

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

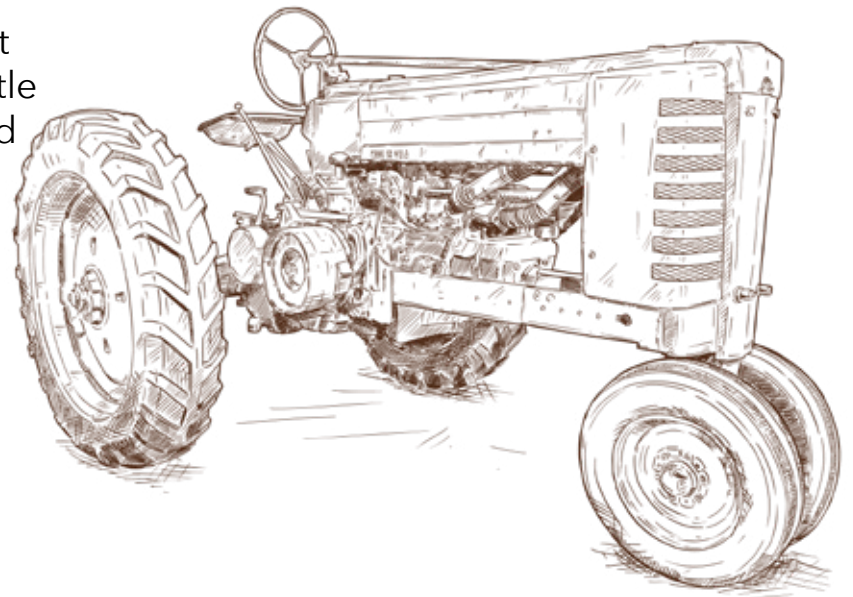
- 3:00** - Onsite Registration
- 6:00** - Dinner (Dining Hall)
- 7:00** - Down on the Farm Party (Great Room)
- 9:00** - Fellowship

FRIDAY

- 8:00** - Breakfast (Dining Hall)
- 9:00** - Worship Session 1 (Great Room)
- 10:30** - Breakout Session 1
From Anxiety to Courage
// Kari Taylor
- 12:00** - Lunch (Dining Hall)
- 1:00** - Breakout Session 2
Option 1: Creating a Culture of Servant Leadership with Kids // Mara Castle
Option 2: Engaging Kids in God's Word // Missy Sipes
- 2:30** - Breakout Session 3
Option 1: One Day Ministry // Beth Bidle Rush
Option 2: Church Unity in Community // Janae Elling
- 4:00** - Free Time
- 6:00** - Dinner (Dining Hall)
- 7:00** - Team Building (Great Room)
- 9:00** - Fellowship

SATURDAY

- 8:00** - Breakfast (Dining Hall)
- 8:45** - Breakout Session 4
Option 1: Building a Leadership // Andy Monnin
Option 2: The Power of an Hour // Paula Monnin
- 10:00** - Breakout Session 5
Collaboration and Peer Group
// Andy Monnin
- 11:30** - Worship Session 2 (Great Room)
- 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**

FROM ANXIETY TO COURAGE

Kari Taylor - Great Room

Anxiety is a common word we hear from struggling students and families. It can feel like it is taking over their everyday lives and functioning. Yet, we believe that God has given us everything we need for life and godliness! In developmentally appropriate terms and strategies, we will explore the way God has designed our bodies to de-escalate, our brains and emotions to process anxiety/fear in healthy ways, and how He has equipped us to encounter Him when we live courageously! Attendees will receive practical tools they can use to equip the students and families they serve as they seek to make disciples who live with courage!

CULTIVATING A CULTURE OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Mara Castle - Great Room

Are there places in your church where kids can serve and lead? Would you describe the kids in your church as spectators or participants? In this breakout session we will discuss service as a crucial part of a child developing their faith, discovering their passions, and recognizing their place in the Body of Christ as they move into adulthood. We will collaborate to identify places that children can serve and lead in our church's ministries.

ENGAGING KIDS IN GOD'S WORD

Missy Sipes - Albea Hall

Whether you teach a small group or a large group of children, it's important that you engage kids in God's word. The time you have is short! So make the most of it and help your kids fall in love with Jesus.



ONE DAY MINISTRY: MAKING A LASTING IMPACT ON A CHILD'S LIFE

Beth Bidle Rush - Great Room

Investing in the future begins today. How do we as the Body of Christ form lasting foundations of faith in the life of a child? What could the church do to best use the time we have? Together, we will examine and discuss options to lay a framework for shaping the future.

CHURCH UNITY IN COMMUNITY

Janae Ellis - Albea Hall

We are better for the Kingdom when we work together, being the hands and feet of Jesus in our community. Let's join together with other churches with one goal: to love God, love people, and make disciples!

BUILDING A LEADERSHIP PIPELINE FOR YOUR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

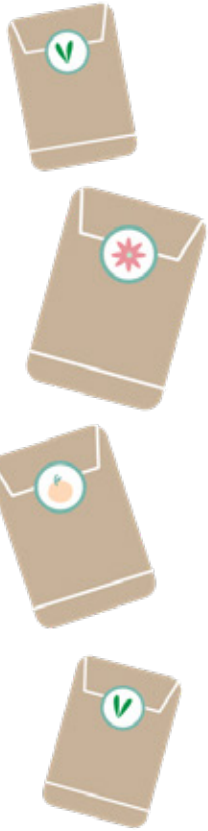
Andy Monnin - Great Room

We often hear we need to develop leaders but ever wonder how you actually do that in a consistent way? During this session, you'll be given the tools and methods to consistently raise up and develop leaders for your teams and your church that will transform your ministry and allow you to make an impact on way more kids and adults.

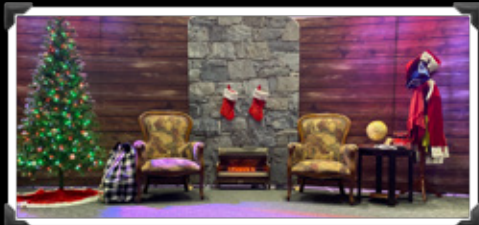
THE POWER OF AN HOUR

Paula Monnin - Albea Hall

We all know the importance of family ministry and seeing kids come to know Jesus as their Savior, but what about the kids who don't make that decision? What impact are you having on the kids who are disinterested in church? The answer to that is... more than you know!



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



COLLABORATION AND PEER GROUP

Andy Monnin - Great Room

Leaders will brainstorm and collaborate ideas given from the breakout sessions on ideas of implementation at their local churches.



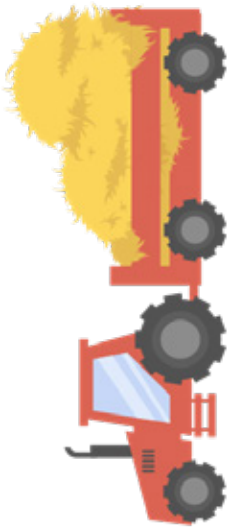
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Rev. Andy Monnin

Andy was elected to the role of District Superintendent in June 2023. His focus is resourcing and inspiring local churches to build up leaders who will plant, revitalize and create all kinds of churches to reach all kinds of people.

Andy's greatest passion is helping people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ, developing them as leaders to make an impact in our world for Jesus, and then sending them out to start new churches that reach unchurched people. His greatest joys are the changed lives he's gotten to be part of and the leaders he's been able to develop and send out.

Andy & his wife Paula have three children: Kristen (Ryne) Davis, Daniel & Nathan (Kelsey), and three grandchildren, Olivia, Carter, and Luke.



November 6-8, 2023

**Mustang Church of the
Nazarene**

Mustang, OK

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

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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'.

BREAKOUT SPEAKERS



MARA CASTLE
Children's Director
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BETH BIDLE RUSH
SPARK Director
Equip to Engage
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JANAE ELLING
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MISSY SIPES
Children's Pastor
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ANDY MONNIN
District Superintendent
Northwest Ohio Nazarene
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KARI TAYLOR
Licensed Therapist
Cornerstone of Hope
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PAULA MONNIN
Pastor
Valley Piqua Nazarene
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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

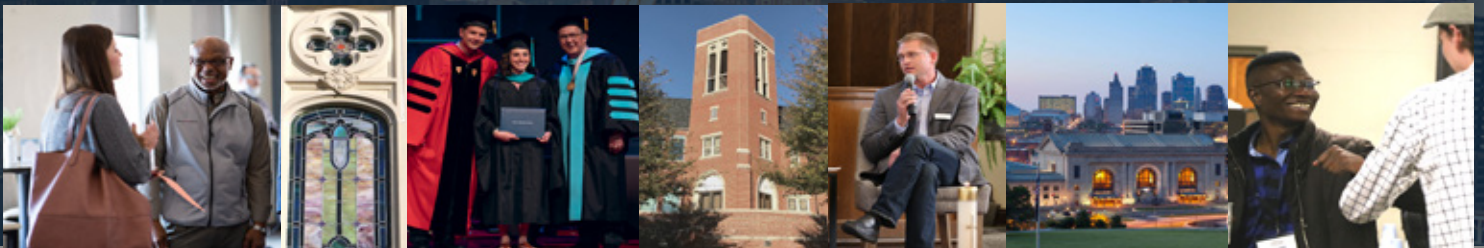
DISTRICT PARTNERS

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

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HYBRID

