

Session I Workshops 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM

LIFE Conference Workshops are divided according to what ministry you serve within your church or personally. However, you may attend any workshop that is listed.

Youth Workers/Sunday School Teachers

1. Transformational Teaching for ALL Generations Dr. Ken Coley Room 130-131
Every leader and teacher believes that there is diversity within their group, but most teachers' style looks like they actually believe "One Size Fits All". Don't issue every group member an XL lesson plan! This seminar, which features frequent participation by attendees, will challenge you to reconsider how you can more effectively disciple each member of your group through differentiated approaches to teaching. Come learn how to vary your environment, content, instructional methods, and evaluation, so you can become a transformational teacher or train your teachers to be transformational teachers when you return home
2. VBS Preview with Group Publishing Ms. Lisa Burney Room 117
No matter your church's size or budget come to this workshop and preview and exciting Vacation Bible School Program that will fit your church. *Maker Fun Factory, Passport to Peru, Rome..Holy Land Adventure* are all VBS programs offered by Group for 2017.

Pastors/Church Leadership

3. 25 Easy Ways to Connect with Your Kids Dr. Ron Hunter, Jr. Auditorium
The title says it all, one of Ron's most popular sessions. Use this session to take ideas back to your parents and help them get past the ear buds, and cut through the clutter to connect on a heart level. Twenty of the ideas are already available in every home just waiting to be used.
4. Grasping God's Word: Part 1 Dr. Brad Williamson Video Conf. Studio
As a section of a three-part study on deepening our understanding of the Holy Bible, this session will consider both the tools we need to be more effective students of scripture and the importance of context in our faithful interpretation of scripture.

Parents/Grandparents/Laypersons/Youth

5. Understanding Our Potential as Grandparents Ms. Nancy Cale Room 112
Most grandparents love their role - spoil the kids and give them back to their parents. But what does the Bible have to say about the role of grandparents? Grandparents who have contact with their grandchildren WILL make a huge impact on their lives. Come and see how to make that impact the one that God has designed.
6. Exploring God's Call : The Challenge Ms. Sharlene Scott and friends Room 120
All Youth 11 and over are encouraged to attend this workshop along with any adults who may have youth in your church who would benefit from this experience. Leaders and Participants of The Challenge share about their week on the campus of UMO as they encourage all youth to explore God's calling in their lives and discuss practical ways to make a difference for the kingdom of Christ.

The following workshops apply to ALL Groups

7. Communication with the Next Generation Mr. Brandon Roysden Room 136
We often describe any group that is not like us with generalizations and stereotypes. It's natural. It's how we are able to describe complicated things..by simplifying them. But communicating with the next generation is often not simple. As a matter of fact, these students often balk at being "labeled" or confined to a box. Based on more than five years of daily interaction with students, this session will unpack some practical strategies about how we can communicate with the next generation in a way that creates meaningful relationships and ensures your message is heard.
8. Developing Kids Capable of Transforming the Culture Dr. Eddie Moody Rodger's Chapel
This is a difficult time for kids who are often molded by our culture. Long ago there were four young men (Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah) who were not influenced by their culture; they transformed it. How did this happen? We'll look at lessons from their lives in this seminar and examine what we can do to develop kids that can transform the culture.
9. Church Ministry: Reaching Out Ms. Marci Rollins-Smart Room 111
The Bible clearly instructs us to reach out to those around us. This workshop will identify the Scriptural basis for outreach, and discuss how to determine the needs of the community around your church.

Session II Workshops

11:00 AM – 11:45 AM

Youth Workers/Sunday School Teachers & Superintendents

- 1. Five Myths That Are Strangling Your Teaching Dr. Ken Coley Room 130-131**
Many committed Bible teachers have bought into outdated myths about teaching, and the students they are discipling are paying the price. This session will focus on approaches to leading Bible study that will engage your teens, strengthen memory retention, and help build relationships among the group as they study Scripture. Insights from the latest mind, brain, and education research will be included. The material will be presented in ways that you can use to train your leaders when you return home.
- 2. How to Teach Kids to Be On a Mission Ms. Marci Rollins-Smart Room 111**
Aimed at youth workers and Sunday School teachers, this workshop will discuss how to help a generation that is “all about me” see that Jesus calls us to be servants to others. It will explore key biblical passages to teach your children and youth and provide examples of mission projects that can be done with various age groups at the church, in the local community, or in other locations.
- 3. Top 10 Ways To Keep Kids Engaged Ms. Lisa Burney Room 117**
After the whirlwind changes kids go through from birth through preschool, it may feel a little like elementary-aged kids aren’t changing much. But they’re changing every year—cognitively, spiritually, and physically! How can you keep up with what’s effective, what’s hot, and what’s working with these changing kids—and times? This workshop will clue you in to the latest techniques for grabbing kids’ attention, managing classrooms with multiple ages, and making learning memorable. Plus, we’ll give you insider secrets to what parents of kids this age need most—and how you can partner effectively with them.

Pastors/Church Leadership

- 4. Mickey Mouse, Battleships, and Ministry Multipliers: 3 Ways to Healthy Family Ministry Dr. Ron Hunter Auditorium**
Every church wrestles with how family ministry works and the barriers to making this happen. See how the visuals of Mickey Mouse and Battleships help you help parents multiply your ministry efforts. Isn’t it time to minister smarter not harder.
- 5. Grasping God’s Word Part 2 Dr. Brad Williamson Video Conf. Studio**
To better understand the historical backdrop of scripture, Christians need a basic understanding of the languages from which scripture is translated and knowledge of how the Church came to receive the Holy Bible we have today. This session will explore both.

Parents/Grandparents/Laypersons & Youth

- 6. Grand-Parenting the Next Generation Ms. Nancy Cale Room 112**
There is truly NOTHING like being a grandparent! Most grandparents will whole-heartedly agree. It may seem easy when they are babies and toddlers. Often as grandchildren get older, it becomes more difficult for grandparents to relate to them. We will talk about practical ways to relate to your grandchildren and learn some of their lingo.
- 7. Why Choose Christian Camp? Ms. Angela Mattox and Mr. Rick Price Room 120**
This workshop will explore the benefits of choosing a Christian Camp for your summer activities. They will also be sharing the assets of both of the camps they are representing and answer any questions you may have. They will be sharing information on the weeks of summer camp that will be available for all youth.

The Following Workshops Apply to ALL Groups

- 8. Raised In Church.....And Still There! Mr. Brandon Roysden Room 136**
We’ve all heard the statistics about young people leaving the church. But what about those who stayed? What can we learn from their stories to help us navigate the spiritual development of the students in our care. Learn about what parents (and leaders) can do to give their children a strong foundation as well as a few things to avoid. You’ll leave this session with practical approaches to relationships and coaching points for parents to help the next generation stay...and thrive...in their faith.
- 9. The Spiritual Health of the Family: Understanding Generational Differences Dr. Eddie Moody Rodger’s Chapel**
The average American family is spiritually, physically, and psychologically unhealthy. Today by the age of 19, 7 out of every 10 teens have engaged in premarital sex, 13.4% of the United States population is obese (anywhere from 5 to 17% of all children are obese), and anywhere from 10 to 20% of youth in the US meet the criteria for a mental health disorder. What can a family do to be healthy in such an unhealthy environment? In this session we will examine how to implement evidenced based activities that lead to better spiritual, physical, and psychological health.

Session III Workshops 2:10 PM – 2:55

Youth Workers/Sunday School Teachers

- 1. What Can We Learn About Transformational Bible Teaching from Mind, Brain and Education Research** Dr. Ken Coley **Room 130-131**
Mind, brain and education research in the 21st century has much to say to all educators about effective instructional techniques and the teaching/learning process. This seminar will make practical applications that can become powerful tools in your teaching tool box. The presenter and participants will practice several active learning techniques presented in research literature.
- 2. 4 Acts of Love to Make your Children's Ministry Irresistible!** Ms. Lisa Burney **Room 117**
Looking for practical ways to help children know how much God loves them? This workshop is for you! Discover simple yet powerful ways to help children experience a real relationship with Jesus. These "4 acts of love" will keep children coming back for more- and will let them go deeper with Jesus.

Pastors/Church Leadership

- 3. Equipping Congregants to Administer Emotional First Aid** Dr. Eddie Moody **Rodger's Chapel**
We've all heard people say, "I don't know what to do" or "I don't know what to say: after one of their friends, coworkers or family members experienced a tragic event. Many often feel inadequate and ill prepared to help those they care about after a significant loss, yet the assistance they provide (or lack thereof) is most likely to have the greatest impact upon someone. The need for psychological first aid training has been well documented. However, for those who follow Christ it is especially critical that they be capable of providing basic PFA in light of Christ's invitation for the hurting to come to Him and Paul's admonition that Christians should bear the burdens of others. In this session the presenter will discuss how Christian congregations can be equipped to administer PFA.
- 4. Godly Parents of Prodigals: Ways to Help Them Connect** Dr. Ron Hunter **Auditorium**
The silent problem no one wants to address because it happens to ministry leaders as often as the parents in the church. How can you help parents who have teens or adult kids who have moved to a prodigal disposition? Would you like to turn a major obstacle into an opportunity and ministry?.
- 5. Grasping God's Word Part III** Dr. Brad Williamson **Video Conf. Studio**
It is very easy for Christians to read into the Holy Bible their own assumptions and beliefs. The purpose of this session will be to dive into meaning and application in order that the biblical student may be able to more "rightly divide the word of truth"

Parents/Grandparents/Laypersons and Youth

- 6. The Next Generation at Work in the OFWB** Ms. Marci Rollins-Smart & friends **Room 111**
This workshop will feature present and past Youth Convention Officers and Representatives. They will discuss with participants not only what they currently do as officers and representatives, but how being in these positions have helped them in other areas of life. There will also be a time for brainstorming what participants would like to see our denomination provide for our youth.
- 7. What the future of "Youth Work" Looks Like** The Reverend Josh Hobgood **Room 112**
This workshop will be centered on volunteer youth ministry. The greatest physical resource of any church is the volunteer. Youth ministry cannot be done well without dedicated volunteers who give their time and energy to the young people of the community. This workshop will be a conversation about locating, training, and sustaining volunteers within a youth ministry setting! Please join in on this conversation because your church and it's work matters!

The Following Workshops apply to All Groups

- 8. Addicted to Apathy** Mr. Brandon Roysden **Room 136**
Want to inspire others to live with more purpose? To be more productive with things that really matter? Then this session is for you! In it, we'll explore the causes and consequences of apathy and discuss how true motivation and action are spurred by the belief that what we're doing really matters and how we can communicate to those we serve and lead. Learn how to inspire and convince your students that we are called to action by being called to care.
- 9. A Legacy Worth Leaving For The Next Generation** The Reverend Tim Heath **Room 120**
Being mentors and role models for the next generation to follow. That's how we are going to look at Deuteronomy 6:1,2. Instilling a desire to live out the "Shema"...love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, soul, mind and strength in our lives, the lives of our children, and their children as well. That's leaving a legacy that is a mandate from God filled with promise.