



# SPECIAL EDUCATION summit

**JUNE 30, 2023**

for **EDUCATORS**

for **PARENTS**

8:00-8:25	Check-In, Visit Information Tables, Coffee	
8:30-9:15	<b>COMBINED SESSION</b> <b>Pastor Scott Hooks, MBS &amp; Tim Missey, MMin; MCEd.</b> "Fostering an Exceptional Vision"	
9:20-10:05	<b>Sara Reid, MCEd.</b> "Help! Where Do We Start? Addressing the Needs of All Learners, All Levels"	<b>Renee Gamble, BSEd.</b> "For I Know the Plans I Have for You"
10:05-10:20	BREAK	
10:20-11:05	<b>Krista Smith, MCEd.</b> "Exploring the Benefits of a Resource Center"	<b>Dr. Robin Correll, R.N; D.N.P.</b> "When God Has a Different Plan"
11:10-11:55	<b>Lauren Hickman, BBSEd; A.C.</b> "Setting Up Your Classroom for Success"	<b>Stacie Young, MEd.</b> "Going from Special to Spiritual"
12:00-12:55	<b>Lunch with Brief Testimony from Isaac Young, MMin.</b> "Embrace the Difference"	
1:00-1:45	<b>Charity Campbell, A.A.S; P.T.A.</b> "Move and Soothe"	<b>Lauren Hickman, BBSEd; A.C.</b> "Finding a Place for EVERYONE"
1:50-2:35	<b>Ann Byars, MEd; EdS.</b> "Creating Professional Learning that Matters"	<b>Krista Smith, MCEd.</b> "Every Child Can Succeed"
2:35-2:50	BREAK	
2:55-4:00	<b>Dr. Lisa Joyner, Ed.D.</b> "Making Room at the Table"	<b>Meagan Hildebran, MCEd.</b> Parent Discussion Forum Q + A



# Special Education Summit

## sessions

### for **EDUCATORS**

#### **“Fostering an Exceptional Vision”**

**8:30-9:15- Pastor Scott Hooks, MBS & Tim Missey, MMin; MCEd.**

The session will focus on the need for an expanded vision in the church and Christian school to include those who are often overlooked and underserved, exceptional children, adults, and their families. Practical suggestions will be given to encourage those who have the burden for those with exceptional needs share it with their church leaders and the congregation at large.

#### **“Help! Where Do We Start? Addressing the Needs of All Learners, All Levels”**

**9:20-10:05- Sara Reid, MCEd.**

Many families of children with learning, intellectual, and physical disabilities within or even beyond the scope of the general education classroom feel that a Christian education is just past their reach. Learn how God has allowed us to begin a functioning intervention program, establish a self-contained Exceptional Children’s classroom, and provide enrichment for high achieving students at Tabernacle Christian School. I will discuss our journey of ministering to children and families of varying needs within our community and provide practical resources for getting started, along with tips for informing parents about scholarships that may be available in your state.

#### **“Exploring the Benefits of a Resource Center”**

**10:20-11:05- Krista Smith, MCEd.**

All Christian schools have a great opportunity to help struggling learners succeed. This workshop will examine the purpose of a resource center and outline practical steps and tools to help students and families.

#### **“Setting Up Your Classroom for Success”**

**11:10-11:55- Lauren Hickman, BBSEd; A.C.**

This will be a fun packed session where we will discuss how to structure a classroom to reduce undesirable behavior. Your Amazon wish list will be full as we chat about useful tools that are used in the EC classroom. We will discuss the use of visual schedules and our favorite type of learning center!

## **Lunch with Brief Testimony "Embrace the Difference"**

**12:00-12:55- Isaac Young, MMin.**

### **"Move & Soothe"**

**1:00-1:45- Charity Campbell, A.A.S; P.T.A.**

We will be examining how to "MOVE." What are the benefits of physical movements that are, not limited to but can include, brain breaks, structured physical exercise for inside recess (i.e. yoga, dynamic movements, etc.), and Otis (adapted yoga and Pilates with flexibility and strengthening movements)? Next, we will "SOOTHE!" Learn techniques and tips for how to self-regulate emotional outbursts and fluctuations and maintain emotional stability through proactive measures. The goal is correction through self-discovery techniques that improve reactionary behavior to correction.

### **"Creating Professional Learning that Matters"**

**1:50-2:35- Ann Byars, MEd; EdS.**

With so many demands on a Christian school administrator's time, it is sometimes difficult to plan meaningful and effective professional learning for teachers. In this session, we will discuss ways to identify teachers' professional development needs and strategies for planning and conducting meaningful learning sessions for them. We will also address ways to help teachers collect student data and use it to differentiate instruction in their general education classrooms. Don't worry, teachers---This is for you too! Identify your professional learning needs and gain resources to share with fellow teachers and leadership.

### **"Making Room at the Table"**

**2:55-4:00- Dr. Lisa Joyner, Ed. D.**

Ever since the beginning of the Christian school movement, Christian schools have been offering a "feast" to their students every day in their classrooms: quality Christian curriculum, safe and nurturing environments, and teachers who integrate a biblical worldview into their lessons. However, most children with special needs have not been invited to this feast. The challenge for Christian schools today is to follow the biblical command to invite the exceptional students to what we are offering to the rest of our students. The blessing we will be to them won't be as great as the blessing they will be to us and the entire student body.



# Special Education Summit

## sessions

### for **PARENTS**

#### **“Fostering an Exceptional Vision”**

**8:30-9:15- Pastor Scott Hooks, MBS & Tim Missey, MMin; MCEd.**

The session will focus on the need for an expanded vision in the church and Christian school to include those who are often overlooked and underserved, exceptional children, adults, and their families. Practical suggestions will be given to encourage those who have the burden for those with exceptional needs share it with their church leaders and the congregation at large.

#### **“For I Know the Plans I Have for You”**

**9:20-10:05- Renee Gamble, BSEd.**

As parents, we must learn to embrace the unique plan that the Lord has for each of our children. Through His Word we find guidance and hope as we strive to raise our children for His glory. Understanding this allows us to enjoy the beautiful gift He has given to us.

- I. Embracing the plan that the Lord has for our child
- II. Leaning on His grace for guidance and hope
- III. Enjoying the beautiful gift He has given you

#### **“When God Has a Different Plan”**

**10:20-11:05- Dr. Robin Correll, R.N; D.N.P.**

In this session we will discuss:

1. Accepting God's plan for your child
2. Learning to celebrate the victories
3. Parenting tools for helping your child succeed
4. Navigating the System—Community Resources, Medical Specialties, Funding Resources
5. What happens when your child is no longer school age?
6. Finding joy in the journey of each stage of life

### **"Going from Special to Spiritual"**

**11:10-11:55- Stacie Young, MEd.**

This session will discuss using God's spiritual gifts to educate and parent individuals with special needs: Communicating effectively with teachers, therapists, family members, etc. and understanding, as well as realizing the need for help, especially from God.

For far too long, we have emphasized the special needs without looking at the spiritual needs. When putting a child's spiritual needs first, we are meeting many of the special needs they require. God is all powerful! As a public school special education educator, I am limited at how I can meet their spiritual needs in the classroom. Parents and those involved in Christian education have the opportunity to meet both needs!

### **Lunch with Brief Testimony "Embrace the Difference"**

**12:00-12:55- Isaac Young, MMin.**

### **"Finding a Place for EVERYONE"**

**1:00-1:45- Lauren Hickman, BBSEd; A.C.**

The Bible makes it clear that we are to love and care for all members of the body of Christ. It is our responsibility as the church to love and care and support those with special needs and their families. This can be an overwhelming as we try to figure out where to start. Come along and join this session for simple, practical ways to start ministering to families with special needs in your local church.

### **"Every Child Can Succeed"**

**1:50-2:35- Krista Smith, MCEd.**

This session will help parents identify and appreciate the differences gifted and learning-disabled children bring to the home. Gain tools and practical techniques to guide your child toward success!

### **Parent Discussion Forum & Q + A**

**2:55-4:00- Meagan Hildebran, MCEd.**

Many parents of special needs children say that isolation is one of the main issues they personally face. Parents often have questions and concerns but have difficulty finding other parents with similar experiences to ask. Join a panel of special needs parents and educators as they answer your burning questions and discuss topics such as relationships, siblings, life transitions, advocacy, community, ministry, and more!



# Special Education Summit

## speakers

### **Ann Byars, MEd; EdS.**

Ann Byars and her husband, Brad, live in Clinton, North Carolina, and attend New Life Baptist Church. They have a wonderful blended family consisting of two daughters, two sons, their spouses, and nine grandchildren. She knew when she was a small child that she wanted to be a teacher. The Lord blessed her with wonderful educational opportunities, both as a student and later as an educator. She received a Bachelors of Arts in English, French, and Secondary Education from Agnes Scott College and Masters and Specialist degrees in Educational Leadership from the University of Georgia. For 34 years, she worked in the Forsyth County Schools in Georgia, first as a high school teacher and later as a school and then district administrator. After her first retirement, she moved to Hickory, North Carolina, and served as a curriculum director and then principal at Tabernacle Christian School. She later relocated to Clinton, North Carolina, where she is currently assisting with administrative duties at New Life Christian Academy.

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### **Charity Campbell, A.A.S; P.T.A.**

Charity Campbell is a licensed physical therapist assistant and a paraprofessional in the Hope Allen Center for Exceptional Children at Tabernacle Christian School. Her history in physical therapy includes working both in the public school system in Washington County, Tennessee and in an outpatient setting, predominantly with children with special needs. She is married to Bob and they share two children, Olivia and Sawyer, who also attend elementary school at TCS.

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### **Dr. Robin Correll, R.N; D.N.P.**

Dr. Robin Correll is a parent of a child with intellectual and developmental disabilities, an intellectual and developmental disabilities nurse, and a Pastor's wife. Dr. Correll has worked in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities for over 25 years. Dr. Correll currently serves as the Chief Nursing Officer for RHA Health Services, LLC and provides oversight of nursing and clinical services across multiple states. Dr. Correll received a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a Doctor of Nursing Practice from Samford University.

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### **Renee Gamble, BSEd.**

Renee Gamble is married to Pastor David Gamble, and they are currently serving at the Shenandoah Baptist Church in Cleveland, Tennessee. The Lord has allowed them to serve together in ministry for over 30 years. They have three grown children. Mrs. Gamble received her education degree from Pensacola Christian College and ministers to families of all ages through music, teaching, and encouragement.

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### **Lauren Hickman, BBSEd; A.C.**

Lauren Hickman received her Bachelors of Biblical Studies in Elementary Education from Crown College of the Bible. She completed her Autism Certification through Liberty University and continues her graduate work there. The Lord burdened her heart to minister to families of those with special needs many years ago. He has allowed her dreams to come true by allowing her teaching opportunities all over the world. She is thrilled to serve as the lead teacher of the Hope Allen Center for Exceptional Children and the Director of Wonderfully Made, a ministry of Tabernacle Baptist Church, serving those with special needs. Ms. Hickman says, "My faith has been strengthened as I see the Lord lead and provide as we do our best to love and care for these precious families."

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### **Meagan Hildebran, MCEd.**

Meagan Hildebran was born and raised here in Hickory, North Carolina, and graduated from Tabernacle Christian School. After earning a bachelor's degree in History Education, she returned to TCS and recently completed her sixteenth year of teaching. She and her husband, Josh, have been married for thirteen years and have been blessed with four children. The Hildebran's seven-year-old son was diagnosed with SPD and autism a few years ago, and their two-year-old son is currently undergoing evaluations for autism. Mrs. Hildebran says, "Although raising children with special needs is the most difficult thing we have ever experienced, the Lord has given more love, grace, and joy through this journey than we ever could have imagined!"

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### **Pastor Scott Hooks, MBS**

Scott Hooks has served as a Pastor a Tabernacle Baptist Church and President of Tabernacle Christian School in Hickory, North Carolina since 2008. Before coming to Tabernacle, he was privileged to serve on the staff of the Temple Baptist Church and Crown College in Powell, Tennessee. Pastor Hooks earned a Masters of Biblical Studies degree from The Crown College and is nearing the completion of a Masters of Divinity degree. He completed his undergraduate degree in Business Administration from the University of Tennessee. He and his wife, Melanie, have five children and four grandchildren.

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**Dr. Lisa Joyner, Ed. D.**

**EDUCATOR KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Lisa Joyner is the Chair of the Christian Education Department of Veritas Baptist College (formerly Virginia Baptist College). In 2017, she began teaching education courses for the college and helped develop both a graduate and an undergraduate degree program in special education to help Christian schools expand their ministries to include children with special needs. Previously, Mrs. Joyner taught middle and high school English and history in a Christian school for several years until the Lord burdened her heart for children with special needs. After receiving her graduate degree in cross-categorical special education in 2006, she and her family moved from Virginia to North Carolina where she developed the Specialized Learning Center as a part of a Christian school in Raleigh. This thriving ministry continues to meet the needs of Christian families whose children with special needs would otherwise be left in the public schools. Dr. Joyner completed her Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis on special education. Her dissertation topic was "The Predictors of Self-Efficacy of Christian School Teachers for Inclusion of Students with Special Needs." She has been married to Oscar Joyner for 35 years. They have two grown children, Brennen (and his wife Claire) and Kayla.

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**Tim Missey, MMin; MCEd.**

Tim Missey is the Principal of Tabernacle Christian School in Hickory, North Carolina. He received his Bachelors of Animal Science from The University of Arkansas and Masters of Ministry and Masters of Christian Education from Crown College of the Bible. Mr. Missey served as teacher and then assistant principal for many years at Temple Baptist Academy of Powell, Tennessee. His professional experience also includes extensive employee management, training, and administration. He, his wife Jessica, and their three beautiful daughters relocated to Hickory in 2020, where they are actively involved in the ministries of Tabernacle Baptist Church. Mr. Missey provides key support to teachers and staff engaged in all grade levels at Tabernacle Christian School and in the newly established Hope Allen Center for Exceptional Children.

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**Sara Reid, MCEd.**

Sara Reid serves as the Supervisor for the Hope Allen Center for Exceptional Children and the Elementary Division of Tabernacle Christian School in Hickory, North Carolina. She is also newly privileged to serve as an adjunct professor of education at Veritas Baptist College. Ms. Reid received her Bachelors of Biblical Studies in Elementary Education and her Masters of Christian Education, with a concentration in Educational Administration, from Crown College of the Bible in Powell, Tennessee. She has taught and served in the ministries of Tabernacle Baptist Church and Christian School for the last twelve years and is thankful to have had the opportunity to be a part of the inaugural years of special education provision and instruction at TCS. Ms. Reid is thrilled to share all that the Lord is doing in the hearts and lives of families being served in Hickory!

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### **Krista Smith, MCEd.**

Mrs. Krista Smith directs the specialized learning center of Shenandoah Baptist Academy, where she supports the needs of learners ranging from preschool to adulthood. She is an adjunct professor of special education at both Pensacola Christian College and Veritas Baptist College. Having grown up in the home of Christian school teachers, she recognized the Lord's direction into Christian education from an early age. After she earned her bachelors degree and began teaching in 2004, she saw the need for additional training to address the needs of each of her students. She completed professional certification in Christian counseling and eventually served as a school counselor for a student body of over three hundred students. In 2020, she received her graduate degree at Veritas Baptist College under the instruction of Drs. John McCormick and Lisa Joyner. Her capstone project included research on ADHD medications and extensive journaling of her experience in special education programs at a juvenile detention facility and at a public elementary school. Mrs. Smith lives in Cleveland, Tennessee with her husband, Matt, and their two children, Kirsten and Elliot.

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### **Isaac Young, MMin.**

Isaac Young was born and reared in southern West Virginia. Being blessed by God with a goodly heritage, he had the unique opportunity of growing up in a special needs home. His older sister, Martie, was diagnosed with autism shortly after he was born. He says, "While many 'glass children' tend to be embarrassed or infuriated by the difference of their special needs homes, I was taught to embrace the difference. Martie's needs were never an obstacle, they were & are an opportunity for God to receive even more glory! There are very few titles in the world greater than 'Martie's brother.'"

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### **Stacie Young, MEd.**

Stacie Young is from the beautiful mountain state of West Virginia. She has been married to her husband, Allan, for over 30 years. Together they have three adult children; two sons, Michael and Isaac, and one daughter, Martie. Martie was diagnosed with autism 23 years ago at the age of 2. Mrs. Young has been teaching special education at Summers County Comprehensive High School for 16 years. She holds a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education with content in Social Studies and certification in Multi-Categorical Special Education (LD, B/ED and MI). She received her Masters Degree in Special Education for Severe-Multiple Disabilities and specialization in Autism.