

# 2016 NEXT Conference - Workshops

**Small Church, Big Impact** [Amanda Belanger & Kim Stevens, Stewiacke Baptist Church] - Raise up the kids and youth in your church to be servants in your community! Tips on leading your church to serve your community through weekly outreach programs and special events. Helpful, practical ideas on how to make an impact with limited volunteers and a small church budget.

**Minecraft & Theology** [Jon Dixon, New Minas Baptist Church] - The way that children learn and the culture they are a part of is constantly changing. Minecraft [and other things in our children's culture] affect how the Church must present sound theology. Come gain some ideas on how to present the gospel in ways that today's children can understand.

**Circle of Friends: An Inclusive Special Needs Ministry** [Alicia Flanagan, Moncton Wesleyan Church] - Learn how Circle of Friends Started and how they are currently running their programs. You will walk away feeling empowered with practical tips on starting your own special needs ministry.

**Creating a Buzz** [Liz Hoyt, Moncton Wesleyan Church] - Ways to create excitement around your ministry for people to catch the vision and dream.

**Sports Ministry: Reaching Kids Where They're At** [Kate Kristoffel, Atlantic Sports Academy] - Sport is a god in our society, even in our own congregations. 86% of our communities are on the sports field several times a week. How can the church make disciples in the wide world of sports?

**Intergenerational Ministries: Why and How?** [Jody Linkletter, Immanuel Baptist Church] - This workshop will explore the concept of the popular phrase "Intergenerational Ministry" and why it is important not only for our ministries but for Christian formation and discipleship. We will explore together, moving from theory to practice, ways in which we can begin to develop intergenerational ministry.

**Clarifying the Win for Partnering with Parents** [Geoff MacLean, The Point Church] - When the church successfully partners with parents it breaks down into 3 areas: maximizing their Sunday, resourcing them for the next 6 days, and helping them reach their community. Learn not only how to clarify the win but hear ways to make these happen.

**Why Leading is More About You than the Kids** [Carol Jones, Immanuel Baptist Church] - Do you scramble at the last minute just reading your lesson on the way to church; or, panic on Saturday night wondering what you are going to say in your lesson on Sunday morning? Does it feel too often more of a chore than a blessing to be a kids small group leader? Then this session is for you! This session is about shifting the focus to what really matters...and it's not the kids! Learn some basic ways to improve your preparation and take leading kids to a whole new level.

**Dealing with Discipline** [Jennifer McWilliams, The Journey Church] - Not sure what to do when the kids just won't sit still? When they won't stop talking? When they seem to do everything to drive you NUTS? Come and brainstorm some practical ways to keep peace in Sunday School!

**Refugees: Reviving Maritime Churches** [Joe Page, RiverCross Church] - With the influx of refugees to our area, the Church has opportunity to remember why it exists, and show its community and its newcomers the love of Christ in real and meaningful ways.

**Connecting to Your Community: everyone loves a Family Event** [Kristen Reddy, Hillside Baptist Church] - Children's ministry events should be the biggest events on your church calendar. In order to minister to children and to disciple them, we need to reach them first. Let's talk about some great ways to draw families into your church and how to get them to keep coming back. Everyone loves events they can attend as a family

# 2016 NEXT Conference - Workshops

and it's our goal to create meaningful and transitional experiences throughout the year that our kids want to invite others to.

**ACTS (Active, Creative Teaching & Service)** [Kim Robb, The Journey Church] - Are you looking to add more fun to your children's ministry program? Children are a vital component of any church, so keeping them active through games and creative activities will help them engage with biblical messages and find enjoyment through service. Come get renewed, energized, and equipped to be more effective leaders in children's ministry!

**Building Bridges: Passing Children into the Land of Youth Ministry** [Dale Stairs, Crandall University] - All too often the children we invest so much in, stop attending when they finish children's ministry. After a quick look at current research, this session will look at some practical ways we can prepare our children, and adjust our ministries, in ways that will help make this transition smoother.

**Baptism Prep** [Rhea van Dommelen, The Journey Church] - Baptism is a huge step of faith in the life of a Christian. How do you know if a child is ready? What questions should you ask? What are the "essentials" that they know? What role do parents play? Come and share in discussion on preparing kids for this important faith step.