

March Forth for Children 2012

Hit a **HOME RUN** with your
Children and Families!

March 2-3, 2012

**Cokesbury Center
Knoxville, TN**

**Sponsored by the Holston Conference
Children's Ministry Team
www.holstonkids.org**



Love the **LORD** your God
with all your heart and with all your soul
and with all your strength.
These commandments that I give you today
are to be on your hearts.

IMPRESS them on your children.
Talk about them when you sit at home
and when you walk along the road,
when you lie down and when you get up.
Deuteronomy 6:5-7

Schedule

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2012

- 2:00 p.m. Registration & Displays
- 3:00 p.m. Gathering
- 3:30 p.m. Workshops 1 & 2
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner/Banquet
- 7:15 p.m. Worship with Mark Burrows
- 7:45 p.m. Keynote Address – Bishop James Swanson

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2012

- 8:00 a.m. Late Registration
- 8:30 a.m. Gathering / Welcome
- 9:00 a.m. Children's Worship Workshop
- 10:45 a.m. Workshop 3
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch & Group Workshop
- 1:00 p.m. Workshop 4

You may print additional copies of the brochure
and registration form at: www.holstonkids.com.

Lodging

Hotel accommodations and costs are separate and must be made by each individual participant. When making reservations, inquire about the hotel's tax deduction policy. The following hotel has a block of rooms reserved for March Forth for Children participants:

Jameson Inn-Knoxville

209 Market Place Blvd. • 865/531-7444

Identify as Holston Conference "March Forth Event"

Conference Information

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Professionals and volunteers who work with children ages 0-12, parents, grandparents, children's coordinators, VBS directors and workers, Sunday School teachers, weekday ministries leaders and workers, child care workers, district leaders, lay leaders, clergy, and others who advocate on behalf of children.

EXHIBITS:

Children's organizations will have information on display. To inquire about reserving space for an exhibit, contact Lindsey Piercy at 865/659-3540 or e-mail HolstonMarchForth@gmail.com.

REGISTRATION/CANCELLATION POLICY:

Return the registration form and registration fee by **Friday, Feb. 17**. Full payment must accompany the registration form. All registration fees are non-refundable. You may substitute another person if you must cancel. No phone registrations, please. Walk-In Registration is on a space available basis and will NOT include meals.

To pay by credit card, you must register on-line:

<http://marchforth.holston.org>

HOLSTON CONFERENCE

Attn: March Forth for Children
P. O. Box 850 • Alcoa, TN 37701-0850
GayeKing@holston.org • 865/690-4080

Directions to Cokesbury UMC

9919 Kingston Pike • Knoxville, TN 37922
From I-40, use Exit 376-B (Pellissippi Parkway)
toward Maryville. Then exit on 1A
(Kingston Pike East). Cokesbury Center is
approximately 2/10 of a mile on the left.

Conference Leadership



Mark Burrows

Director of Children's Ministries
First UMC, Fort Worth, TX

Mark Burrows is a published writer, composer, and clinician. Several of his works, such as his *Gettin' Down with Mama Goose Series*, *The Body Electric*, and *Outside the Lines* top many best-seller lists. Known to little listeners as "Mister Mark," he tours the nation performing concerts for children and families. His four children's albums have won a total of nine national awards. His songs, including the highly requested *Bruce Weiner*, *Zoo Dentist*, can be heard on Sirius XM Radio. One song, *Amazon Rock*, was recently recorded by Nick Records for a Dora the Explorer album.

He leads the weekly Children's Message at his church, as well as a monthly worship service for children and families called Children First. *Wow Time*, a collection of 52 of his Children's Messages, is in its second printing with Abingdon Press.

Join Us!

Let's be real. We all have a dozen excuses of why we are "too busy" to be involved with church. Church can sometimes get in the way of home and family time.

But it doesn't have to be that way. Church and family should go hand in hand. **March Forth for Children 2012** will offer more than 20 workshop opportunities to help you hit a home run with children and families in your congregation and community.

Home

Where is my home?
Is it the house where I live,
The garden where I sit in summer,
The country where I roam,
Or the church where I worship?
The place I call home
Is where my heart is at rest.
And my heart is most at rest
When it turns to God in prayer.
So wherever I pray is home.

~ From *Celtic Parables: Stories, Poems, and Prayers*
by Robert van de Weyer

Friday Night Celebration Dinner

with
**Bishop James E.
Swanson, Sr.**

Resident Bishop
Holston Annual Conference
Pre-Registration Required



Bring with You

- An Offering for Change for Children
- Peanut butter, tuna, or canned soup for Manna House Ministry at Cokesbury UMC
- Used United Methodist Curriculum to swap

Children's Worship Workshop with Mark Burrows

We will all join together for a creative and lively worship experience with Mark Burrows, author and Children's Leader extraordinaire! Mark will walk us through a typical children's worship service at his church and offer dozens of ideas to help you energize your children's ministry.

Group Workshop during Saturday Lunch

Connect with Parents through Social Media

Rev. Ronnie Collins, FUMC Hillsville

Social Media is a key way many of your parents and kids communicate these days. If you aren't using social media, you might be missing important opportunities! This workshop will help you discover effective ways to inform, update, and involve your families; share your children's ministry vision and build interest in your programs and activities; and learn the do's and don'ts of Social Media.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Lindsey Piercy: 865/659-3540
or e-mail HolstonMarchForth@gmail.com;
or contact Gaye King:
865/690-4080 or toll-free 866/690-4080
or e-mail gayeking@holston.org.

Friday Workshops

FRIDAY – 3:30 P.M. WORKSHOP 1

Keeping These Words ... in our Heart

Mary Alice Gran, GBOD Contract Staff

Experience a variety of creative activities to help children and parents remember Deut. 6:4-7. This workshop will use craft activities, sign language, music, and games to help people of all ages remember this verse and keep it close to their hearts.

Created By God ... Tweens, Faith, and Human Sexuality

Jill Ingram, Director of Children's Ministries

Do you remember when your parents talked to you about the birds and the bees? Did they even talk to you at all? Created By God is a biblically based and abstinence-promoting human sexuality class for 5th and 6th graders and their parents. Learn how to strengthen the church and family partnership and open up lines of communication between parents and children for years to come! Join us today to discover how the church can help families provide essential information in an atmosphere of respect for God's gifts, our bodies.

Threadbare Puppet Theater

with Mark Burrows

Puppetry is a fun and effective way to connect with kids, but the cost of puppets can be prohibitive. In this hands-on workshop, you'll learn from master puppeteer Mark Burrows how to create unique and unusual puppets using everyday materials.

Experience Camp at Home and Church

Don Washburn, Camp Lookout Director

One of the great aspects of camp is the community that is built through the fun of fellowship, recreation, and sharing new experiences. Similar experiences can be created in the home and church setting. Join us as we explore new ways to experience the joy of camp in local settings as we answer our call to love God and our neighbor.

Milestone Ministries

Elizabeth Rudesill, Director of Christian Education

Eben-ezer [N] רִצְעֵבַּיָּה (stone of help) Meaning: stone of help - *<http://www.biblestudytools.com>. "Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Jeshanah. He named it Ebenezer, explaining, 'The LORD helped us to this very point.'" 1 SAMUEL 7:12 CEB

How does your church help children recognize that God has "helped them to this point"? Join the conversation about creating meaningful milestone occasions in your congregation to help children connect to their Creator Redeemer as they grow physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

FRIDAY – 5:00 P.M. WORKSHOP 2

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 = A Spiritual Experience

Mary Alice Gran, GBOD Contract Staff

Spend time praying, meditating, and reflecting with this important scripture passage. Take some quiet time away from the hectic pace of our lives and allow God to speak to us through this scripture. Group worship, prayer centers, and a quiet space will be part of this experience.

Connecting Church & Home

Gina McClain, Children's Ministry Director

Why is it so critical for your ministry to connect with parents? And how do you make it happen? This workshop will focus on key methods you can incorporate into your ministry to help you capture the attention of your parents so the conversation can continue beyond Sunday morning.

Making a Joyful Noise with Kids

with Mark Burrows

Learn creative and entertaining ways to engage your kids in music through games, ice breakers, and fun activities that will help them express how happy they feel because Jesus loves them.

Special Needs Children & Behavior Issues

Lindsay Bedford, Primary (K-2) Autism teacher

This workshop will include an overview of the "ABC's" of behavior issues. By using the ABC (Antecedent, Behavior, Consequence) strategy to analyze behaviors, we can learn the reason for behaviors and more effectively handle them. Lindsay will provide a toolkit of strategies that can be used in a Sunday school class or ministry setting. The strategies learned in this workshop will be helpful for working with those with or without a disability.

Children's Sabbath – Hope for Children

Gaye King, Assoc. Director of Connectional Ministries

The children are among the most vulnerable in our society today. The Bible challenges each one of us to be advocates for these children. It's easy to be advocates for our own children ... but who will offer hope to the least of these? Learn how to inspire advocacy and begin making a transforming difference in the lives of children through Children's Sabbath.



Saturday Workshops

SATURDAY – 10:45 A.M. WORKSHOP 3

Preventing and Responding to Bullying

John Erdman, Camp Wesley Woods Director

In the United States 20% of children report they have been bullied. In this session learn how to create safe, bully-free spaces for children. Explore the common types of bullying and why it occurs. Gain an understanding of the cycle of bullying and how parents, teachers, and youth workers can help break that cycle. Take away strategies to help prevent bullying and to respond effectively if bullying happens.

Fun with Preschoolers

Elizabeth Rudesill, Director of Christian Education

Ministry to preschoolers can be loud, messy, and chaotic and often does not go exactly as planned ... but it may be the most important thing you do all day! This workshop will explore the importance of preschool ministry and offer ways to help parents in their roles of leading these little ones into a lifetime relationship with Jesus. Come learn together and share what works for you. (This workshop will be directed to Sunday/Wednesday style preschool ministry – not a Monday-Friday weekday preschool, although the thoughts and ideas can be used that way.)

Families Reaching Out

Karen Throp, Director of Children's Ministries

Mission and service are key elements in encouraging faith formation in children and families. This workshop will help you empower your families to claim the name "missionary" by reaching out into the world and sharing the grace we are given. Families will learn about what is a mission, why we do missions, when we can do missions, and how to deliver the grace. Families will also learn to incorporate prayer and promotion into their mission project.

Credo Confirmation for Small Groups

Gaye King, Assoc. Director of Connectional Ministries

Confirmation in the United Methodist Church is a rite through which young Christians affirm the faith of the church, renew the vows of baptism, and commit to lives of discipleship – but how can a small congregation with limited resources offer Credo to groups of 6 or fewer? Learn ways to utilize this new resource in your congregation.

Gender & Learning

Missy Wright, Director of Discipleship

Do you tell a little boy his art work is beautiful? Is the precious princess going to build with tools? Your gender determines many facets of how you learn. In this workshop you will discover your own learning style and explore ways to combine information about gender, Multiple Intelligences, and Stages of Faith Development to enrich and enhance your teaching experience.

SATURDAY – 1:00 P.M. WORKSHOP 4

Little Women in the Word

with Liesl Wright and LuJean Buckner

Looking for something special for girls in your church? This workshop will help you develop a Bible study for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade girls in your congregation. It will describe the six-week curriculum in terms of preparation for the study, organizing the study and implementing the study in your church.

Cyber Safety for Families

Clayton Hensley, Freelance Writer

Do you know who is on your child's Facebook Friends list? What you don't know could be putting them in danger. Bullies, predators, and thieves are traveling the same information superhighway you are using. Most adults know how to handle these threats, but children's lack of knowledge in handling these challenges can lead to disastrous consequences. This workshop will introduce you to the cyber threats we are facing and give you the tools to help your children deal with them safely.

Children's Ministry 101

Holly Roe, Director of Children's Ministries

Learn how to get started in Children's Ministry or how to revive the ministry you've been doing for years! Newest resources, ideas, and suggestions to help as you try to grow your Children's Ministry and your ministry team. Go through a year in the life of one ministry and learn how to implement these ideas yourself!

VBS Re-Mixed

Diane Baylor, Children's Ministry Director

Lori Sluder, Executive Secretary to the Bishop

Join us as we take the elements of Vacation Bible School and fashion them into two alternative looks – traditional (but fun) and family VBS. Learn all the how-to's including Biblical support, concerns to be addressed, planning, implementation, and enjoying the fun!

Family Faith Talk

Jaymie Derden, Director of Christian Education

Home is the number one place where faith is nurtured, and parents are primary when it comes to influencing kids' faith. Do you pale at the thought of family devotions? Worry that you aren't qualified to teach the Bible to your kids? Wonder how to fit one more thing into your busy lives? Join us for a FUN, hands-on, make-and-take workshop featuring lots of creative ideas for implementing "faith talk" into your everyday family routine. You'll leave with several completed projects that will make family faith talk easy and enjoyable for everyone!