**Monday, July 14, 2025**

**8:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Keynote I**

**Dr. Drew Gerdes *1. Mr. Rogers Was Right! Incorporating the Work of Fred Rogers in the Classroom***

 What do you know about Fred Rogers? Yes, the guy from the popular children’s television program, Mister Rogers Neighborhood! What Fred shared decades ago still holds true today; perhaps even more so. Come and reminisce about Fred and what he incorporated into his television show. Leave with a renewed energy and passion for meeting the needs of students, all within the context of genuine care, empathy, and learning.

**11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Sectional I**

**Dr. Drew Gerdes *1. The Foreign Language of Parent Communication***

 Early childhood teachers face many challenges when it comes to parent communication. How can you think differently in order to communicate effectively? What can be done to build reciprocal communication between teachers and families? Join us as we brainstorm new ways to help parents engage in the school community….all for the benefit of their child.

**Katayoun Zadeh *2. Biting Prevention & More! (PITC Approach Influenced)***

 This session explores effective strategies for preventing biting in infant and toddler settings, emphasizing the PITC (Program for Infant/Toddler Care) approach. Rooted in relationship-based care, it focuses on understanding the reasons behind biting, responsive caregiving, and creating supportive environments that foster self regulation and secure

**Ann Laury 3*. Loaves & Fishes, Multiplying God’s Word One Child at a Time***

**Ellen Denning** Children’s Chapel is a crucial way we welcome children. It is a place for them to participate and hear God’s Word in a way that engages them. The wonderful truths of Scripture are written intentionally for people of all ages. In Children’s Chapel we have a precious opportunity to share Jesus with our kids during these most formative years of their lives in a way they will understand. Children’s Chapel should include Bible lessons that teach the deep truths of Scripture in age-appropriate ways. It should also allow time for learning through intentional song and scripture. Engaging messages paired with the love of a patient teacher will help a child develop a desire to learn about Jesus.

**Monday, July 14, 2025 cont’d….**

**Dr. Tosca Grimm 4. *Shining Brighter that Burnout***

 While educator burnout seems common, educators can avoid the “burnout destiny” through understanding both what fills and what empties their personal and professional “cups.” This active session will guide educators in rediscovering their strengths and sustaining their passions in ministry, so they can keep shining as educators – and stay polished as they shine their lights for Jesus!

**Bremeshia Gipson *5. Developing Oral Language***

**Devin Guy** In this session you will discover effective strategies to foster oral development and foundational literacy skills in young children.

**1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Sectional II**

**Debra Kallaher *1. Math is Everywhere – Make It, Take It***

 *Math is Everywhere!* is showing teachers how math can be found in everything we do or say during the day. I will be showing teachers how they can integrate math into every lesson no matter the subject.

**Katayoun Zadeh *2. Biting Prevention & More! (PITC Approach Influenced)***

 This session explores effective strategies for preventing biting in infant and toddler settings, emphasizing the PITC (Program for Infant/Toddler Care) approach. Rooted in relationship-based care, it focuses on understanding the reasons behind biting, responsive caregiving, and creating supportive environments that foster self regulation and secure

**Dr. Tosca Grimm 3*. Leadership from the Aide Up: Developing a Team of Leaders***

 Leadership is often perceived through the lens of “position”, rather than “purpose”. This session unpacks the identity of leadership as necessary and attainable for all practitioners, regardless of title. We will emphasize modeling our leadership after Jesus to become the servant leaders that He has created us to be, to positively impact ministry opportunities so ALL educators can be about this Kingdom work!

**Dee Wimberly 4. *Movement Activities for Toddlers & Preschoolers***

This session will provide fun activities and classroom materials that teachers and/or children can make and use in the classroom. Learning domains and literacy connections will be emphasized.

**Monday, July 14, 2025 cont’d….**

**Bremeshia Gipson *5. Developing Oral Language***

**Devin Guy** In this session you will discover effective strategies to foster oral development and foundational literacy skills in young children.

**2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Sectional III**

**Dr. Drew Gerdes *1. The Three Pillars of Success***

 Join us as we learn more about three pillars of student success that begin in the early years and continue into adulthood: self-regulation, executive function skills, and social-emotional learning. Research continues to show that children who are strong in these areas will find better success in their future learning. Learn strategies that can be implemented in your classroom right away, as well as shared with families.

**Debra Kallaher *2. Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader***

 The title of this workshop is borrowed from Margaret Fuller who was known as an American teacher, journalist, women’s advocate, female war correspondent, and editor just to name a few. This is a great accomplishment for a woman in the early eighteen hundreds. To me, the quote said nothing can be more important in a child’s life than learning to read and enjoying it!

**Dr. Tosca Grimm 3*. Leadership from the Aide Up: developing a Team of Leaders***

 Leadership is often perceived through the lens of “position”, rather than “purpose”. This session unpacks the identity of leadership as necessary and attainable for all practitioners, regardless of title. We will emphasize modeling our leadership after Jesus to become the servant leaders that He has created us to be, to positively impact ministry opportunities so ALL educators can be about this Kingdom work!

**Dee Wimberly *4. Movement Activities for Toddlers & Preschoolers***

This session will provide activities that can be done inside when weather does not permit outside play. I will show why movement is important, the key benefits of movement, the results of long and short term of inactivity and the relationship between movement and ADHD.

**Michelle Fischer *5. Anxious Generation***

 Information coming soon.

**Tuesday, July 15, 2025**

**8:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Keynote II**

**Keynote Speaker**

**Dr. Drew Gerdes *Different Children = Different Instruction***

Every early childhood classroom should feature a “buffet of learning” where each student has voice and choice that allows learning at the highest possible level. What does it mean to differentiate teaching for young learners? Join in the conversation and gain tips and strategies that could help enhance the level of FUN in your classroom – for students and YOU!

**10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Sectional IV**

**Tonya Williams *1. Infant/Toddler***

**Susan Babin *2. Age 2***

**Felichia Eaton *3. Age 3***

**Kaylie Roetker** ***4.*  *Age 4/5***

**ECE Consultants 5.  *Directors***