

2025 Breakout Seminar Options

10:30 Options

Praying Through Psalm 23

David Kelly - New Hope Presbyterian Church, Eustis, FL

Join David as he lead us through Psalm 23 devotionally. This is meant to be a time of refreshment and an opportunity to feed together on God's Word. Please join us as we let the word of God dwell richly in our hearts together and teach us and instruct us and train us to do what He has called us to do.

Location: The Chapel

Better Together: Children's and Student Ministry Partnership

Katie Flores - CDM Children's Ministry Coordinator, Birmingham, AL Katie Gordon - CDM Student Ministries Administrator, Millersville, MD

Children's and student ministries have different rhythms and challenges—but a shared mission to help young people love Jesus. This session explores practical ways to strengthen connection, communication, and collaboration between CM and SM, so together we can disciple kids and students with greater unity and purpose.

Location: Room 209/210

Connecting Students to the Truth

Matt Hedinger - Village Seven Presbyterian Church, Colorado Springs, CO

This is a condensed version of certification class on teaching. This seminar helps give us a framework for preparing lessons for students as well as some techniques while teaching.

Location: Youth Room

11:30 Options

Sitting at the Feet of Jesus

Christian Graham - SeeJesus Ministry

Sitting at the feet of Jesus with your students. Our heart's desire is for each student to develop a deep passion for Jesus . Using Mary's devotion in Scripture—her choice to sit at Jesus' feet—serves as a powerful example. We will reflect on Mary's love for Christ and explore how to cultivate a similar spirit of attentive discipleship, learning not only to sit at His feet in worship and devotion, but also how to guide others to do the same.

Location: The Chapel

Buliding Relationships with Your Elders, Coworkers, and Parents

Stephen Estock - CDM Coordinator, Lawrenceville, GA

Every interaction in the church is a mix of interests and expectations. How do we navigate those interactions, especially when we feel insecure? The session will consider the power dynamics present and how we can communicate with others in ways that build trust.

Location: Room 209/210

Navigating Gender Identity: Walking Alongside Students with Truth, Grace, and the Hope of the Gospel

Steve Dallwig - Chapelgate Presbyterian Church, Marriottsville, MD

Gender identity is one of the most confusing issues our students face today. The world has created categories and narratives that distort God's good design, and our students are being shaped by those influences daily. This seminar will help you understand the pressures they face, shepherd them with compassion and clarity, and equip your ministry to respond with both biblical truth, love and practical guidance.

Location: Youth Room

1:30 Options

Optimizing Games and Student Leadership

Tim Malone - Cornerstone Presbyterian Church, Landenberg, PA David Kelly - New Hope Presbyterian Church, Eustis, FL

Do these two go together? Absolutely not! But wait – yes they can work together! David Kelly and Tim Malone will work together to bring you a long list of games, some how tos, and then move the discussion to growing student leadership!! All in one hour!!

Location: The Chapel

Let Jesus Shepherd Your Heart

Mikey Puckett - Seven Rivers Church, Lecanto, FL

Student ministry is a beautiful calling—but it's easy to love the work more than the One who called you. When our identity depends on students' responses instead of Christ's grace, we lose our way. This seminar invites you to rediscover the Good Shepherd who pursues your heart first. Before you can shepherd others well, you must let Him shepherd you.

Location: Room 209/210

Walking Through the Valley with the Anxious Generation: Helping Students Face Fear with Faith in a World of Rising Anxiety

Tonya Cherry - Counselor, Marriottsville, MD

Today's teens are more anxious than ever, and youth pastors are often on the front lines. This seminar offers practical strategies for entering into honest, hope-filled conversations with students who are struggling. We'll explore ways to respond with empathy, create safe spaces, and remind them that Jesus walks with them—even when the path feels dark.

Location: Youth Room