

**Announcing a Workshop:
"Connecting Families To Christ
Through Early Childhood Ministry"**



Your preschool or childcare center...

Is it a bridge to life with God for a non-churched family?

Leading a little child to the lap of Jesus is wonderful. But are you leaving it **entirely up to the child to win the family?**

Come and help us explore effective ways to bring children **and families** into the family of faith. Register for the workshop.

**"Connecting Families To Christ Through Early Childhood Ministry."
September 29, 2010... at Holy Emmanuel Lutheran Church
201 E 104th Street, Bloomington, MN.**

Sponsored by the **Minnesota South District**
in cooperation with the **Open Arms Institute.**

Highlights include:

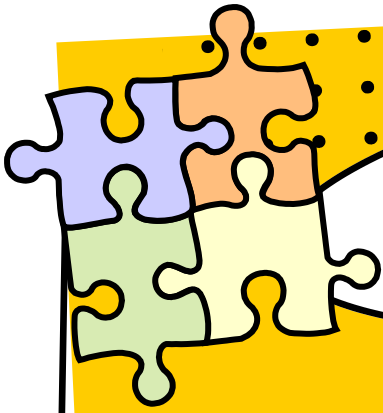
- Building bridges between families and church
- Helping your staff develop a family friendly connection
- Strategies to develop a missional mindset
- Take away a missional activities plan

Who should Attend?

Bring a ministry team: Preschool or Childcare Director, Pastor, DCE, and Lay leaders involved in Children's Ministry.

See the [Registration Form](#) for information about lodging and cost.

Come and enjoy a day of "connecting" with others. Learn more about how to help your children and families "connect" with Jesus, and live life with Him!



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Schedule Description

8:30 **Registration & Coffee/Donuts, etc.**

9:00 **Welcome & Opening Devotion—David Roth**

9:15 **Ministry Opportunities in Your Existing Programs—Rev. Phil Kuehnert**
Rev. Kuehnert will share potential ministry opportunities including "success stories" and "missed opportunities" from his experiences at Zion Lutheran Church, Fairbanks, Alaska.

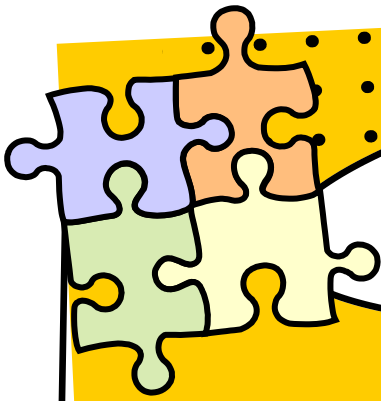
9:45 **Leading the Lost to Life with God—Martin Barlau**
It appears that some congregations are having better results than others at leading unchurched or unaffiliated families to life with God. This topic will invite participants to help explore the differences, and then to discover some possible factors that make for greater success. We'll examine the gulf that exists between an unchurched family and the family of faith, and how to bridge that gulf to shepherd people across.

10:45 **Break**

11:00 **Workshop Breakouts (Please choose one)**

▶ **Congregational Bridges—Rev. Mike Iannelli**

How can the church make in-roads in sharing the love of Christ in a way that will be welcomed and received by families that may be disillusioned or hurt from prior "church" experiences? Rev. Iannelli will share his experiences at Shepherd of the Grove Lutheran Church, Maple Grove.



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Schedule Description (continued)

▶ **Shaping Your Schools Culture—Jan Stockman & Christine Eid**

The sculptor takes the clay and molds it into his art piece. As leaders in early childhood programs, we too are molding our programs to model Christ-like care and learning. In this session, we will look at what defines your culture as we look at environment, communication and rituals. Come and celebrate how God makes your ministry unique as we share ideas, strategies and activities to shape your school's culture.

▶ **Connecting Children to Christ—Dr. Barb Schoenbeck**

Dr. Barb Schoenbeck will focus on ways for Early Childhood Directors to motivate and empower staff members to integrate and connect children to Jesus throughout the entire day and program. Specific ideas will be presented and a sharing time will be included.

Noon

Lunch

12:45

Workshop Breakouts (repeat of morning sessions—choose one)

1:45

Break

2:00

Panel Discussion—Rev. Mark & Joann Shockey, Mike Zimmer & David Roth
Questions will be raised and answers provided to move toward a missional mindset as you connect families with Jesus. Real teams will share stories and struggles they have experienced in ministry.

2:30

Where Do We Go From Here? - Mike Zimmer, Traci Kohls, & David Roth
Each team will leave the workshop with a two year outreach plan developed by an outreach educator.

2:55

Closing Thoughts/Prayer—David Roth