

## LEC 2022 Ed Camp Session Presenters

### **Rev. Billy Brath, LCEF VP Ministry Solutions, Orlando, FL**

Billy serves as LCEF VP Ministry Solutions. He finds joy working with schools, congregations, and leaders to creatively develop and produce ministries that effectively reach the culture today.

Billy was formerly a dancer/performer, has an undergrad in secular Religious Studies, and has extensive training in digital arts, experience design, and the Creative Problem-Solving process. After seminary, he served as a Pastor, urban missionary, and church planter/campus Pastor in Orlando, Florida.



### **Sara Bridgman, Red Hill Lutheran School, Tustin, CA**

Sara Bridgman is a Middle School STEM and 3D printing teacher at Red Hill Lutheran School. This is her 14th year at RHLS, and over the years has continued to develop a STEM program that incorporates 21st century learning like coding and 3D printing. Sara also values giving her students opportunities to gain life-skills such as using a variety of tools, circuits, and power tools to better their engineering and design ideas. Sara reminds her students often that they are capable and bright, and God has given each of them passions and skills to bless their lives and others.

### **Christina Carrillo, Salem Lutheran School, Orange, CA**

Christina Carrillo is currently serving as the resource specialist at Salem Lutheran School in Orange, CA. This is her 2nd year at Salem, 8th year as a resource specialist, and 14th year in LCMS ministry. Christina has also been a member of LARS (Lutheran Association of Resource Specialists) for the last eight school years.

### **Mark Cheney, Faith Lutheran Middle & Senior High School, Las Vegas, NV**

Mark Cheney is a Certified Mental Performance Consultant and the Director of Mental Performance at Faith Lutheran MS & HS in Las Vegas. In the last 25 years, he has coached 13 state championship teams and consulted with All-Conference, All-State, and All-American performers in a wide variety of sports.

**Jon Corippo, EduProtocols, Coarsegold, CA**

Eduprotocols co-creator Jon Corippo describes himself as a “formerly disgruntled student.” Jon graduated from college with no intention of teaching. Jon presents all over the world, helping teachers to “Teach Better Work Less”. Jon is a County Teacher of the Year, an NSBA 20 to Watch Educator, and was named a Top 100 Influencer by EdTech Digest.

**Adam Coughran, President, Safe Kids Inc., Orange, CA**

Adam Coughran is an industry leader in safety and security training for schools, businesses, and organizations. Adam is a veteran of Southern California law enforcement who utilized his expertise to found Safe Kids Inc., an organization dedicated to helping prevent and survive violence in schools. He’s been recognized as one of the “Go-To” experts for national media outlets, appearing on NBC’s Today Show, ABC’s Good Morning America, FOX’s Nancy Grace, HLN’s Michaela, CBS This Morning, and numerous live interviews in addition to being a contributing author to Newsweek Magazine.

**Dean-o, Bible REPLY Curriculum, San Clemente, CA**

Via 12 albums and 30 years of children's ministry, Dean-o is a nationally-recognized musical evangelist currently publishing Bible REPLAY Curriculum—an innovative Bible curriculum—Online Adventure—Musical Encounter for Christian Schools and Home Educators.

**Dr. Alan Freeman, Associate Director of LCMS School Ministry, St. Louis, MO**

Dr. Alan Freeman is the Associate Director of LCMS School Ministry. Prior to this position Alan served as Director of Schools (Superintendent) for the Missouri District – Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) consisting of 111 Lutheran schools. In his current role, Alan is responsible for serving all Lutheran schools throughout the United States and overseas through resources and programs as they prepare the next generation of Christian leaders. Alan is well versed in accreditation, professional development, legal, financial, and human resource concerns, administrator placement, and school sustainability and growth.

Alan and his wife, Kristin — who serves in Life Ministry for the LCMS — have two children, Holly and Samuel, both of whom graduated from Lutheran High School of St. Charles County in St. Peters, Mo., and both are current students at the University of Arkansas – Fayetteville.

**Kim Gilman, Faith Lutheran Middle & Senior High School, Las Vegas, NV**

Kim Gilman is an art educator at Faith Lutheran Middle and High School in Las Vegas, NV. With degrees in Studio Art and Education, she helps students find their creative voices and make personal connections through art. Her encounter with visual faith practices ten years ago transformed her approach to prayer. In addition to illustrating visual prayer assets for The Visual Faith Ministry, Kim practices a variety of historical arts and handicrafts including spinning, natural dyeing, and weaving. Her husband and adult children are her biggest supporters.

**Chris Hauser, Concordia University, Irvine, CA**

Dr. Christian Hauser is Associate Professor of Music at Concordia University Irvine. He completed his Ph.D. in music education from the University of North Texas received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee. He serves as coordinator of Music Education at Concordia University, oversees the NAFME (National Association of Music Education) chapter, and supervises student teachers. Before becoming a professor, Dr. Hauser taught music to children ranging from Pre-K through middle school. Along with his wife, he has written, directed, produced and recorded over 6 children's musicals.

**Ben Hunter, Red Hill Lutheran School, Tustin, CA**

An Alumnus of Concordia University of Irvine, Ben Hunter is in his 9th year of teaching Instrumental Music at Red Hill Lutheran School in Tustin, CA. Mr. Hunter currently teaches ukulele, beginning orchestral strings, middle school orchestra, beginning band, middle school concert band, and middle school drumline. Previously, he has also taught preschool through second grade classroom music, recorder classes, and handbells. Hunter also functions as RHLS' Department Lead for electives and other specialty classes. Each Spring, he has the opportunity of facilitating the local Southern California Christian Schools Honor Ensemble Concert based in Orange County.

In 2020, Mr. Hunter was awarded as a Top 10 Teacher in Orange County by Parenting OC Magazine. Ben lives in Lake Forest, Ca with his wife, Allison, his daughter, Lina, his son, Killian, and their pug, Jackson.

**Pastor Nathan Huse, Peace Lutheran Church, Tustin, CA**

Nathan serves as the pastor of Peace Lutheran Church in Tustin, CA. He is passionate about preaching, teaching, and equipping the saints for works of ministry. During the last two years at Peace Tustin, the congregation has grown from a handful of dedicated members to over 100 people engaged in worship and community every week. Pastor Nathan is married to Hannah and has three children, Micah, Tessa, and Jonah. He loves road cycling and hiking with his family in his free time.

**Lori Jaeger, Concordia University, Irvine, CA**

Lori Jaeger serves as the Director of Induction and as an Assistant Professor in the School of Education at Concordia University Irvine. She provides instruction within the teacher credential program, trains mentors, supervises student teachers, and prepares teacher candidates for the necessary documents that are required for receiving a California teaching credential. Lori has served in Lutheran education in the PSW for thirty-six years.

**Dan Kober, Faith Lutheran Middle & Senior High School, Las Vegas, NV**

Dan Kober has been teaching in the Computer Science Department at Faith Lutheran Middle School & High School for 12+ years. In that time he has taught everything from 6th computers to AP Computer Science A. He brings a passion for teaching Computer Science to all students.

**Jennie Lovie, CA Reading Specialist and Literacy Coach, Napa, CA**

Jennie Lovie has been an educator for over thirty years, half of which were spent teaching primary grades at St. John's Lutheran in Napa, CA. Seven years ago she completed her CA Reading Specialist and Literacy Coach credential, as well as a Masters of Science in Reading and Literacy. Her passion is to come alongside students and teachers in their reading growth and development. Jennie is married to a retired CalFire Battalion Chief, and have two grown daughters who also are educators.

**Matt Miller, Blogger/Author/Speaker, West Central Indiana**

Matt Miller taught in public schools for more than 10 years, teaching all levels of high school Spanish. In his career, he planned nearly 12,000 class lessons. He taught more than half a million instructional minutes. And he graded work for nearly 2,000 days of class. He's an award-winning author with five books to his name. Matt is a Google Certified Innovator, PBS LearningMedia Digital Innovator and two-time Bammy! Awards nominee. His Ditch That Textbook blog encourages tens of thousands of educators in more than 100 countries to use technology and creative ideas in teaching. Reach him at [matt@DitchThatTextbook.com](mailto:matt@DitchThatTextbook.com) or on Twitter at [@jmattmiller](https://twitter.com/jmattmiller).

**Deana Occhipinti, Red Hill Lutheran School, Tustin, CA**

Ms. Occhipinti has been teaching Faith-based Theatre Arts for over 20 years. She is the current Full-time Theatre Arts Teacher for Red Hill Lutheran School and has previously taught for the Crystal Cathedral's Rancho Capistrano Campus and the Catholic Diocese of San Bernardino. In addition to teaching at RHLS, she is currently a faculty Director/Choreographer at Irvine Valley College, a Master Teacher of Acting and Dance for Pacific Symphony's Arts-X-Press Program and the resident Director/Choreographer for Trinity United Presbyterian Church.

**Anwar Rodriguez, Red Hill Lutheran School, Tustin, CA**

With a passion for faith and science, Anwar Rodriguez creates an environment for students to learn science through our faith in God. Not only does he spark curiosity in the classroom but around his community. With over twelve years of experience in teaching STEM, there is no doubt he can motivate students to learn. Anwar's passion for teaching radiates beyond the classroom. Whether he is teaching Kindergarten or 6th grade, there is always a smile on his face.

**Gary Rybold, ProjectCom, Mission Viejo, CA**

Dr. Gary Rybold debated for four years of high school and four years of college, where he was a state and national champion. After graduation, he worked for various corporations. For the last three decades he has taught and coached public speaking and debate at Irvine Valley College, where his teams won 18 national championships. He has been recognized for his coaching/teaching excellence at league, state, national and international levels.

In 2003, he was selected as the first debate coach under a US Department of State grant to train high school students in the People's Republic of China. In 2007-08, under a Fulbright-Hayes grant, he researched critical thinking of Chinese university students debating in English. He has trained thousands of Chinese students and instructors in communication and critical thinking. He published a textbook on debate and co-authored a textbook on public speaking for the Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press (Beijing). He received a PhD in Applied Linguistics from Beijing Foreign Studies University in 2011.

He retired in fall 2022 and shifted from secular teaching to training Christian educators and homeschoolers with free communication curriculum available at [www.projectcom.org](http://www.projectcom.org).

He is a member of Saddleback Church.

**Mary Wolfinbarger, Abiding Savior Lutheran School, Lake Forest, CA**

Mary Wolfinbarger serves as the new Early Childhood Consultant for the PSD. She also serves at Abiding Savior Lutheran Church as the Preschool Director and the PSD on the Early Childhood Cabinet and Accreditation Commission. Mary is a Director Mentor for the state of California. After having children of her own, Mary discovered her love for early childhood education and became a teacher and director of preschool and school-age care in the PSD. Before teaching, she was a Business Analyst. Mary earned her Bachelor's Degree from CSUSB in Business Administration and is currently completing her Master's Degree in Theology at CUI. Mary and her husband, Mark, have been married for 26 years and have three sons and one granddaughter. Mary is passionate about our Lutheran schools and is looking forward to serving you in this new capacity.