

A RETREAT FOR CHILDREN'S LEADERS

SPARK 2023



LORD, MAKE ME
AN INSTRUMENT

“ WE ARE ONE TEAM FROM DIFFERENT CITIES AND DIFFERENT DISTRICTS BUT ALL CALLED TO SERVE GOD, CHILDREN, AND THEIR FAMILIES. ”



We are so glad that you are at SPARK 2023! Wow...this has been a year of much change in the life of our family and of Equip to Engage! It seems that God often asks his people to step without knowing what they are stepping on, and then we get the details. This has been true for us each step of the journey. Candice and I are excited about these new days for Equip to Engage and we are happy you are part of it. We know you will enjoy being with and getting to know Beth, the new SPARK Director, and her husband, Jeff! You can learn a little about Beth below.

Our prayer for you this weekend is that you will find time to rest and relax and that you go home recharged and ready to do what God has called you to do. We truly do believe what the statement says above...we are one team from different cities and on different district, but all called to serve God, children, and their families! Our hope is that this weekend you are reminded of this, that you reconnect with friends, and that you make some new ones as we sow into one another!

Serving together,
Trey and Candice Brooks



Beth Bidle-Rush has almost three decades of experience ministering and discipling children and their families. Beth is passionate about sharing God's Word with children of all ages (0-109). She is an Ordained Elder, a graduate of Olivet Nazarene University and Nazarene Theological Seminary. She is working on a doctorate at Trevecca Nazarene University. Currently, she serves as the North/East Texas Children's Ministries District Director and as SPARK Director. Her career as a Children's Pastor extends from Michigan to Texas (and several states in between), directing Children's Camps, speaking at Children's Camps, and leading workshops. Beth is excited about her new position with Equip to Engage to encourage, equip, and support the local children's leadership. In her free moments, Beth enjoys spending time with her husband, Jeff, laughing and telling stories, playing board games, and is an ice cream connoisseur.

RETREAT SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

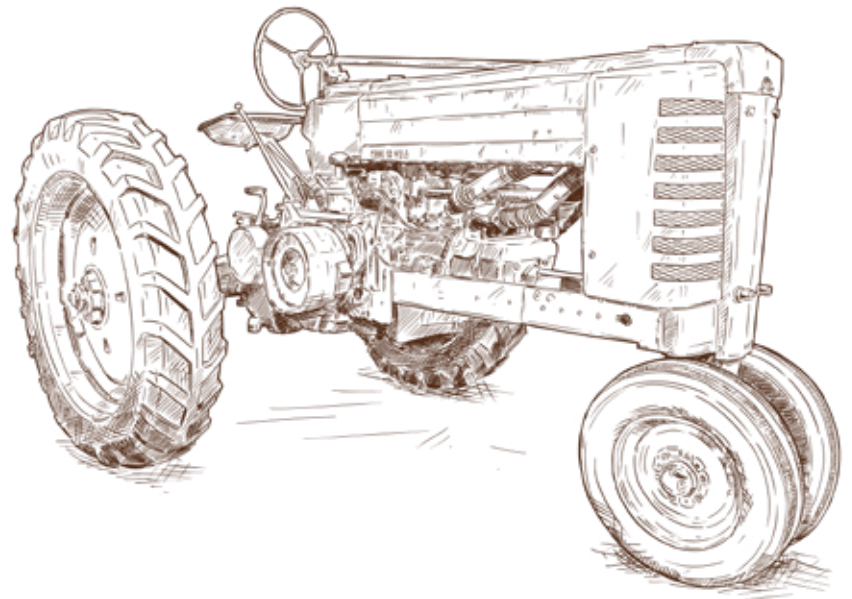
- 3:00** - Onsite Registration
- 6:00** - Dinner (Dining Hall)
- 7:00** - Down on the Farm Party (Dining Hall)
- 9:00** - Fellowship

FRIDAY

- 8:00** - Breakfast (Dining Hall)
- 9:00** - Worship Session 1 (Dining Hall)
- 10:30** - Breakout Session 1
- Option 1:** Finding Purpose Through Adversity
// Laurel Pridgen
- Option 2:** Body Movement for Storytelling
// Rae-Lee Brower-Herbert
- 12:00** - Lunch (Dining Hall)
- 1:00** - Breakout Session 2
- Beyond the Golden Rule
// Rose Brower-Young
- 2:30** - Breakout Session 3
- Option 1:** Heart for Community
// Jen Blake
- Option 2:** When Kids Grow up
// Nathan Snow
- 4:00** - Free Time
- 6:00** - Dinner (Dining Hall)
- 7:00** - Team Building (Dining Hall)
- 9:00** - Fellowship

SATURDAY

- 8:00** - Breakfast (Dining Hall)
- 8:45** - Breakout Session 4
Child-Focused Local Ministry
// John Watton
- 10:15** - Breakout Session 5
- Option 1:** Envisioning the Future
// Beth Bidle Rush
- Option 2:** Fold Your Hands, Close Your Eyes,
Bow Your Heads - Not! // Darlene Hyatt
- 11:30** - Worship Session 2 (Dining Hall)
- 12:30** - Lunch (Dining Room)
- 1:00** - See you next year!!



PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

**LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE
WHERE THERE IS HATRED, LET ME SOW LOVE;
WHERE THERE IS INJURY, PARDON;
WHERE THERE IS DOUBT, FAITH;
WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR, HOPE;
WHERE THERE IS DARKNESS, LIGHT;
AND WHERE THERE IS SADNESS, JOY.**

**O DIVINE MASTER,
GRANT THAT I MAY NOT SO MUCH SEEK
TO BE CONSOLED AS TO CONSOLE;
TO BE UNDERSTOOD, AS TO UNDERSTAND;
TO BE LOVED, AS TO LOVE;
FOR IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE,
IT IS IN PARDONING THAT WE ARE PARDONED,
AND IT IS IN DYING THAT WE ARE BORN
TO ETERNAL LIFE.
AMEN.**



**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
@EQUIPTOENGAGE**

November 6-8, 2023

**Mustang Church of the
Nazarene**

Mustang, OK

**More Information, visit
equiptoengage.org/story**

Tell THE Story Training

Yancy Ministries
YancyMinistries.com

Save \$100
**ON UNLIMITED KIDS
MEDIA DOWNLOADS**
from **|twelve:thirty|KIDS**

Plus every purchase using
Promo Code **ETE** supports **EQUIP TO
ENGAGE**

The advertisement features a collage of colorful children's media covers. Visible titles include 'KIDS CAMP', 'PIZZA PARTY Come Grab a Slice!', 'WHO WILL WIN MONSTER TRUCK EDITION', 'SUMMER', 'BACK TO SCHOOL', 'SEE YOU AT THE P...', 'PROMOTION SUNDAY', 'NINE CHURCH', and 'PALM SUNDAY'.

FINDING PURPOSE THROUGH ADVERSITY

Laurel Pridgen - Dining Hall

Come and hear how to find meaning when faced with a medical diagnosis and engage with others during challenging times to reveal God's heart.

BODY MOVEMENT AND STORYTELLING

Rae-Lee Brower-Herbert - The Pavilion

Come explore body awareness and how we can use movement to communicate stories and worship

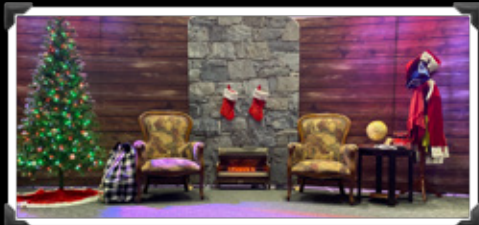
BEYOND THE GOLDEN RULE: REACHING FOR PLATINUM

Rose Brower-Young - Dining Hall

Church involves people. It's unpredictable, messy, and rewarding. Pastor Rose helps us learn about ourselves, why we love or get annoyed with people and how to advance God's Kingdom



THE JOURNEY FROM Saint TO Santa



Available
December 1 - 23, 2023

A journey of the historical Saint Nicholas as he transforms through centuries of legend and folklore into today's Santa Claus. An interactive event for all ages that shares about Saint Nicholas' dedication to God, generosity, and love for others, and that we can be inspired to do the same.

Equip to Engage can help...

Gingerbread BASH

Celebrating the birth
of baby Jesus

...you host a Gingerbread Bash





Second SPARK Day

On the **Second Day** of camp...wear your favorite **SPARK** shirt!
Take a picture and tag it on social media as #seconddaySPARKday!



NazaZoom

January, March, September, November

Coaching for Children's Leaders

January, October

Equipping Conversation

February, April, August, October

District Children's Director

January, March, May, September, November

NazaZoom, Equipping Conversations, & District Children's Director - FREE



Equip to Engage Regional Connectors

Southeast - Shaun Stevenson
AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN

North Central - Mary Sims
IA, IL, KS, MN, MO, ND, NE, SD, WI

South Central - Diane Solberg
AR, LA, OK, TX

Northeast - Nathan McCarthy
CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA, VT, WV

West - TBD
AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY

North - Sheri Lynne Martin
AB, BC, MB, NB, NS, NL, ON, PE, QC, SK, YT

East Central - Evan Offutt Boesiger
IN, MI, OH

Nazarene Kidmin Meet-Ups

Hosted by Equip to Engage



D6 Conference

April 10-12, 2023 | Orlando, FL
d6conference.com

Child Discipleship Forum

September 21-22, 2023 | Nashville, TN
childdiscipleshipforum.com

The KidzMatter Conference

September 12-14, 2023 | Nashville, TN
thekidzmatterconference.com

Children's Pastors Conference

January 9-11, 2024 | Orlando, FL
childrenspastorsconference.com

HEART FOR COMMUNITY

Jen Blake - Dining Hall

Does your budget you've been given keep you from dreaming and vision casting? Do you find yourself trying to figure out how to make it possible to get your kids to camp or on a mission trip? Fundraising doesn't have to be a chore. Come and learn simple and crazy fun ways to raise \$ to make your dreams a reality!

WHEN KIDS GROW UP

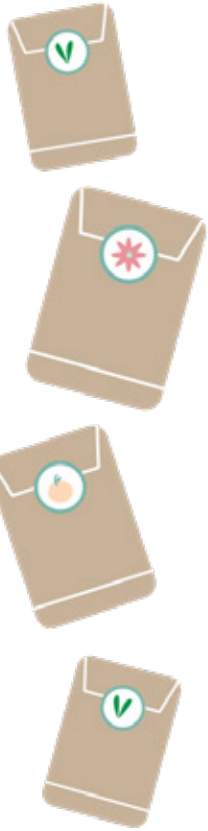
Nathan Snow - The Pavilion

Hear insight about interconnection between you and children's ministry, and smoother transitions. PLUS findings from summer on ways to support youth ministry across Canada West.

CHILD-FOCUSED LOCAL MINISTRY

John Watton - Dining Hall

Pastor John will lead the group in a time of brainstorming about why we need to embrace children as central and how to accomplish this.





GA Kids

An intentional ministry for kids and families...includes age-specific services for early childhood and elementary, an intergenerational service, and engaging opportunities for the entire family to connect with the Global Nazarene Family.

June 9-11, 2023 in Indianapolis, IN

Register your family at ga2023.nazarene.org

**There are many volunteer opportunities available.
For more information, email trey@equiptoengage.org.**



ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

Beth Bidle Rush - Dining Hall

Before we know it the children in our churches will be the leaders tomorrow. What can the Body of Christ do to help the children and their families establish a firm foundation in Christ to weather a changing culture? Together we will explore how to make an investment in the future we may never see but have a lasting impact for generations to come.

FOLD YOUR HANDS, CLOSE YOUR EYES, BOW YOUR HEADS - NOT!

Darlene Hyatt - The Pavilion

Experience how to engage kids and adults in dynamic and diverse prayer to discover a closer relationship with God.

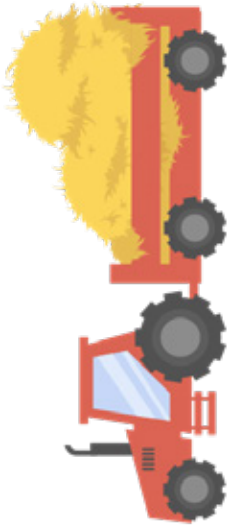


KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Myrna Dipert

How fare will your SPARK go?

Lessons from the life of Timothy



BREAKOUT SPEAKERS



**JEN
BLAKE**



**LAUREL
PRIDGEN**



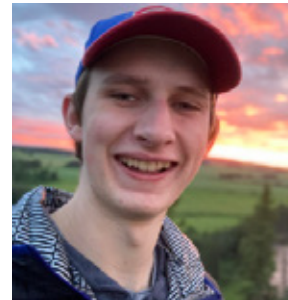
**RAE-LEE
BROWER-YOUNG**



**BETH
BIDLE RUSH**



**ROSE
BROWER-YOUNG**



**NATHAN
SNOW**



**DARLENE
HYATT**



**JOHN
WATTON**

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

Arizona
Toni Henry
Canada West
Sheri Lynne Martin
Eastern Michigan
Linda Loudermilk
Florida
Missy Segota
Georgia
Mike Smith
Indianapolis
Jill Farmer
Intermountain
Connie Blastock
Louisiana
David Craig
Michigan
Kelly Downs
MidSouth
Shaun Stevenson
North Arkansas
Elizabeth Karlowski
North/East Texas
Beth Bidle Rush
Northeast Indiana
Cortney Coombs
Northwest
Cindy Reynolds
Northwest Indiana
Shane Guldi
Northwest Ohio
Britni Dooley
Northwest Oklahoma
Dorothy Whipp
Oregon Pacific
Becca Notbohm
Pittsburg
Tonya Hockenberry
Sacramento
Cathy Scharf
South Texas
Tracey Gosnell
Southern Florida
Robin Campbell
Southwest Oklahoma
Kym Drabenstot
West Texas
Jennifer Sommers

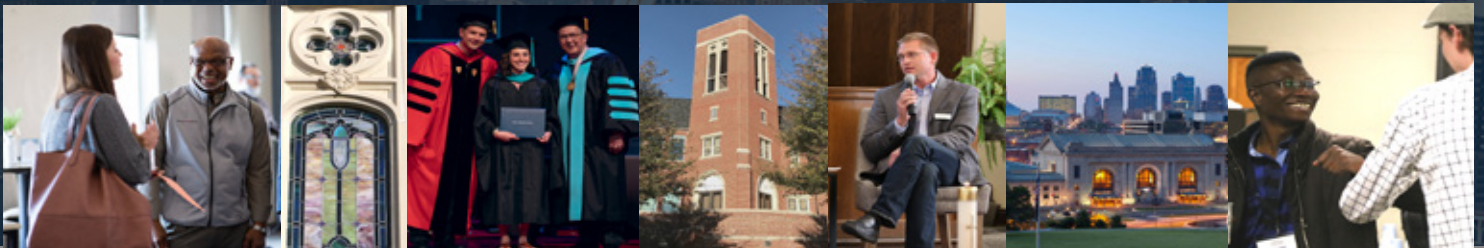
DISTRICT PARTNERS

Arizona
Canada West
Eastern Michigan
Florida
Georgia
Indianapolis
Intermountain
Louisiana
Michigan
MidSouth
North Arkansas
North/East Texas
Northeast Indiana
Northwest
Northwest Indiana
Northwest Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon Pacific
Pittsburg
Sacramento
South Texas
Southern Florida
Southwest Oklahoma
West Texas

SPECIAL THANKS

1230Kids
Adrian Camp
Arrowhead Camp
Bible Story Maps
Easy Risers
D6 Family
David C. Cook
Doorpost Songs
FourFiveSix
Go! Curriculum
GoodKind
High Voltage Kids Ministry
Kellogg Springs Camp
Kidmin Creatives
Lake Placid Camp
Lexham Press
Pinerock Camp
Scripture Union
Shiloh Park Retreat Center
StorySticks
Yancy Ministries
Wesley Seminary

NAZARENE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



MASTERS AND DOCTORAL PROGRAMS
DESIGNED TO DEEPEN FAITH AND
EQUIP LEADERS FOR MINISTRY

Explore Your Call

NTS.EDU



@NAZSEMINARY

VIDEO CONFERENCE



ONLINE



HYBRID

