





The Church Network 68th National Conference - Lexington, KY

Workshop Descriptions

CPE denotes CPE credit session - + denotes course in the TCN certification program




A Workshops - Wednesday, July 10

Workshop	Speaker	Bio
<p><b>A01 - Five Big Uh-Ohs that Happen to Churches</b> <sup>CPE</sup></p> <p>A book came out a number of years ago entitled, "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff...and It's All Small Stuff." If only that were true! Not everything is "small stuff." There are some big financial things that churches and their administrators commonly overlook...matters that can have outsized, crippling implications. We will talk about five such issues...what they are, how they happen, and how to prevent them! And we will also cover some bonus material on overall risk management!</p>	<p><b>Mike Batts, CPA</b></p> 	<p>Mike Batts, CPA, is the managing partner of Batts Morrison Wales &amp; Lee (BMWV) and has more than 30 years of experience advising churches, ministries, and nonprofit organizations in the areas of board governance, financial oversight, tax compliance and strategy, risk management, corporate structure, international activities, and other related topics. Mike has been inducted into TCN's Hall of Fame and has authored several books including Church Finance, Nonprofit Finance, and Board Member Orientation.</p>
<p><b>A02 - Intentional Impact</b></p> <p>Designing, building, renovating, and running your church facility can be a daunting task, join the Churches by Daniels team for an interactive workshop full of innovative ideas and solutions for how you can successfully approach your facility, and its hangups and hindrances, with intention and creative solutions so that you can expand your ministry.</p>	<p><b>Aaron Blair</b></p>  <p><b>Chad Vanderipe</b></p>  <p><b>Alaina Butler</b></p> 	<p><b>Aaron Blair</b>, Chief of Operations, at Churches by Daniels, is known for going beyond the status quo to foster creative strategies in support of clients and projects. Prior to joining Churches by Daniels, Aaron amassed over twenty years of award-winning city management experience in multiple states across the Country. Originally from Ohio, Aaron has a degree in Urban Planning from the University of Cincinnati and has been married to his Wife, Jessica, for twenty-six years.</p> <p><b>Chad Vanderipe</b>, business development at Churches by Daniels, is known for helping, educating, and supporting Pastors and committees on campus development and expansion projects. As an experienced client engagement advisor, Chad helps pastors, and their teams see beneath the surface both the opportunities and challenges that come with developing their campuses.</p> <p><b>Alaina Butler</b>, Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Churches by Daniels, uses her extensive background in photography, graphic design, and communication to further the educational mission of Churches by Daniels so that all pastors and churches have access to much needed resources. In her free time, she loves being an aunt and reading and writing a lot of novels, preferably by a pool.</p>

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<p><b>A03 - Fresh Eyes on Healthcare and Retirement</b>                      Choosing the right benefits strategy to care for your team well is an important decision that comes with many choices. Reviewing out-of-the-box benefit strategies for ministry health care and retirement with a fresh perspective can help you better steward your resources.</p>	<p><b>Zac Rodgers</b>    <b>Jordan Puskos</b>  </p>	<p>Zac Rodgers is a graduate of Dallas Baptist University and has worked at GuideStone® for over 9 years. During his tenure, he has worked as a sales representative for life and health plans, property and casualty policies, and retirement plans. Prior to his time at GuideStone, he managed a mid-sized, commercial landscape company in Dallas. He was responsible for almost all facets of the business and was the direct manager for over 60 employees. He has been married to his wife, Lindsey Rodgers, for 12 years and together they have 4 children (3 boys and 1 girl).                      Zac Rodgers - MBA                      Licensed in: Life and Health, P&amp;C (Texas), and SIE  <b>Jordan Puskos</b> is a licensed insurance professional and Certified Financial Planner® with a passion and calling who is dedicated to serving your organization's employee benefit needs and building a lasting relationship with your ministry team. She leads a team of experienced professionals dedicated to consulting with churches, ministries, organizations, and associations who will partner with you to build unique employee benefit solutions to meet your special needs. Jordan has served at GuideStone® since 2010 and has a bachelor's degree from Texas A&amp;M University. In addition to helping clients, Jordan plays an active role in her church and community. Jordan and her husband, Jeff, have a son named Brooks and a daughter named Maggie.</p>
<p><b>A04 - Measure/Meet Financial Stewardship Goals</b>                      The 2023 Stewardship Survey, conducted by Vision2 and Christian Stewardship Network, revealed a disconnect between setting actionable goals and taking relevant steps to meet and measure against those goals. In fact, more than half of the Survey's webinar attendees reported they do not track their financial discipleship efforts. Join this session for actionable best practices on measuring to manage (&amp; achieve) your financial stewardship goals.</p>	<p><b>Carl Tierney</b>  </p>	<p><b>Carl Tierney</b> is a believer with a 28-year technology background, Carl Tierney has collaborated with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, UN Mobile Health Technology Group, and WorldVision International. After serving as Director of Enterprise Solutions at Blackbaud, he turned his focus to the church and restoring a sense of worship to online giving. Carl built Vision2 in 2012 to equip churches with the tools and insights required to meet the needs of today and tomorrow's givers.</p>

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<p><b>A05 - 5 CRM Features that Improve Ministry</b>                      Ministry is all about relationship management. Businesses rely on software like HubSpot and Salesforce to help them manage their customer relationships. Because we have been building software for churches for over 20 years, we know both worlds. In this breakout we will look at 5 important communication features in business and the latest church software systems and how to apply them to make the relationship side of ministry more efficient and effective.</p>	<p><b>Boyd Pelley</b></p> 	<p><b>Boyd Pelley</b> has been the Co-founder / Culture Architect at ChurchTeams since 2000. From 1990 to 2008 served as discipleship, administrative and family pastor of churches in New Mexico, Nebraska, and Texas. Churchteams was born out of his passion for discipleship and team building in the local church. Married for 36 years, he and Pam have 2 married, adult children who love and serve Jesus with kids of their own.</p>
<p><b>A06 - Leveling Up your Church's Cybersecurity</b> CPE                      Cybersecurity attacks and breaches are real threats for churches, and we are only seeing them increase in frequency as technology becomes increasingly integrated into our lives. Being prepared and having a plan is the best way to combat a cybersecurity attack. Learn how to take your church to the next level of awareness, prevention, and responsiveness for cybersecurity attacks.</p>	<p><b>Travis Phipps</b></p> 	<p><b>Travis Phipps</b> is the Director of Technology at Enable Ministry Partners. He helps manage Enable's team of engineers and works closely with them to oversee Enable's technology strategy and direction for all clients. Travis is a preacher's kid who tells everyone that he loves doing what God clearly built him to do. He has a business degree from the University of Texas at Dallas and lives in Wylie TX with his wife and kids.</p>
<p><b>A07 - The 5 Ws of Internal Control</b> CPE                      Internal Controls are imperative in organizations of all sizes. This session will go into why internal controls are important, who is responsible for internal controls, their impact in all levels of the organization and how internal controls can give staff and donors confidence in your organization.</p>	<p><b>Emily VerSteeg</b></p>  <p><b>Katrina Gochenour</b></p> 	<p><b>Emily VerSteeg</b> serves as an ECFA compliance associate on the Member Accountability Team assisting both new applicants and existing members. With over 20 years in church administration, she joined ECFA to leverage her CPA background and experience to help organizations fulfill their mission and purpose while maintaining compliance with ECFA's Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship.</p> <p><b>Katrina Gochenour</b> serves as a senior compliance associate with ECFA. She works closely with members through the Standards Check-In process. Katrina joined the ECFA team after serving over 10 years in public accounting. Her focus in public accounting was on not-for-profit attest and tax services. She is committed to utilizing her background in public accounting to propel organizations forward while maintaining compliance with The ECFA Seven Standards of Responsible Stewardship™.</p>

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<p><b>A08 - Project Planning: Preventing Pitfalls</b> <sup>CPE</sup>                      Commercial financing for projects and acquisitions can be complex and filled with pitfalls. Participants will learn how to evaluate your ministry's borrowing capacity using common credit metrics, steps to enhance creditworthiness and borrowing capacity, relative advantages and disadvantages of distinct types of financing, how to mitigate common risks associated with different types of financing, and when to engage with bankers and advisors.</p>	<p><b>Bill Dodson</b>    <b>Dave Schlosser</b>  </p>	<p>Bill Dodson has 23 years of church and nonprofit financing experience. He serves as lead banker for most of Stifel's religion finance transactions in the western United States, underwriting and structuring financings and providing advisory services for churches, schools, and nonprofit organizations. Before his finance career, he served in pastoral roles at Texas and Oregon churches. He holds an undergraduate degree in journalism, and a Master of Divinity from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.                      Dave Schlosser has been involved in religion and education banking since 1986. He is a Managing Director in the Waukesha, WI Public Finance Office. He has served as underwriter and lead banker on bond financings for churches, private schools, and other not-for-profit organizations. Before joining Stifel, Dave was Managing Director in the Ziegler Religion and Education finance team. Dave holds a B.A. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin.</p>
<p><b>A09 - Theology and Ethics of Church Administration*</b>                      Through a dynamic mix of presentations, discussions, and case study material, this workshop will explore five interrelated topics: theological perspectives on church administration, administration as ministry and mission, administration as a fundamental task of faithful stewardship, key ethical issues in administering churches and ministry organizations, and the TCN Code of Ethics. This workshop will complete 0.2 CEUs required for CCA. All four are offered this year see A9, B9, C9, D9.</p>	<p><b>Terry Bertrand, DEdMin, CCA</b>  </p>	<p>Terry Bertrand has recently retired where he served as the executive minister of administration for First Baptist Arlington, Texas, for 21 years. He has served in church administration in Texas and Louisiana for 40 years. Terry has served on the Board of NACBA (2006-10), is an adjunct professor at Dallas Baptist University, and directs TCN Certification Center at DBU. He is active in civic affairs in Arlington where he serves on four local boards.</p>
<p><b>A10 - Lead with Clarity: Overcoming Ambiguity and Cultivating a High-Performance Culture</b>                      a dynamic workshop designed to empower leaders to foster organizational clarity within their teams. Participants will learn strategies to dispel ambiguity, ensuring their teams operate with a clear sense of purpose and intention. By cultivating an environment where clarity thrives, leaders will unlock the potential for high performance, driving their organizations toward unparalleled success and effectiveness.</p>	<p><b>Seth Yelorda</b>  </p>	<p>Seth Yelorda is the founder of Vision Clarity, an organizational development consultancy. Specializing in leadership coaching, strategic planning, team development, and culture transformation he helps churches, schools, hospitals, and nonprofits unlock their full potential. Drawing from 15 years as a senior and executive pastor, Seth possesses a deep commitment to supporting faith and community leaders, aiding them in building team synergy and navigating conflicts effectively. Seth lives in Riverside, CA with his wife and three daughters.</p>




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<p><b>A11 - Digital &amp; Social Media for Churches</b>                      In today's digital age, a church's online presence is more crucial than ever. This workshop, led by Katie Allred, explores effective strategies to enhance your church's digital and social media footprint. Learn how to engage your community, spread your message wider, and foster connections online. From content creation to platform optimization, gain insights to make your church visible and vibrant in the digital realm.</p>	<p><b>Katie Allred</b></p> 	<p>Katie Allred is a seasoned expert in digital marketing and community building, with a rich background in guiding church leaders through the digital landscape. As the founder and CEO of Church Communications, she has served over 33,000 church leaders, driving the digital evangelism movement forward. A skilled educator and mentor, Katie has also shaped the next generation of marketers as an Assistant Professor at the University of Mobile. Her workshops are a culmination of years of expertise, offering actionable insights and strategies.</p>
<p><b>A12 - Church Tax Issues <sup>CPE</sup> (Will Repeat C12)</b>                      New to the work of church administration or a veteran in the industry just needing a refresher course, this course will cover basic tax considerations for religious organizations. Discussions will include special payroll considerations for ministers, an intro to unrelated business income as well as review of other key areas of tax rules and regulations that tend to be overlooked or avoided by many church administrators or confusing to those new in their positions.</p>	<p><b>Elaine Sommerville</b></p> 	<p>Elaine L. Sommerville is licensed as a certified public accountant by the State of Texas. She is a regular speaker for the Texas Society of CPAs, The Church Network, the Houston Church Coop, and is an instructor for the AICPA. She serves as an editorial advisor for Christianity Today's Church Law and Tax Team and authored Church Compensation - From Strategic Plan to Compliance 2nd Edition (Christianity Today 2021.)</p>






B Workshops - Wednesday, July 10

Workshop	Speaker	Bio
<p><b>B01 - Digitally Connecting your Church</b>                      A warm smile or personal greeting at church can never be replaced. However, there are smart and friendly ways you can leverage different digital tools to help people get truly engaged quickly. If implemented properly, your church members can feel even more welcome and connected. We are going to discuss shifting perspectives, and utilizing tools, to connect people to your systems, pastoral care and staff. Also, as always, we will have candy.</p>	<p>Amy McCollum</p> 	<p>Amy McCollum has been working in church finance and operations for over 20 years. She has led teams through multiple systems changes, communications strategies and streamlining for finance tools. Since she joined the OnlineGiving.org team in late 2017 she has had the opportunity to partner with hundreds of the churches we serve. Bringing clarity, unity and efficiency to their operations infrastructure and processes. She loves geeking out on all things process related and is frequently referred to as a "Jesus Nerd".</p>
<p><b>B02 - A Minister's Greatest Financial Opportunity</b> CPE                      We are going old school whiteboard style to breakdown a minister's income that includes housing allowance - how it works while they are employed, what happens when they retire and how housing allowance is treated if they predecease their spouse. We will discuss maximizing housing allowance, opting out of social security and the value of using a 403(b)(9) retirement plan.</p>	<p>Keely Rule</p> 	<p>Keely Rule is a Partner and Vice-president of Guardian Financial Group. In 2014, after 10 years in ministry, his career in the financial industry and calling came together in the development of Guardian Financial Group. For the past decade he has accumulated a wealth of knowledge and helped ministers understand proper compensation structure, how to maximize tax benefits like housing allowance and how a solid financial plan can empower their ministry.</p>
<p><b>B03 - No Cost Left Behind! Project Budgeting</b>                      Churches are expanding and renovating their facilities and campuses to accommodate broader community focused ministries. This session will explore examples of ministry-based projects in non-traditional settings. Examples include educational, retail, outdoor assembly, parks, recreation, benevolence, care facilities, multi-use buildings and early learning centers. Examples include non-tithe income revenue to help support ministries outside the church.</p>	<p>Shane Hunt, AIA                      NCARB</p> 	<p>Shane Hunt, Principal Architect, with over 30 years of experience, is a partner at Rardin &amp; Carroll Architects inc. The company was founded in 1980 to serve faith-based clients. Shane strives to provide his architectural and construction expertise to our clients with tools and resources geared especially toward those who are new to the construction industry. His extensive knowledge of different project types covers a wide range of building and master planning opportunities.</p>

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<p><b>B04 - Data Pulse: Church Generosity Trends</b>                      Benchmark your church with Vanco's latest giving index. Access powerful insights into key giving benchmarks like average donation size, percent of recurring donations and overall donations. Discover proven strategies used by thousands of Vanco churches to ignite a culture of generosity and leave with actionable best practices your church can implement to inspire greater giving. Join us for an enlightening session on leveraging data for a more prosperous and generous year.</p>	<p>Abby Bergman</p> 	<p>Abby Bergman is Vanco's Director of Marketing. Abby has extensive experience understanding churches' needs and helping them embrace new ways to have their message resonate with members - no matter where their members are. Abby works with churches to provide them with the tools they need to succeed even as the way members give changes.</p>
<p><b>B05 - AI Possibilities and Responsibilities</b> <sup>CPE</sup>                      A roundtable discussion on possibilities and responsibilities of using AI for ministry. This beginner-friendly session is open to those new to AI and those already exploring its potential. We will discuss how to think about AI, potential use cases for ministry, responsible use considerations, and some popular tools. Contribute your insights, ask questions, and foster a deeper understanding of how AI can empower your staff and enrich your ministry.</p>	<p>Melody Parlett</p>  <p>Scott Smith</p> 	<p>Melody Parlett, Managing Director at Enable Ministry Partners, empowers church leaders nationwide to optimize technology for ministry success. Melody has a master's in non-profit administration and extensive experience on church staff where she oversaw children's ministry operations and geeked out on church management software. Now she is a trusted advisor who helps churches with productivity, cybersecurity, and other ministry needs. Melody also serves as Chairwoman for the Planning and Zoning Commission in Lake Dallas, Texas.</p> <p>Scott Smith founded Enable Ministry Partners in 2001 to help churches leverage technology for ministry and to "Change Lives by Serving Those Who Serve." Enable delivers comprehensive technology support, strategic guidance, project management, and software consulting. Previously an attorney in Houston, Scott transitioned to technology, co-founding ventures in three business sectors. Married to Laurie for 33 years, they have four children and one grandson. Scott serves as an Elder at Midtown Fellowship in Nashville.</p>
<p><b>B06 - In-Depth Insights into Church Financing &amp; ChMS</b> <sup>CPE</sup>                      Dan's topic will be Construction and Mortgage Financing for Churches. Sections will include Church Expansion Planning, Debt Capacity Analysis, The Loan Application &amp; Approval Process, and Preparing to Close the Loan.                      The remaining portion of the time will be allocated to Josh Nichols. Josh will discuss how to maximize out-of-the-box Church Management software solutions, and the availability and flexibility of customization.</p>	<p>Dan Mikes</p>  <p>Josh Nichols</p> 	<p>Dan Mikes has 33 years of Ministry Banking Experience with more than \$5.5 billion in loans Funded to Churches Nationwide.</p> <p>Josh Nichols is an Area Manager on the Business Development Team of TouchPoint. In this role he gets the opportunity to be one of the first to talk with churches, assess their needs and see how TouchPoint can best serve them.</p>

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<p><b>B07 - More Confessions of a Church Auditor</b> <sup>CPE</sup>                      Following the success of 2023's Confessions of a Church Auditor, join Cat Samson, Rodney Smith, and Bryan Baughman as they share tales from their auditing adventures. With over 40 years combined experience at PSK, Cat, Rodney, and Bryan have witnessed the evolution of church management and ways you can help affect positive change in your church. Designated funds, budgets, and embezzlements, oh my! Red flag waving is optional but encouraged.</p>	<p><b>Cat Samson, CPA</b></p>  <p><b>Bryan Baughman, CPA</b></p>  <p><b>Rodney Smith, CPA</b></p> 	<p><b>Catherine (Cat) Samson, CPA</b> is a Senior Audit Manager with PSK LLP, an Arlington, Texas-based CPA firm with a national presence. Cat's focus is auditing and consulting for not-for-profit organizations, including many members of The Church Network. Cat is a member of The Church Network's Greater Fort Worth Chapter, Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants, Association of International Certified Public Accountants, and the inaugural (2022) class of Arlington's 40 Under 40.</p> <p><b>Bryan Baughman, CPA</b> is an Audit Partner at PSK LLP, an Arlington, Texas-based CPA firm with a national presence. Bryan has 20 years of experience in public accounting and focuses on auditing and consulting with nonprofit organizations, specifically faith-based organizations. Bryan is passionate about his work and takes pride in establishing strong client relationships. Bryan's clients benefit from his patience, technical knowledge, and strong desire to make a helpful impact by delivering useful solutions.</p> <p><b>Rodney Smith, CPA</b> retired in 2023 as partner from PSK LLP, an Arlington, Texas-based CPA firm with a national presence. Rodney remains active working on special projects with PSK. Rodney is a member of TCN's Church Management Hall of Fame, Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants, and Association of International Certified Public Accountants. Rodney is a speaker and author who has shared insights on fraud prevention, tax compliance, financial reporting, and other church-related topics.</p>
<p><b>B08 - Ministry HR Questions Everyone is Asking</b>                      Everyone on your ministry team brings their HR questions to you, but who do you bring your questions to when you don't have the answer? That is where HR Ministry Solutions comes in! Join us as we discuss the most frequently asked questions that our church and ministry clients ask in the ever-changing world of faith based nonprofit HR. You will come away from this time with needed answers and new information of the importance of compliance and best practice within your ministry.</p>	<p><b>Justin Romine</b></p> 	<p><b>Justin Romine</b> is the SVP of Strategy at HR Ministry Solutions and has spent over 20 years as a pastor, consultant and as an executive in the corporate ranks serving Fortune 100 companies. He is passionate about providing solutions that inspire church health and coaching people towards their heart and God given purpose. He holds a master's and bachelor's degree in organizational leadership from Biola University and has contributed his writings to various publications.</p>



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<p><b>B09 – Self Care for Administrators +</b>                      This workshop explores the dimensions of physical, emotional, spiritual, and professional self-care for those in the business of ministry. Participants will be encouraged to examine their own routines of care and consider how to reduce stress and improve wellness. Participants in this workshop will complete 0.2 CEUs required for certification in The Church Network. All four are offered at this year’s national meeting see A9, B9, C9, D9.</p>	<p><b>Bob Winstead</b></p> 	<p>Dr. Robert Winstead is the director of the Academy of Church Business Administration of GCFA, leading the professional certification process for executive pastors and church business administrators. In addition, Bob is a church consultant and national trainer in clergy self-care, congregational administration, and pastoral leadership. Bob has a Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology and a Doctor of Ministry in church leadership from the University of Chicago.</p>
<p><b>B10 – Communication that Connects</b>                      Do you ever feel like you’re talking to your team but you’re not truly connecting with them? Do you have people on your team that are difficult or almost impossible to get along with? The number one thing that holds organizations back is the illusion of communication. It affects attitudes, unity of purpose, and almost always shows up during the worship on stage. Drawing from his Amazon best-selling book, God-Wired, using the DISC model of human behavior, Ken will show you how to understand yourself in a way you may never have before. But more importantly, he will show you how to understand the people who are around you every day and how to connect with them in a meaningful way... even the ones you don't like.</p>	<p><b>Ken Hartley</b></p> 	<p>Ken Hartley served in full-time local church ministry for over 35 years in three states for churches ranging in membership from 90 to 13,000. He now speaks and trains corporate and faith-based organizations all over the world in the areas of leadership, personal growth, and communication. He is a best-selling author of ten books, including Leadership Illusions, God-Wired, and Leadership Lessons from My Fathers.</p> <p>He is a Certified Speaker with the John Maxwell Team and a Certified Human Behavioral Specialist in the DISC model of Human Behavior.</p> <p>Utilizing his gifts and talents in the areas of speaking, singing, and illusions, Ken lives to add value to others and help them realize and step into their God-given purposes.</p>




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<p><b>B11 – Sync, Plan, Execute: Communications Management</b>                      An interactive session on communications calendars, planning, and project management to unlock the secrets to success in your communication strategies. Learn through practical examples and gain access to valuable calendar resources. Dive deep into best practices tailored for staff teams, ensuring efficiency and effectiveness. Master the art of project management with expert guidance on methodologies and essential how-to's. Don't miss out on this opportunity to elevate your communication planning skills and achieve exceptional results.</p>	<p>Kim Tarlton</p> 	<p>With 26 years as Creative Director at mega-churches, Kim Tarlton excels in communications, strategy, &amp; leadership. Leading church consulting at Church Communications Group, she crafts tailored marketing strategies, coordinates teams, &amp; drives successful campaigns, including a \$74 million fundraiser. Kim's collaborative approach energizes meetings, leaving participants with actionable ideas. Her advocacy for multichannel communication solidifies her reputation as a visionary leader in church marketing.</p>
<p><b>B12 – Metro Network Roundtable Discussion</b>                      Roundtable discussion group specific to church administration. Bring your questions and learn from others who have “been there &amp; done that.” Learn from your peers about best practices, policies, finance, reporting, multisite, technology and payroll just to name a few.</p> <p>You do not have to be a member of the group to participate in this session.</p> <p>Unless approved in advance, the session is closed to vendors. Contact GlennWood@seacoast.org for details.</p>	<p>Glenn Wood, CCA</p> 	<p>Glenn Wood is the Pastor of Administration for Seacoast Church where he has served since 1995. He oversees administration, legal areas, campus leases, site selection, campus design, politics, forecasting, contract reviews, and oversees all construction projects. He earned his CCA certification in 2015 and is a power Excel user who has a passion for teaching Excel, Pivot Tables, and analyzing data. He also writes the Pastor Excel article for the TCN publication.</p>



C Workshops - Thursday, July 11

Workshop	Speaker	Bio
<p><b>C01 - The Flow of a Construction Project</b>                      We will explore a realistic and purposeful path that will yield maximum results from vision casting, fund raising, borrowing, and even project construction costs. We will answer the questions of when do I start my capital campaign? When do I talk to a lender? When do I hire an architect and builder? And when do we tell the church family? Let a former administrator and pastor better equip you to walk through your next project!</p>	<p>Rodney James</p> 	<p>Rodney James was raised building with his father. God called him from the corporate world to full-time ministry where he served as church administrator and later senior pastor for 20 years. Having led his church through three major projects, and helped over 150 churches design ministry facilities, Rodney understands the full process from discovering need, designing, and building ministry related projects. Rodney has a gift and passion to educate churches and lead them through on-budget projects.</p>
<p><b>C02 - What to Know Before Choosing a Financial Partner</b>                      CPE                      Discussion of the pros and cons of various types of financial institutions available to serve ministry banking and borrowing needs and how to position your church financial priorities for the next season of ministry.</p>	<p>Jeremy Moore</p> 	<p>Jeremy Moore has spent the last two decades serving the investment and financing needs of large communities of faith. His background and experience ensure a thorough understanding of your ministry's unique needs. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Stanford University, Auburn University and Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. When he is not serving his clients and team, Jeremy spends time with his family and serving on several nonprofit boards.</p>
<p><b>C03 - Legal Basics for Church Preschools</b>                      CPE                      Many church lawyers will tell you that most client calls that keep them up at night involve preschools. Churches that host preschools and other childcare programs need to have adequate protection from liabilities. This session provides practical, straightforward guidance regarding corporate governance matters, licensing, employment and the ministerial exception, safety, and other issues. You will leave with a checklist of considerations for churches with childcare options, or those considering launching a program in the future.</p>	<p>Jordan Ault</p>  <p>Michaeli Hennessy</p> 	<p>Jordan Ault is a litigator, church lawyer, and chair of Husch Blackwell's Nonprofit Organizations &amp; Religious Institutions team, which includes roughly 50 attorneys from coast to coast dedicated to representing nonprofit and religious clients. His practice includes day-to-day guidance to religious clients involving civil and ecclesiastical issues, ranging from employment matters and contract disputes to major First Amendment litigation. He serves as Chancellor for the Missouri Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.</p> <p>Michaeli Hennessy works as a Labor &amp; Employment attorney where she guides employers through the nexus of managing employees and workforce regulations. Michaeli understands that labor &amp; employment law, with workforces keeping businesses moving, can be especially sensitive, complex, and detailed. Preparedness, compliance, policies, and training can be critical components, heading off problems before they develop. Michaeli monitors fast-moving local, state, and federal guidance for employers so that she can guide the implementation of best practices regarding, among others.</p>

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<p><b>C04 - Financially Sustainable Church Design</b>                      The importance of flexibility and financial sustainability in church design has become increasingly evident. Congregations are evolving, worship practices are evolving, and our understanding of community dynamics is evolving. As such, churches must embrace these changes and create spaces that can adapt to the evolving needs of their congregations and their broader community. In this session, we will explore the significance of flexibility and financial sustainability and how it can help unlock the full potential of church facilities.</p>	<p>Don Mahoney</p> 	<p>Don Mahoney, Principal Architect / President                      BGW Architects / Building God's Way</p> <p>Don has one of the most extensive backgrounds in worship and performing arts architecture in the U.S. Throughout his 42-year career, he has been recognized with a number of awards for innovative and creative church design. Don specializes in helping ministries cast their vision during the earliest stages of the project through creative master planning and conceptual design. He leads a team at BGW that has designed more than 1,000 churches and Christian schools.</p>
<p><b>C05 - How to Build a Safe/Thriving Kids Ministry on any Budget</b>                      In this workshop we will talk about how to build a thriving kids ministry that aligns with the vision of your church, promotes safety through practical policies and procedures, and fosters a culture always looking to improve. And here is the best part - this can be created no matter what kind of budget you are working with at your church! By the end of this breakout, you will have practical next steps for building a safe and epic kids ministry where children will want to attend, and people will want to serve!</p>	<p>Adam Bayne</p> 	<p>Adam Bayne is the Lead Children's Pastor at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, KY. Adam began his journey investing in children as an educator in the public school system, but for the past 15 years he has been involved in Next Gen Ministries as a Children's Pastor and Family Pastor. Within that time, Adam has been able to create a formula for developing thriving kids' ministries that works no matter the size of church or the budget.</p>

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Workshop	Speaker	Bio
<p><b>C06 - Budgeting in an Uncertain Environment</b> <sup>CPE</sup></p> <p>The unknowns of the current economic uncertainty can create challenges and opportunities as you develop an effective budget. We will share crucial considerations and steps to help your ministry budget strategically for what is ahead.</p> <p>Join us to learn how to tie your budget to your strategic plan, apply practical strategies to set priorities and challenge your assumptions, and assess how and when to revisit your budget.</p>	<p>Rob Faulk, CPA</p> 	<p>Rob Faulk serves as Partner and Church and Denomination Services Director at CapinCrouse LLP, a national full-service CPA and consulting firm devoted to serving churches and other nonprofits. Rob has more than 40 years of financial leadership experience in serving both for-profit and nonprofit entities, as well as more than eight years of direct ministry experience as Executive Pastor and CFO of large churches. He serves some of the largest churches in the United States.</p>
<p><b>C07 - Beyond Cash: Gifts from Noncash Assets</b></p> <p>Historically, the Church has been particularly good at receiving gifts from income but has been ineffective in cultivating gifts from noncash assets. This workshop is designed to help you develop a Legacy Impact Ministry that will help you receive current gifts that help now as well as deferred gifts that help later, which will fund your current ministry and create future financial sustainability.</p>	<p>Tim Deatruck</p> 	<p>For over 35 years, Tim Deatruck served as a Senior Pastor for churches in MO, TX, AR, and IA. He now brings his experience in generosity ministry, gift planning, and gifts from noncash assets to MortarStone, where he serves as Director of Giver Engagement. At MortarStone, Tim is responsible for thought leadership, content development, and working with churches and givers to think differently about their giving. Along with David Thoroughman, Tim has written <i>Legacy Impact Living</i>, a 30-day devotional, designed to disciple givers on their journey toward creating a lasting legacy.</p>

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Workshop	Speaker	Bio
<p><b>C08 - Hot Topics for Tax and Audit</b> <sup>CPE</sup>                      Hot Topics: Everything you want to know about forecasting and budgeting, tax compliance for churches, unrelated business income, stimulus programs, internal controls, best practices, how to prepare for an audit, and more! Come with any questions you may have, and we will answer.</p>	<p>Ellen Lucciola, CPA</p>  <p>John Hughes, CPA</p> 	<p>Ellen Lucciola brings over 30 years of experience to her role as National Director of Tax and Partner. She is a member of the American Institute of CPAs and the Georgia Society of CPAs. Ellen provides tax planning and compliance support, CFO services and general accounting, planning and consultation services to a range of individuals, businesses, and non-profit entities. Ellen leads the firm's non-profit consulting and tax compliance area to both private foundations and public charities.</p> <p>John Hughes is an Audit Manager at Ronald Blue &amp; Co. CPAs and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). John specializes in audit and accounting support for non-profits. He began his career in 2004 with KPMG, then spent six years as Controller and CFO of a large Christian camp in California's Sierra Nevada Mountains. John most recently served as CFO of a large privately held orthopedic medical practice in Ventura, CA.</p>
<p><b>C09 - Information Technology Part 1 +</b>                      Church administrators wear many hats, and one that is important and, often, puzzling is oversight of Information Technology. We will look at these foundational issues to help you make strategically wise IT decisions: Current Networking Technologies, Making Wise Hardware &amp; Software Purchases, IT Staffing, Outsourcing, System &amp; Data Security, and Disaster Recovery. If IT reports to you, this is for you. This is part 1. Part 2 covers different content.</p> <p>Participants in this workshop will complete 0.2 CEUs required for certification in The Church Network. All four are offered at this year's national meeting see A9, B9, C9, D9.</p>	<p>Jonathan Smith</p> 	<p>Jonathan Smith has been the director of technology for Faith Ministries since 2001. Jonathan oversees all technology at Faith's multiple campuses. His responsibilities include financial planning and budgeting, network administration, technology team management, IT support and audio/visual team oversight. In addition to his role at Faith, Jonathan is also the president of MBS, Inc. MBS provide technology services exclusively for churches and ministries. He is also an author and frequent conference speaker.</p>

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Workshop	Speaker	Bio
<p><b>C10 - Glad You Didn't Know</b></p> <p><b>Keynote Workshop</b></p> <p>This session will explore the roles you have in your life and the stories that have resulted in where you are today. We recognize the true purpose of struggles and difficulty often becomes apparent only in hindsight. Be challenged by the things you are glad you didn't know and how those have brought you to a place that is preparing you for the next challenge or blessing.</p>	<p>Vonna Laue</p> 	<p>Vonna Laue was raised in South Dakota and has lived across the U.S. From a town of 1,500 to visiting all 50 states, 24+ countries, and over 110 airports, she has had the opportunity to interact with people from all walks of life. Vonna serves on three boards currently, including as chair for the World Vision U.S board. She recently published the book <i>Glad I Didn't Know: Lessons Learned Through Life's Challenges and Unexpected Blessings</i>.</p>
<p><b>C11 - WebWise: Elevate your Web Presence</b></p> <p>Elevating your website's presence is key to reaching a broader audience. Katie Allred's workshop, WebWise, offers practical tips and innovative techniques to boost your site's effectiveness. Discover how to improve user experience, increase visibility through SEO (Search Engine Optimization), and leverage analytics for better engagement. Whether you're a novice or seasoned webmaster, this session will equip you with the tools to elevate your web presence significantly.</p>	<p>Katie Allred</p> 	<p>Katie Allred is a seasoned expert in digital marketing and community building, with a rich background in guiding church leaders through the digital landscape. As the founder and CEO of Church Communications, she has served over 33,000 church leaders, driving the digital evangelism movement forward. A skilled educator and mentor, Katie has also shaped the next generation of marketers as an Assistant Professor at the University of Mobile. Her workshops are a culmination of years of expertise, offering actionable insights and strategies.</p>
<p><b>C12 - Church Tax Issues (Repeat of A12) CPE</b></p> <p>New to the work of church administration or a veteran in the industry just needing a refresher course, this course will cover basic tax considerations for religious organizations. Discussions will include special payroll considerations for ministers, an intro to unrelated business income as well as review of other key areas of tax rules and regulations that tend to be overlooked or avoided by many church administrators or confusing to those new in their positions.</p>	<p>Elaine Sommerville</p> 	<p>Elaine L. Sommerville is licensed as a certified public accountant by the State of Texas. She is a regular speaker for the Texas Society of CPAs, The Church Network, the Houston Church Coop, and is an instructor for the AICPA. She serves as an editorial advisor for Christianity Today's Church Law and Tax Team and authored Church Compensation - From Strategic Plan to Compliance 2nd Edition (Christianity Today 2021.)</p>

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D Workshops - Thursday, July 11




Workshop	Speaker	Bio
D01 –Technology Strategy, Innovation, and Implementation	Wally Christopher	Wally Christopher
D02 - TBD <i> Holding for Diamond Sponsor</i>	TBD	TBD <i> Holding for Diamond Sponsor</i>
D03 - Designing a Shared Campus: Church and School When designing a church campus for shared use with a child development center or a school, there are certain architectural considerations to create a harmonious, safe, secure, and functional environment for all users. During the presentation, the following key points will be explored: zoning and separation of uses, traffic flow, noise control, shared spaces, building and licensing codes, security, and a cohesive architectural design that reflects the values of each entity.	<p>Jacquelyn Block</p> 	<p>Jacquelyn Block is a Principal and the Director of the Faith &amp; Community Practice at GFF Design. Jacquelyn has extensive experience working with churches, non-profits, and educational clients. She works closely with her clients in the initial programming and planning phase to identify key strategies to create facilities that support her client’s mission in an innovative and creative way. Her passion is not just about great buildings, but also about developing strong and trusting relationships.</p>
D04 - Trends in Religious Real Estate Matt and Carlin will give a presentation on trends in church real estate for both ministry and financial wins, what to do if you are approached by a developer, and how an organization can leverage real estate to fulfill their mission.	<p>Matt Messier</p>  <p>Carlin Beekman</p> 	<p>As one of the original founders of Foundry Commercial, <b>Matt Messier</b> leads the firm’s Mission Property Group, which has assisted more than 3,000 distinct clients in the disposition or acquisition of real estate in nearly every state of the U.S. He has assisted a multitude of denominations, extensions funds, lenders, and schools with the analysis, management, and brokerage of their real estate during his 30+ year career in this niche.</p> <p><b>Carlin Beekman</b> serves as an Associate for Foundry’s Brokerage Services team. She specializes in serving churches, schools, and non-profit entities. Carlin focuses on business development, property research, due diligence, and end-to-end coordination of transactions and strategic initiatives in the Florida market, while assisting our national partners with assignments across the country. Carlin is passionate about helping organizations leverage their real estate for Kingdom purposes and helping them develop creative strategies around property utilization.</p>



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<p><b>D05 - A Biblical Alternative to Traditional Healthcare</b>                      Are you ready to explore Healthcare from a biblical perspective? It is time to stop the insanity of traditional healthcare. Come explore an alternative that allows you to provide Platinum level healthcare at a modest cost. This legally compliant ACA (Affordable Care Act) plan is a proven win with churches across the US with no out-of-pocket for employees. Bring your HR &amp; CFO to this talk! What can you do with your 30-40% savings?</p>	<p>Rev. Dr. Timothy Chafins</p> 	<p>Rev. Dr. Timothy Chafins serves as the Director of Group Development for Christian Healthcare Ministries (CHM). He brings with him a wide variety of business and ministry experiences. He served as the Executive Director of Legacies of Success Community Development Corporation, pastored for 15 years, and served eight years as Adjunct Professor of Practical Theology at Ashland Theological Seminary. His leadership experience, along with serving on non-profit boards, he understands your challenges.</p>
<p><b>D06 - Generosity in the Church Reimagined</b>                      In this breakout, we will examine current giving trends both inside and outside the church. We will also share the best stewardship, giving, and generosity practices used in the churches that continue to thrive and fully fund their ministries even in difficult and challenging times. Ministry needs and opportunities are not declining but what got us here in resourcing needed ministries may not get us to where God may be calling your church to go!</p>	<p>Joel Mikell</p> 	<p>Joel Mikell is a Partner and Executive Vice President at Horizons Stewardship. Since 2000, he has served the local church through the ministry of stewardship and generosity. His passion for this ministry comes from seeing churches experience profound spiritual growth and individual lives transformed through stewardship journeys built around prayer and scripture. Joel is the author of Crafting a Theology of Stewardship and co-author of Church Giving Matters and The Ministry of Giving.</p>
<p><b>D07 - Financial Resilience for Churches</b> <sup>CPE</sup>                      We will be discussing the best financial practices we have seen from various size churches during these interesting economic times. We will focus on the importance of good financial practices, challenges churches facing in this economy, and how to align your mission to your finances. Specifics will talk about what are key financial ratios that churches should monitor, what churches should know about borrowing in this environment, and how to prepare for the future.</p>	<p>Mike Poirier</p> 	<p>Mike Poirier has been in banking for over 25 years and working specifically with ministries for over 15 years. He has a heart to serve ministries and helping them steward the resources God has given them. He has worked with hundreds of ministries nationwide on helping them purchase property, construction projects, refinancing of their loans, and helping them manage their cash resources.</p>

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<p><b>D08 - Stewarding your Facilities Beyond Sunday</b>                      Unlock the full potential of your church facilities beyond Sunday services. In this breakout session, discover innovative ways to utilize your church building throughout the week, transforming it into a vibrant hub of community engagement and ministry. From hosting weekday events and classes to offering support services and outreach programs, learn practical strategies to maximize the impact of your church space. Join us as we explore how to extend the reach of your congregation and amplify your mission beyond traditional worship gatherings.</p>	<p><b>Brad Ragle</b></p> 	<p><b>Brad Ragle</b> serves as the Pastor of Community Engagement at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, KY. Married to Angie for 10 years, they have two children, Braxton (8) and Brenna (5). Brad manages the ROC facilities at IBC, encompassing over 2000 fitness center memberships, including two basketball gyms, personal training, group fitness, a walking track, and an onsite cafe. His primary focus is crafting avenues within these spaces to connect the community to the Gospel.</p>
<p><b>D09 - Information Technology Part 2 + CPE</b>                      This is NOT a repeat of Part 1! Church administrators wear many hats, and one that is important and, often, puzzling is oversight of Information Technology. We will look at these foundational issues to help you make strategically wise IT decisions: Embracing the Cloud, M365/Google Apps, Mobile Device &amp; App Management, BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) and What's Hot &amp; What's Not! If IT reports to you, this is for you. This is part 2. Part 1 covers different content.</p> <p>Participants in this workshop will complete 0.2 CEUs required for certification in The Church Network. All four are offered at this year's national meeting see A9, B9, C9, D9.</p>	<p><b>Jonathan Smith</b></p> 	<p><b>Jonathan Smith</b> has been the director of technology for Faith Ministries since 2001. Jonathan oversees all technology at Faith's multiple campuses. His responsibilities include financial planning and budgeting, network administration, technology team management, IT support and audio/visual team oversight. In addition to his role at Faith, Jonathan is also the president of MBS, Inc. MBS provide technology services exclusively for churches and ministries. He is also an author and frequent conference speaker.</p>

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<p><b>D10 - The Right Look for your Next Building Project</b>                      The space you are about to build is more than a great design; its importance is developing and creating the right space, for the right cost, at the right time, to achieve the Right Look. A space that creates energy; a space that can be a place of respite; a place for connection. It needs to connect, speak, and facilitate your mission for more impact.</p>	<p><b>Bruce Woody</b></p> 	<p><b>Bruce Woody</b> is President and CEO of HH Architects, coordinating the firm's activities. He brings to the project 35 years of design experience in master planning and campus design for hundreds of clients and projects, and to quickly discern the client's needs, and transform them into conceptual designs for inspiring functional spaces. In addition to his role as President, he serves as Principal-in-Charge on multiple projects, developing creative solutions, keeping projects on budget and on time.</p>
<p><b>D11 - Mastering Google Ad Management</b>                      From setting up campaigns to optimizing ad performance, you'll learn the ins and outs of Google Ads and Management with practical, hands-on training. Gain valuable insights into audience targeting, how the Ad Grant works, and budget allocation strategies to maximize your ROI. Whether you're a beginner or seasoned marketer, this course will equip you with the tools and techniques needed to drive results and elevate your digital advertising game.</p>	<p><b>Kim Tarlton</b></p> 	<p>With 26 years as Creative Director at mega-churches, <b>Kim Tarlton</b> excels in communications, strategy, &amp; leadership. Leading church consulting at Church Communications Group, she crafts tailored marketing strategies, coordinates teams, &amp; drives successful campaigns, including a \$74 million fundraiser. Kim's collaborative approach energizes meetings, leaving participants with actionable ideas. Her advocacy for multichannel communication solidifies her reputation as a visionary leader in church marketing.</p>
<p><b>D12 - He Said She Said</b> <sup>CPE</sup>                      New trends, rulings and cases in the tax and legal world affecting religious tax-exempt organizations are discussed in this lively time spent with Frank &amp; Elaine Sommerville. Discover what is new and where the regulation of religious organizations is headed in the future.</p>	<p><b>Frank Sommerville, JD, CPA</b></p>  <p><b>Elaine Sommerville, CPA</b></p> 	<p><b>Frank Sommerville, JD, CPA</b> was a shareholder in the Texas law firm of Weycer, Kaplan, Pulaski &amp; Zuber, PC for 32 years. He now practices part-time through the Law Office of Frank Sommerville. He holds a license as a Certified Public Accountant and is also board certified in tax law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He has served nonprofit institutions of all sizes as a bookkeeper, accountant, auditor, tax advisor and advocate, litigator, and legal advisor. He regularly assists churches in preventing litigation.</p> <p><b>Elaine L. Sommerville</b> is licensed as a certified public accountant by the State of Texas. She is a regular speaker for the Texas Society of CPAs, The Church Network, the Houston Church Coop, and is an instructor for the AICPA. She serves as an editorial advisor for Christianity Today's Church Law and Tax Team and authored Church Compensation - From Strategic Plan to Compliance 2nd Edition (Christianity Today 2021.)</p>