



Early Childhood Conference

Michigan District, LCMS

August 9, 2023

Agenda

St. Lorenz Worship and Event Center - 850 W Genesee St. Frankenmuth

Doors Open @ 7:30 - Light Breakfast

8:30 - 8:45	Welcome / Devotion
8:45 - 9:00	Announcements
9:00 - 10:15	Keynote - Dr. Lori Elliot
10:15 - 10:45	Break
10:45 - 11:45	Sectional #1
11:45 - 12:45	Lunch
12:45 - 1:45	Sectional #2
2:00 - 3:00	Keynote - Dr. Lori Elliot

Sectional titles and descriptions follow on pages 2-3.

SCECHs, training hours and MiRegistry hours will all be available. Please see the conference booklet for more information and steps to take to apply for the different hours.



Sectional One / 10:45 – 11:45

Speaker	Session Title	Room
Rev. Sam Fink	Parenting On Purpose - What if ministry to parents was less about giving advice and more about intentional discipleship? When our approach to family ministry is program-driven, or advice-based, parents often feel overwhelmed and less equipped to disciple their children than they did before we ever got involved. In this session resources will be shared and strategies provided to lay out an approach to family discipleship that begins with the Word and seeks to provide opportunities for parents to grow in their own faith and Christian community as the Word is used to guide conversations about providing a consistent Christian framework for thought, vocation, community, discipleship, sex-ed/gender conversations as well as ideas for family devotion/discipleship, and more.	EC Gym 328
Catie Berg and Sara DeYarmond	Trauma-Informed Teaching for Young Learners - Children with trauma need high-quality early educational experiences in order to be successful in the classroom, but many are suspended or expelled from school due to challenging behaviors. Learn how to identify trauma in children, strategies for managing trauma behaviors, how to partner with families of children with trauma, and tools for helping children self-regulate in the classroom.	114 115
Tiffany Young	Being Mindful: Exploring Sympathy & Empathy - In this session we will unpack the difference between sympathy and empathy and identify strategies to build empathy in ourselves and our classroom spaces to support even our youngest youth.	Worship Center
Nicki Blain	Facilitating Movement in Infants and Toddlers - Movement drives learning, so how can we be intentional to create an environment that encourages movement? This session will offer practical strategies for positioning for play, activities that help little ones learn through movement, and what to do when babies and toddlers aren't meeting motor milestones.	151
Connie Wollenweber	K-1 Art Lesson Ideas - This sectional is a "hands on" session with sample art lessons for K-1 students, demonstrating how literature, art history, art production, and the "elements of design" (the "tools" students use to create art) can be introduced to kindergarten students and built upon by first grade students.	153
Sharon Norman	Stewards of Children® is an evidence-informed, award-winning training that teaches adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. Through interviews with child sexual abuse survivors, experts, and treatment providers, Stewards of Children® teaches adults practical actions they can take to reduce instances of child sexual abuse in their organizations, families, and communities. This is a 2 hour training delivered in two one-hour sectionals.	150
Amy Norkus	Adult mental health in the infant room/ "Babies are hard! How to make the infant room a happy place for you." - The infant room can seem very basic but is pivotal in the development of a child. It is the foundation and can be the most rewarding to watch a child grow leaps and bounds in front of you. I want to go over and remind us what can make this time period so enjoyable for everyone involved. The discussion will range from knowing what age range God has called you to plant the promises of God to fundamental development and core memories that will last a lifetime.	147
	Continued...	

Jennifer Welch	Finding the Magic Beyond the Mouse: Bringing Fairy Tales Back to the Classroom - Let's bring the fun and fantasy of Fairy Tales back to the early childhood classroom. We will discuss fun ways to use these stories (and their many adaptations) across the curriculum throughout the school year.	439 Music Rm
Travis Grulke	The Call - What does it mean to be serving in our Lutheran Early Childhood Centers and Schools? We'll talk about some of the weird 'Lutheranisms' and awesome responsibilities we have as educators working with little ones (and not so little ones) every day. This is especially for individuals new to Lutheran education but veterans can join us as well.	152
Andrea Dent	Literacy Block: Effectively Reaching Y5-4th Grade Readers - An increase in enrollment, a widening range of skills, and a desire to reach all students right where they are helped St. Paul, Bay City, to launch a new practice during the 2022-2023 school year: Literacy Block. Join First and Second Grade Teacher Mrs. Andrea Dent as she shares how 3 teachers, 2 aides, and an administrator are working to meet young readers no matter where they are to get them where they need to be.	148
Jessica Platte	GSRP 101 - Let's talk about the ins and outs of the Great Start Readiness Program. How can you make this state-funded program work in your Christian-based center?	146
Melissa Bowman	Ooey Goey Squishy Fun - Why is sensory play so important in early childhood? Do you notice children who lack fine motor skills coming to preschool? Before we ask children to use crayons and markers, we need to help them develop their finger and hand muscles. What a better way to do that than with sensory play! Come and learn tips and tricks for fun, creative, sometimes messy sensory play.	Dining Hall
Roxanne Schmerheim	Why we do what we do - In today's world there are a million reasons NOT to choose this profession. However, there is only one reason why you should! This session will give you proof that what you do makes an eternal difference!	Heritage Room 449
Rev. Brad Hubbard	Silly and Sublime Chapel Time - During our time together, we will share outlines, prayers, songs, and practice a chapel time that most any teacher, assistant, volunteer, administrator, or even pastor can lead that will be engaging and formational in the faith for our little learners!	149

Sectional Two / 12:45 – 1:45

Speaker	Session Title	Room
Rev. Sam Fink	Parenting On Purpose - What if ministry to parents was less about giving advice and more about intentional discipleship? When our approach to family ministry is program-driven, or advice-based, parents often feel overwhelmed and less equipped to disciple their children than they did before we ever got involved. In this session resources will be shared and strategies provided to lay out an approach to family discipleship that begins with the Word and seeks to provide opportunities for parents to grow in their own faith and Christian community as the Word is used to guide conversations about providing a consistent Christian framework for thought, vocation, community, discipleship, sex-ed/gender conversations as well as ideas for family devotion/discipleship, and more.	EC Gym 328
Catie Berg and Sara DeYarmond	Trauma-Informed Teaching for Young Learners - Children with trauma need high-quality early educational experiences in order to be successful in the classroom, but many are suspended or expelled from school due to challenging behaviors. Learn how to identify trauma in children, strategies for managing trauma behaviors, how to partner with families of children with trauma and tools for helping children self-regulate in the classroom.	114 115
Tiffany Young	Being Mindful: Exploring Sympathy & Empathy - In this session we will unpack the difference between sympathy and empathy and identify strategies to build empathy in ourselves and our classroom spaces to support even our youngest youth.	Worship Center
Nicki Blain	Facilitating Movement in Infants and Toddlers - Movement drives learning, so how can we be intentional in creating an environment that encourages movement? This session will offer practical strategies for positioning for play, activities that help little ones learn through movement, and what to do when babies and toddlers aren't meeting motor milestones.	151
Connie Wollenweber	2nd -3rd Art Workshop - This sectional is a "hands-on" session with sample art lessons for second & third-grade students, demonstrating how literature, art history, art production, and the "elements of design" (the "tools" students use to create art) can be integrated together in the second & third-grade classroom.	153
Sharon Norman	Stewards of Children® is an evidence-informed, award-winning training that teaches adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. Through interviews with child sexual abuse survivors, experts, and treatment providers, Stewards of Children® teaches adults practical actions they can take to reduce instances of child sexual abuse in their organizations, families, and communities. This is a 2 hour training delivered in two one-hour sectionals.	150
Amy Norkus	Adult mental health in the infant room/ "Babies are hard! How to make the infant room a happy place for you." - The infant room can seem very basic but is pivotal in the development of a child. It is the foundation and can be the most rewarding to watch a child grow leaps and bounds in front of you. I want to go over and remind us what can make this time period so enjoyable for everyone involved. The discussion will range from knowing what age range God has called you to plant the promises of God to fundamental development and core memories that will last a lifetime.	147
	Continued...	

Jennifer Welch	Finding the Magic Beyond the Mouse: Bringing Fairy Tales Back to the Classroom Let's bring the fun and fantasy of Fairy Tales back to the early childhood classroom. We will discuss fun ways to use these stories (and their many adaptations) across the curriculum throughout the school year.	439 Music Rm
Travis Grulke	The Call - What does it mean to be serving in our Lutheran Early Childhood Centers and Schools? We'll talk about some of the weird 'Lutheranisms' and awesome responsibilities we have as educators working with little ones (and not so little ones) every day. This is especially for individuals new to Lutheran education but veterans can join us as well.	152
Andrea Dent	Literacy Block: Effectively Reaching Y5-4th Grade Readers - An increase in enrollment, a widening range of skills, and a desire to reach all students right where they are helped St. Paul, Bay City, to launch a new practice during the 2022-2023 school year: Literacy Block. Join First and Second Grade Teacher Mrs. Andrea Dent as she shares how 3 teachers, 2 aides, and an administrator are working to meet young readers no matter where they are to get them where they need to be.	148
Jessica Platte	GSRP 101 - Let's talk about the ins and outs of the Great Start Readiness Program. How can you make this state-funded program work in your Christian-based center?	146
Melissa Bowman	Ooey Goey Squishy Fun - Why is sensory play so important in early childhood? Do you notice children who lack fine motor skills coming to preschool? Before we ask children to use crayons and markers, we need to help them develop their finger and hand muscles. What a better way to do that than with sensory play! Come and learn tips and tricks for fun, creative, sometimes messy sensory play.	Dining Hall
Roxanne Schmerheim	Why we do what we do - In today's world there are a million reasons NOT to choose this profession. However, there is only one reason why you should! This session will give you proof that what you do makes an eternal difference!	Heritage Room 449
Rev. Brad Hubbard	Silly and Sublime Chapel Time - During our time together, we will share outlines, prayers, songs, and practice a chapel time that most any teacher, assistant, volunteer, administrator, or even pastor can lead that will be engaging and formational in the faith for our little learners!	149