

2022 Lutheran Educators Conference
Monday - Keynote Sessions 9:30 - 10:30 AM

101- The Attention Switch - Matt Miller

With advertising, social media, and constant notifications, it's harder than ever to maintain attention -- especially in the classroom. How can we keep student attention, and engage them in meaningful learning? It's all about the Attention Switch in our students' brains. In this session, you'll learn what keeps students connected, and you'll feel inspired to create learning that students will love. This speech features unexpected twists and lots of fun, looking at now-defunct social media platforms, Pinterest fails, YouTube trends, and more. You'll walk away with some practical, concrete steps and ideas for engaging students as well as big-picture ideas that can shape your instruction.

102- The Joy of Reading - Donalyn Miller

Avid adult readers find reading personally meaningful and enjoyable. While motivation and engagement remain important factors influencing young people's reading development, prioritizing joyful reading eludes many school communities. Why does reading enjoyment matter? What components foster reading joy? In this session, Donalyn Miller will frame the importance of reading joy and share practical ideas and resources that offer students positive reading experiences.

103- Called to Be! - Dr. Becky Peters

We are called to BE! God calls us to serve Him in a variety of areas. In this presentation we'll discuss the God who calls us, the dimensions of being one of the called, the where and when of being called, how we are called, and why we are called. Not all Lutheran teachers experience a call in the same way, yet the similarities of being called to Lutheran teaching unite us. Let's explore God's call to be!

104- Journey from Reluctant Reader to Author -Matt de la Pena

Matt will talk about his novels a little, but the focus of this presentation is the transformative nature of literature. "I didn't fall for books until I was in college — I got there on a basketball scholarship — but once I did, it changed my life." He'll also talk about the power of education, focusing on the barriers many working class boys and young men encounter in the acquisition of literacy.

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Monday - Breakout Sessions 10:45 - 11:45 AM

201- Learn Like a YouTuber: Engaging video activities - Matt Miller

Let's face it. Your students spend lots of time on YouTube, and they probably have their favorite YouTubers. Let's take popular styles of YouTube videos and turn them into learning experiences! In this session, you'll learn how you -- and your students! -- can make top 10 videos, unboxing videos, and more as a demonstration of learning. You'll see how to make learning feel like students' favorite video platforms like YouTube, Twitch, and TikTok -- and you'll see engagement soar!

202- Weeding Your Classroom Library - Donalyn Miller

Most teachers build their classroom library collections using whatever books they can find--donations, garage sales, books from home, and so on. Our students need books and we will scrounge to find them. However, you can have too many books! Better to build a smaller collection of books that engage students than keep overflowing shelves of books they don't want to read. It's time to weed your books. Weeding your classroom library can be overwhelming and time-consuming, though. Where to start? What books should you keep and what needs to go? In this session, Donalyn Miller will share guiding questions, checklists, and resources for weeding your classroom library.

203- How a church in decline began to thrive! - Pastor Nathan Huse

"The pandemic hit in full force resulting in a total lockdown! Even though it seemed as though the world had shut down overnight, we discovered that God wasn't affected by our stay-at-home orders."

In this session, you will hear the story of a church that entered the pandemic in decline and emerged having experienced a season of revitalization and greater missional impact.

204- Writing Books or Plagiarizing the World -Matt de la Pena

Matt will talk about his inspiration for each story and character and his fascination with the real world. "Sometimes, I explain to students, I'm not sure if I'm writing books or just plagiarizing the world." He talks about what that means and how small moments in his own life have grown into books. He also talks about how each of us owns an important story and how to access it.

205- Effective Servant Leadership - Dr. Kent Schlichtemeier

Dr. Kent Schlichtemeier will share highlights of the exciting work being done through Concordia's Servant Leadership Institute, including the inaugural Educator and High School Leadership Academies held on Concordia's campus. Each participant will then compare and contrast the difference between leadership and servant leadership and identify timeless servant leadership characteristics and strategies to help maximize their impact in today's schools.

206- You Don't Have to Scare Them to Prepare Them - Age-appropriate & Trauma-informed Approach to Active Shooter Preparedness - Adam Coughran

Targeted violence is on the rise across the country. From schools to grocery stores to parades, there seemingly isn't a place not affected by violence. Students are more aware of the world than ever before at every age, yet trying to talk to them, no less teach them, about how to stay safe in a violent incident without causing anxiety and trauma can be a difficult task. Learn how the H.E.R.O. Program has been used to teach kids, as well as teachers and parents, how to prevent and survive violent events in their schools and in their communities from preschool to high school.

207- Shook by the Book: Proclaiming the Word of God through Music! - Dean-o

Attendees will experience how the powerful relationship between Scripture and music produces long-lasting inspiration and life application.

208- Family Literacy: Building and Strengthening Home and School Reading Development Relationships - Jennie Lovie

Positive parent-teacher relationships enhance a student's literacy development. Students perform better academically, behaviorally, and emotionally when families are meaningfully involved. This workshop will provide engaging ideas and strategies that encourage these relationships and will empower teachers to provide families with an understanding of reading and literacy development.

209- Christian Identity at a Lutheran University: Why this matters at all Lutheran schools! - President Michael Thomas

The hiring and training of faculty and staff who are committed, practicing Christians (Lutherans by preference!) is central to the promulgation of Christian identity at all Lutheran schools, from grade 1 to grade 16+. However, it is not sufficient merely to hire Christian faculty

and staff; they must be oriented toward a Lutheran approach to educational excellence which stretches back more than 500 years. It is this rootedness in the Lutheran intellectual tradition that animates our distinctiveness in the education sector and makes our educational offerings so relevant in the 21st century!

210- 20/20 Vision - Seeing the Future of Lutheran Education Clearly - Dr. Darius "Bo" Chapman

When you hear of 20/20 vision, you think of seeing something perfectly. In life though, we tend to add walls, blinders, and so forth that prevent us from seeing the world around us clearly and thereby missing out on so much. This rings especially true in educational ministry where we have a tendency to miss out on a host of opportunities because we only see one way to teach, guide, and lead those placed in our midst. This presentation will challenge you to look at educational ministry in a new light as we learn from those who have gone before us, as well as, those who are coming behind.

211- Daring Leadership In Ministry - Sarah Harper

Whether you are leading a school, a department, a classroom, or your family, God calls us all to serve as leaders at different points in our life. The problem is we can get focused on the tasks at hand and don't always put the time in to develop and improve our leadership skills and the struggle can be real!

What is the solution? Becoming a courageous, vulnerable leader who communicates well, isn't afraid of having difficult conversations, practices their values and honors the values of the organization. Knowing how to circle back when they didn't show up the way they would have liked and to learn how to rise again when they fall, because we all fall.

Faith MS Team "Quote":

"The Dare to Lead experience fostered authentic and collaborative growth and encouraged our team to be appropriately vulnerable with one another. The connection our team maintains is strong - Dare to Lead has made us stronger."

212- Being Whole: A Christ Centered Mental Health Curriculum - Dr. Belinda Karge

Introducing students to the basic principles of mental health is important to support well being. Helping students to become cognizant of mental health, as something that can be enhanced with careful attention and intentionality is a primary objective. Attendees will view a few

sample lessons and gain instructional strategy ideas for biblical connections, topic discussions, and student activities all designed to promote the whole child through a Christ centered curriculum.

213- Circle of Exhortation - Cece Bosma

Circle of Exhortation: Build a healthy productive classroom community, using an exhortation or rather an encouragement circle to develop your students' self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. In this session, discover how to use a daily Circle of Exhortation that focuses on God's promises for us. Put God's love, peace, and forgiveness at the center of your classroom community. Students will develop an understanding and application of God's truth in their lives. Through intentional conversation and prayer, build a classroom community based on Biblical truths. We will use Bible passages to focus on devotional practice and build community and collaboration through recognizing feelings, developing healthy relationships, and turning to God in prayer. We are developing disciples who are confident in their spiritual, academic, and emotional intelligence. Are your students exhibiting disruptive classroom behavior? Are your students finding it difficult to get along? Build your caring classroom community with Circles of Exhortation. We are called to teach the next generation of salt and light influencers. It starts in your classroom today.

214- Teach Better and Work Less with Eduprotocols - Jon Corippo

Jon Corippo will be sharing the research, organization and plan behind the best way to teach better and work less. Eduprotocols are helping teachers of all grade levels to make massive academic gains and actually work less. Join Jon for a lively, hands-on session and leave with 4-6 templates you can use the next day! Eduprotocols work for nearly all grade levels and subjects.

215- Connections: An Autism Program in a Lutheran School - Caley Chapman & Jon Doyle

Providing ideas, inspiration, and a snapshot of the Connections Program model at Christ Lutheran School in Phoenix.

216- Dreaming of a financially secure retirement? You may be better prepared than you think. - Brian Page

For most people, workplace retirement plans provide the best odds of retirement success. In this entertaining session, we'll cover how your CRP pension plan and CRSP 403(b) are perfectly paired to help make your retirement dreams come true. We'll discuss why the pension is a good

fit for church workers and how it differs from a 403(b). Lastly, we'll talk about how Concordia Plans professionally manages your plans. You will learn, laugh and ultimately gain a deeper confidence in your retirement plans and gain some peace of mind about your financial future.

217- Technology in the Music Room: Assignments, Assessments, and Organization. Oh My! - Ben Hunter

There is plenty of evidence on the benefits of technology in the classroom, however, it is not always clear what works well in the music room. We will focus the session on the question many Music Teachers seem to ask; "Is it worth it to add this technology at the expense of direct music rehearsal or theory practice?" I will cover many different technologies and we will discuss direct applications for the music room. Technologies included will be Blooket, Flip (formerly known as FlipGrid), and more!

218- BE Still: Hearing and Listening to God's Word in Prayer - Rev. Dominic J. Rivkin

God has given us the gift of the Word, an open line of communication between the Spirit and our soul. Through the ancient Christian practices of solitude, stillness, and silence we are trained to hear and to listen to God's Word as it shapes our hearts, minds, actions, and relationships. This session is an introduction to prayer practices that comfort and calm our spirit while inspiring and invigorating our daily life.

219- Visual Faith Practices for Educators - Kim Gilman

Visual faith practices are a refreshing way to spend time in God's word, to slow down and allow the Holy Spirit to work in your heart and in your life. Attendees will use simple stationary tools to sample visual, kinesthetic, and tactile prayer practices. The techniques are simple, fun, and suitable for all ages. No "artistic" skills are needed. Use the practices and resources of Visual Faith to enrich your own prayer life and to deepen your students' spiritual formation. This is a hands-on session.

220- There's No Color Like My Color - Alicia Arzaga

In a world where we instinctively compare ourselves to others, we easily forget that God made us in His image. In 2018, author Alicia Arzaga recognized that children's bookshelves were limited on books about self-love and acceptance. She decided to embark on filling this void and wrote her first book to address these topics. Join Alicia as she shares her journey as a children's book author and the self-publishing process.