Learn ways of incorporating visuals into your lesson/service to capture attention and keep children engaged during the service.

Room 124 – Important Questions About Child & Youth Safety in Your Church

Jeff Dalrymple & Sally Wagenmaker, Evangelical Council for Abuse Prevention

Jeff and Sally will be answering FAQ and your questions in this workshop designed to help you protect the children and youth in your church and ministries.

Room 129 – How to Combat Biblical Illiteracy

Rochelle Visser, Camp Michawana

Did you know that less than 1% of Gen Z has a Biblical worldview? Brought to you by someone who knows firsthand that our kids can learn more than we realize when given the chance. This workshop will explore practical strategies for scripture memory, understanding the Bible's big picture, and empowering young people to use their Bibles to feed themselves spiritually. Let's move beyond spoon-feeding and train up the next generation with confidence in God's Word.

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

Room 32 – Developing and/or Assessing Your Missions Program

Kelly Fath, West Cannon Baptist Church

Whether you're launching, re-launching, or simply evaluating your church's missions program, we'll discuss various strategies, philosophies, priorities, resources, and activities that may enhance your church's global (and local) outreach.

Room 52 – Evangelism to Refugees and International Cultures in our Community

Scott Klooster, Georgetown Bible Church

There is no singular method of evangelism that can reach people of different religions and cultures. Today in West Michigan we are surrounded by the nations. The USA is like few other countries of the world where we see the world coming to us. We need to understand them in order to communicate the Gospel. We'll look at insider catalysts, dynamic equivalents and other tools we have to fulfill the Great Commission, right in our backyards.

WORSHIP

Room 54 – Songs in the Key of Worship

Chad Vitarelli

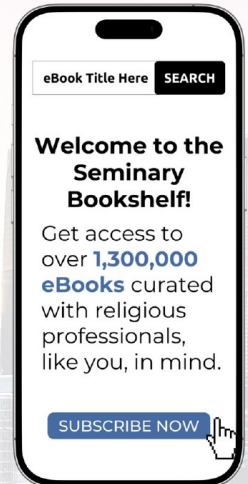
Songs are important building blocks in our corporate worship gatherings, but there are a lot to choose from! In this seminar, we'll establish some musical, biblical, and community criteria for choosing the very best songs for worship in our individual local churches, and then we'll practice analyzing some songs according to those criteria.



Find eBooks and journals curated by theological librarians and seminary professors.

Read thousands of new eBooks every month.

Get full access to the Seminary Bookshelf for \$10/month.



Get one month free with code: CHURCHMIN2025

seminarybookshelf.libguides.com/home

GENERAL

Room 32 – Removing Barriers to Repentance

Andy Molyneux, First Baptist Church of Mt. Pleasant / Bridge Fellowship

A study in John 4, where Jesus cleared away every obstacle and offered to the Samaritan woman what she needed most, Himself. Learn how changes in thinking lead to biblical repentance and how to use biblical narrative to counsel people toward change and growth.

Room 64 – Ministering as a Church Safety Team Member

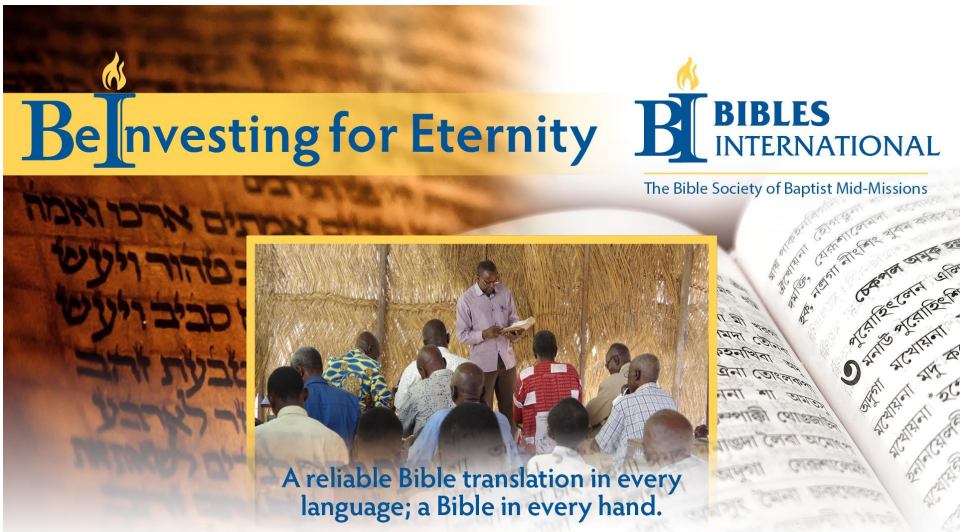
Jim Barrett, Founder of Safety Team Training LLC & Co-founder of Scenario Trainer INC.

This session will cover some of the basics for those serving on a church safety team.

Room 124 – Church Facility Usage: Legal Implications & Stewardship

Sally Wagenmaker, Wagenmaker & Oberly

How can churches best use their facilities amidst changing times? What about applicable legal considerations like property tax exemption, advisability and key elements of written space usage agreements, resulting tax and risk management implications, and religious liberty dynamics too? Real estate can provide enormous stability and security, but it can also present significant challenges. This workshop will walk through important legal parameters, offer practical guidance and provide opportunity for questions and answers to best address attendees' specific concerns.



Be Investing for Eternity

BIBLES INTERNATIONAL

The Bible Society of Baptist Mid-Missions

A reliable Bible translation in every language; a Bible in every hand.



CENTENNIAL PARK
COUNSELING, PLLC

From time to time everyone can benefit from speaking to
a professional counselor.

We are a committed group of mental health professionals, unified in the foundation of a God centered World-View, offering counseling services to people of all ages looking for help and hope for restoration of healthier relationships with others, themselves, and God.

Our Mission Statement:

Sharing the love of Christ by providing Help and Hope with Compassion,
Skill, and Integrity

2828 Kraft Ave SE, Suite 186, Grand Rapids, MI 49512

(616) 949-9550

www.centennialparkcounseling.com

DISCIPLESHIP

Room 34 – Friendship Counseling

Gary Heim, True North Ministries / Magnify Church

When people are in pain they often turn to friends and people within the local church who know them. This breakout will increase your understanding and ability to come alongside such people who need a spiritual guide and mentor: one who relates to them like Jesus. That person can be you.

Pod C – 6 x 20 = 1,600,000

Doug Burrier, Sustainable Discipleship

The church is at the center of God's plan to reach the world. Join us for this interactive talk and see how you can make 1,600,000 disciples in just twenty years. Trust us—it's not a pyramid scheme. It's the first step in a hexagon solution to attracting, making, and releasing many disciples that make disciples with little long-term effort. This is the stuff they just don't teach in seminary.

LEADERSHIP

Room 30 – The Quest for Servant Leadership

Tom Lothamer, Calvary Baptist Church & ABWE

In this workshop, we'll discuss three requirements of God's servants for spiritual leadership taken from Philippians 2:1-8. We will remember that servant leadership requires a Ministry Mindset, a Ministry Method", and a Ministry Model — all these exemplified by Christ.

Room 31 – Staying the Biblical Course: Avoiding Doctrinal Drift in Church Leadership

Jonathan Marko, Cornerstone University & Forest Hills Baptist Church

For the avid readers and thinkers, it is easy to become desensitized and not see questionable views as overly worrisome. This mindset can lead to doctrinal drift in church leadership. Similarly, certain characteristics, traits, and activities of the congregational majority, or a very vocal minority, may put undue pressure upon the rest of the congregation for unnecessary conformance inside and outside of the church walls. That is laity listing. We will discuss various tactics and strategies for keeping church leadership and the congregation staying the biblical course.

Room 50 – Developing New Leaders for Ministry

Ben Marx, First Baptist Church of Holland

You can't do it forever. And you genuinely want to get others involved, so they can share in the blessing of serving the Lord and His church. So who is next up? Whatever your ministry, learn how to bring others up, how to encourage the reluctant, equip the willing, position the ready, and mentor the active in a way that feels natural, not forced, and takes a lot of the usual risk out of launching new leaders.

Room 56 – Managing Conflict for Healthy Teams

James Jeffery, Chapel Pointe

Conflict is a part of relationships that can sabotage team culture. Practicing wise biblical truths can transform conflict into personal, leadership and church growth. We can't totally avoid conflict, but we can build spiritual and relational health in our lives and churches with obedience to timeless principles from God's Word.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Room 52 – Stirring Affection for God

Andy Donaldson, Ada Bible Church

While many in the church are very committed to their faith, there is often a desire to establish and build more affection for God and His Word. In a culture that tends to think we have no control over our emotions, many Christians feel stuck in this. In this workshop we will discuss practical tips on how to establish, build, and maintain a deep affection for God.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Room 66 – The Loneliness Ache

Darlene Larson, Hearts with a Purpose / Magnify Church

Many women ache because of loneliness. They feel as if there is a hole in their soul. Whether married, divorced, single, or widowed, come and learn 10 Tips with the Truth to help women embrace Him at His Word, *I will never ever leave you*. Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4).

STUDENT MINISTRY

Room 128 – How to Teach Gen Z

Wes Crawford, West Cannon Baptist Church

Helping young people learn how to change can be increasingly challenging. They hear several contradicting worldviews that seem convincing, and often wonder if a biblical lifestyle is viable anymore. This workshop will seek to build a framework for how people change and give guidelines for teaching the doctrine of progressive sanctification at a level that young people can understand.

CHILDREN

Room 122 – Effective Questions for Review Games

Marrena Ralph, Regular Baptist Press / Kids4Truth Clubs Program Specialist

Review games are a great tool in children's ministries. They not only help those who learn easily, but also those who learn differently. Review games can only be effective when we use the right questions during the game. Effective questions motivate children to learn, help children retain memory work and lessons, build relationships within the club, and build relationships with church leadership and missionaries.



Room 126 – Learning Styles: Why Does it Matter?

Kimberly Buffinga, MI Bible Clubs

Did you know that how you teach can affect how much your students remember? We all have a primary learning style and tend to teach the way we learn. Come learn about the different learning styles and how to choose activities that work best for each learning style.

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

Room 58 – Engaging Gen Z with the Gospel

Ray Brandon, EveryEthne / ABWE

Discover how to effectively communicate the timeless message of the Gospel to Gen Z in an ever-evolving digital landscape. This workshop delves into the unique characteristics and values of this tech-savvy, diverse generation, exploring strategies to make the Gospel relevant and relatable. Participants will learn how to utilize storytelling, hospitality, and authentic engagement to reach and disciple Gen Z, empowering them to live out their faith in today's world. Join us for a transformative session that bridges generational gaps and inspires meaningful connections.



The graphic features a central image of two young women smiling and hugging. The woman on the left has blonde hair and is wearing a grey t-shirt. The woman on the right has dark hair and red face paint. In the background, there is a scenic view of a lake and rolling green hills. The graphic includes the Lake Ann Camp logo (a stylized mountain peak) and the text 'SUMMER CAMP 2025'. There are three small inset photos: one showing people with their hands in a circle, one showing a group of people with their arms raised, and one showing a group of people in athletic wear. The text 'Register Today!' is written in a cursive font, and a list of three bullet points is at the bottom right.

LAKE ANN Camp
EST. 1946

SUMMER CAMP
2025

Register Today!

- ✓ Discover Life at Its Best
- ✓ Week-long Programming
- ✓ Happy Camper Guarantee

Room 129 – Developing a Gospel Training System

Rochelle Visser, Camp Michawana

A consistent plan is crucial for effectively sharing the Gospel, and while there are many methods, the message remains the same. This session will explore essential ways to develop a Gospel training system tailored to your needs, concluding with an overview of my favorite tool: the Wordless Book gospel color bracelet. Join us to discover practical strategies for clear, consistent Gospel communication.

WORSHIP

Room 38 – Unleashing the Church's Voice: Embracing Social Media & Video for Impact

Justin Edmonds, Enhance AVI

This workshop dives into the "why" and "how" behind harnessing social media and video content to expand your church's influence and impact. We'll explore common misconceptions that keep churches off these platforms, discuss effective strategies for creating engaging, authentic content, and provide practical steps for getting started across various formats. Join us to discover how your church can effectively speak in the digital space, connect with new audiences, and strengthen your message in the world of social media.

Room 54 – When We Gather, We Grow: Planning Worship Services for Disciples

Chad Vitarelli

What if we planned our worship services so that our people would actually grow in Christ? This recent doctoral research study identified 20 worship leaders from all over the country who see the convergence between corporate worship and Christian discipleship and plan their gatherings accordingly. Along with the findings of the study, we'll present a planning matrix developed as a tool for planning worship services for spiritual growth.

CORNERSTONE UNIVERSITY

BOLD. CHRIST-CENTERED. INFLUENTIAL.

Recognized by *The Wall Street Journal* as one of America's Best Colleges 2025, Cornerstone University is a premier, Christ-centered university preparing graduates to boldly influence the world for Jesus Christ.

Cornerstone and Cornerstone Theological Seminary, offer over 65 academic programs of study. You can choose from a wide variety of associate to doctoral degrees, including popular majors such as:

- B.A. in Psychology
- B.S. in Business
- B.S. in Engineering
- B.S. in Exercise Science
- B.S. in Nursing
- M.A. in Christian Counseling
- Master of Divinity
- Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership & Development



DISCOVER programs offered at Cornerstone University by scanning the QR code!



616.222.1426
admissions@cornerstone.edu
cornerstone.edu

GENERAL

Room 31 – Today's Transgender Movement vs. God's Good Design

Nate Archer, First Baptist Church of Middleville / Bridge Fellowship

The transgender ideology being promoted today is very new, unscientific, and harmful to vulnerable people. This is both a challenge as well as an opportunity for Christian workers to show that God's design for gender is good, beautiful, and true to reality. The Christian worldview helps people to better interpret their experiences and gives hope.

Room 32 – We Are Them: Humility, Truth, and Grace in Vulnerable Conversations

Carolyn Doyle & Tonya Delnay, Life Matters Worldwide

The reality is that truth and grace often collide. Learn how to have vulnerable conversations about how to walk humbly, understand truth, and exercise grace in a way that allows our broken story to be told so that wholeness and healing can occur.

Room 58 – Marriage & Family: The Heart of Discipleship

Ray Brandon & Cassandra Bates, EveryEthne / ABWE

Discover how marriage and family units serve as foundational elements for discipleship in this engaging workshop. Drawing on the theological insights of Herman Bavinck, we will explore how the family is not just a social institution but a divine covenant central to nurturing faith and spiritual growth. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the role of family in discipleship dynamics and practical strategies to foster a Christ-centered home. Join us to examine how your family can become a sanctuary where Christian values flourish, and every member's role and calling is supported.

Room 64 – Using a Shooting Simulator to Train Your Safety Team

Jim Barrett, Founder of Safety Team Training LLC & Co-founder of Scenario Trainer INC.

This is a hands-on workshop where attendees can try their skills and decision-making abilities using a shooting simulator! It will be fun, challenging, and a bit stressful! Come on in and give it a try!

DISCIPLESHIP

Room 34 – The Art of Asking Good Questions

Gary Heim, Magnify Church

God asks us questions – “Adam, where are you? Cain, why are you angry? Why is your face downcast?” Jesus asked his disciples, “Who do people say I am? Who do you say I am?” Learning to ask good questions is essential to forming deep relationships and disciple making. Whether you're leading a small group, teaching a Bible class, or mentoring individuals, learn the art of asking questions that invite people to open their hearts so they can be transformed by truth and love.

Room 50 – The Sermon on the Mount: A Guide to Life and Ministry

Bart Bouman, Calvary Baptist Church of Greenville

In our time together, we plan to take a refreshing look at the central message of Jesus. Doing so will help us focus on the goal of discipleship, identify the obstacles to discipleship, and get equipped with tools to serve the Church effectively.

Pod C – Six Simple Methods to Supercharge Your Church

Doug Burrier, Sustainable Discipleship

What do hexagons have to do with disciple making and strong, growing churches? Come discover the second step in the Hexagon Solution to making disciples who do the right things for the right reasons and make disciples on their own. Learn six methods proven in the USA and on seven other continents to make well-made disciples. This interactive talk will change everything and is sure to supercharge you as you reach the world.

LEADERSHIP

Room 124 – Legal Aspects of Governance, Stewardship, and Accountability

Sally Wagenmaker, Wagenmarker & Oberly

What top-priority legal areas are of concern to your church leadership? Churches of all sizes and types need to promote effective governance, mindful of applicable fiduciary responsibilities, how bylaws affect their leadership, key governance and operational policies, how best to address employee and volunteer issues, and potential legal pitfalls affecting such areas. This workshop helps equip leaders to effectively serve their churches with accountability and stewardship, for God's glory throughout their efforts.

Room 56 – Wisdom in Numbers: The Value of Plurality in Leadership

Doug Crawford, Bridge Fellowship

Ultimately, we want to seek wisdom from the Lord. One of the ways He provides wisdom is through the godly counsel of others. This workshop will look at the biblical background and practical help of plurality in leadership.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Room 52 – Impactful Men's Retreats

Andy Donaldson, Ada Bible Church

There are few events that can lead to more impact for men in the church than a well-planned and executed Men's Retreat. In this workshop, we will discuss logistics, planning, preparation, content, and location of Men's Retreats and how they can be leveraged to grow men into Christ-centered leaders in the church.

Room 126 – Father to the Fatherless Generation

Keith Buffinga, MI Bible Clubs

1 out of 3 children in the USA grow up without a father. God calls Christian men to show the Father's love to these fatherless children, but are we answering that call? Learn more about opportunities to fill this need in the hearts of children in our community and have an eternal impact on their lives.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Room 66 – Building An Effective Women's Bible Study Ministry

Lisa Heim, Magnify Church / True North Ministries

Building an effective Women's Bible Study Ministry is more than just inviting ladies to gather to fellowship and study. It is a place where the Word of God, the People of God, and the Spirit of God can come together for powerful life transformation. This workshop covers all the aspects of planning and carrying out an effective program that facilitates important spiritual growth and relational connection.

STUDENT MINISTRY

Room 128 – Volunteers

Rob Tahtinen, Calvary Baptist of Greenville / Bridge Fellowship

This workshop is designed to encourage the front-line workers in youth ministry, share what has worked in ministry, and answer questions.

CHILDREN

Room 129 – Intentional Stations, Stories, and Songs in the Preschool Classroom

Ashley Setaputri, West Cannon Baptist Church

Teaching preschool-aged children about Jesus is more than singing the "B-I-B-L-E" and "Jesus Loves Me." Come learn how to be intentional in teaching the Gospel through fun and engaging teaching strategies.

Room 122 – Jesus & The Children: Four Stories that Shape our Children's Ministry at a Small Church

Becki Watson, Wyoming Park Bible Fellowship

This workshop encourages leaders from small churches by exploring the unique opportunities in children's ministry, despite challenges like limited resources. Using four stories of Jesus' interactions with children, we will draw out key principles to guide us in what is essential for a thriving ministry. Participants will leave with a fresh vision for how God can use their small church to have a lasting spiritual impact on children when they recalibrate their focus on what is truly important.

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

Room 30 – The Importance of Bible Translation with the Great Commission

Subash Muthyala, Bibles International

The Word of God is the ultimate authority for the Great Commission. Its transformative power is essential for global missions and church planting. This workshop will delve into the biblical foundations of missions, emphasizing the importance of providing reliable, accurate Bible translations to equip national believers and churches to reach unreached people groups.

Room 54 – Comedy & Community: Harnessing Hospitality Outreach in a Digital World

Matthew Sharpe, Hope & Wholeness Psychology Center

As the world around us becomes increasingly connected to technology and disconnected from each other, the church has a tremendous resource at its fingertips. In this workshop, participants will learn a biblical foundation for a simple and surprising outreach tool. Additionally, they will learn from real-life examples and be challenged to develop new and creative ways to connect to people around them.

WORSHIP

Room 38 – Unleashing the Church's Voice Part 2: The Tech Behind Creating Powerful Social Media Content

Justin Edmonds, Enhance AVL

This workshop goes behind the scenes to explore the practical side of producing engaging content for your church's social media platforms. We'll cover the essential gear for various budgets, from cameras and lighting to audio and editing software, along with tips for creating high-quality videos that resonate. Learn step-by-step techniques for capturing, editing, and posting content, and gain insights into maximizing reach and engagement. Whether you're a tech novice or have some experience, this session equips you with the knowledge to share your church's message online confidently.

LEAD

Not your typical summer camp!



LEAD is a week-long camp that combines dynamic teaching on Biblical worldview and ethics with real-world experiences in business, law, journalism, and more. This fun and unique community points teens to Christ, pushes them out of their comfort zones, and equips them as leaders.

June 15-20 July 13-18 July 27-Aug 1

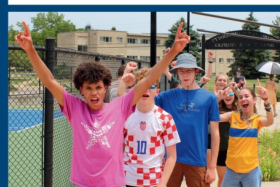
Learn more at: www.LEADMICH.org

"LEAD has opened doors for my future, nurtured my spiritual life, developed my skills to fulfill my God-given destiny"

Tabitha F. (16)

"I feel closer to God than ever before. This week has inspired me to take the next step in devotion and dedication to Him."

Trevor A. (18)



First-time campers save \$100 with code: CMCLEADS

“ WE SUBSCRIBED TO *KEYS FOR KIDS* WHEN OUR KIDS WERE YOUNG AND WE'D LIKE TO SHARE THEM WITH OUR GRANDKIDS. ”

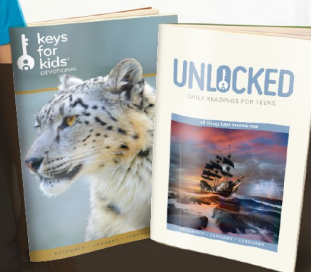
"I will be sending these as follow-up for my VBS class. Glad they are available."



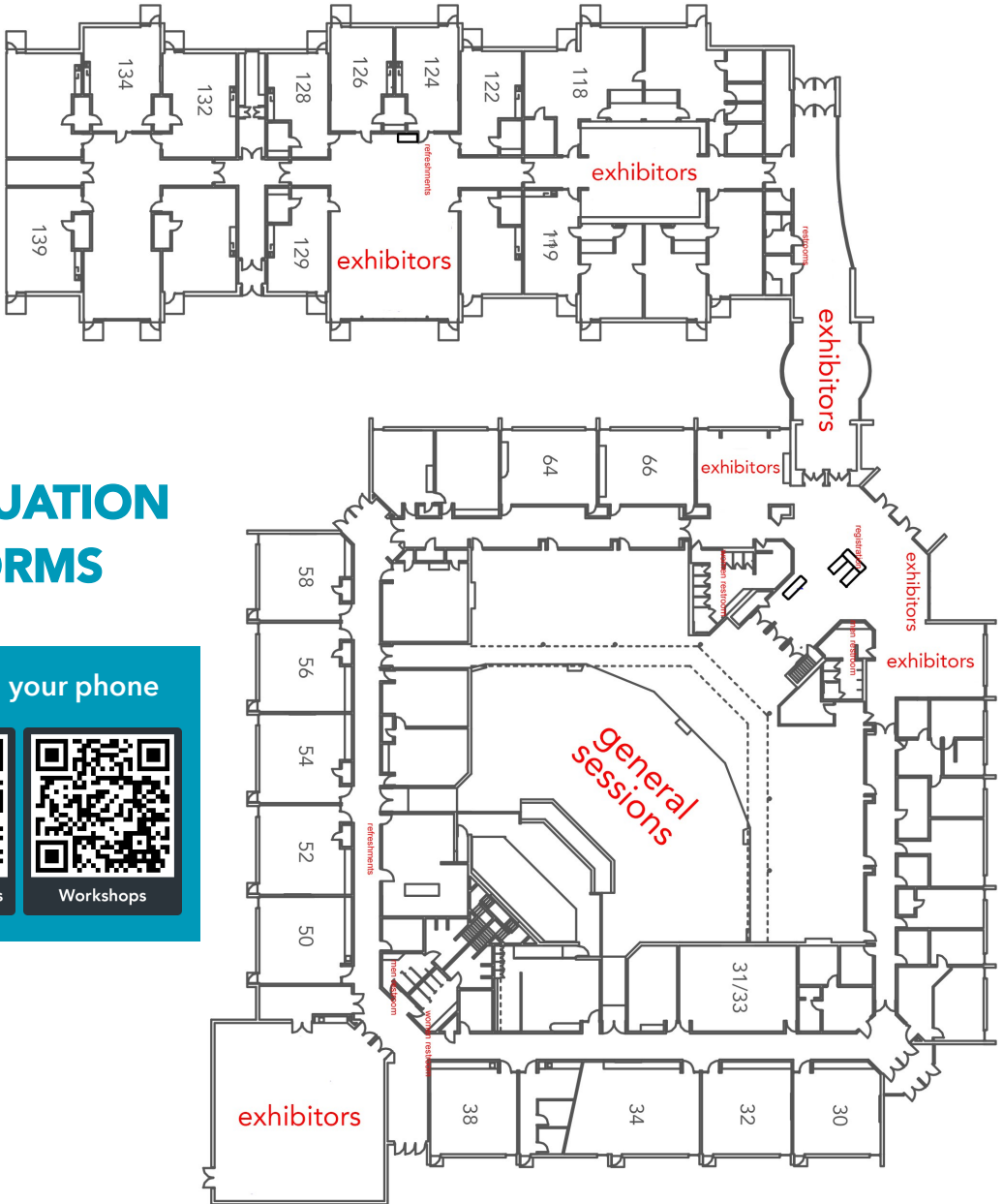
Keys for Kids devotional has touched generations. And our *Unlocked* devotional is doing the same for teens.



2060 43rd Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49508
office: 616 647 4500
toll free: 1 888 224 2324
keysforkids.org



BUILDING MAP



EVALUATION FORMS

Scan with your phone



General Sessions



Workshops

