

conference 2022 Additional Speakers



Meg Jacques

Meg is married to her best friend and is a homeschooling mom to four of the coolest kids on the planet. She completed her Master Coaching Certification through the Dr. Sears Wellness Institute and passed her boards in February of 2020, earning the designation of NBC-HWC. Currently, she's pursuing a PhD in Natural Medicine through the University of Natural Health. Meg is passionate about helping families build healthy habits in the midst of real life. **MEG'S WORKSHOP:**

Healthy Habits for Real Life: Making Physical Well-Being a Priority in your Homeschool



Ed Zaccaro

Ed is a popular presenter at math, homeschool, and gifted education conferences around the country and has approached gifted education as a parent, teacher, and school board member. His students will testify to his ability to make math fun and challenging for them as well as his unique sense of humor which comes through in his classes and workshops. Ed has taught students of all ages and abilities since graduating from Oberlin College in 1974. He has a Masters degree in Gifted Education from the University of Northern Iowa. Ed's work is currently being used around the world and has been translated into several languages.

ED'S WORKSHOPS:

Nurturing a Mathematical Gift into a Passion How to Develop Mathematical Thinking & Love for Math for Young Kids



Jenny Conner

Jenny and her husband, Jake, have been blessed with five amazing young men to raise (ages 18, 16, 13, 10, and 6). Early in their marriage the Lord called them to homeschool, but it would be another decade before Jenny was introduced to Charlotte Mason and her life-giving principles of education. The Conner family's days are filled with living books, ideas, beauty, and a mother who enjoys learning alongside her children. They are a family that loves the outdoors, gardening, and hosting guests in their home for fellowship over a delicious meal. Jenny graduated from the University of Northern lowa with an education degree and minors in Mathematics, English/Language Arts, and Reading. She has taught in public and private schools, a local Charlotte Mason co-op, and is beginning her 27th year as a private tutor. Jenny loves the Lord and enjoys diving deep into theological discussions, is almost never without a new favorite read, and finds great pleasure in helping others see truth and beauty in the "mountainous land" of mathematics.

JENNY'S WORKSHOPS:

Breathing Life into Your High School Math
A Crash Course in All Things ACT...Especially the Math Test



courses on the collegiate level for the past eleven years. **JOSH'S WORKSHOP:**

The Algorithms that Control Us



Erin Port, a busy mom of four, founded Simple Purposeful Living out of her home in Polk City, lowa. Its mission is to encourage and equip you with tactical tips and tools to help you simplify your life on purpose so you can make margin for what matters.

Josh serves as the director of Harvest Bible College and as a pastor at First Church of the Open Bible in Des Moines. He has served as a lead pastor, associate pastor, student ministries pastor,

Pastor Josh has a Master of Arts in Theological Studies and has been teaching Bible & Theology

and Bible professor. The Bingamans are thankful to be a homeschooling family of six.

Simple Purposeful Living's signature line of products includes our best-selling 52-week meal planning journal that helps eliminate "what's for dinner" stress.

The goal is to not only inspire you but equip you to live a simple life with purpose. You can connect with Erin on Facebook and Instagram @simplepurposefulliving

For more information and our full line of products visit https://simplepurposefulliving.com **ERIN'S WORKSHOP:**

Meal Planning



Natalie Ogbourne

Natalie loves adventure in a variety of forms. She has survived a snowmobile-windshield-to-nose standoff with a half-ton bison, a backcountry fishing trip with a recreationally-unstable guide, and a clifftop close encounter with a bear. She writes and speaks about adventures like these to encourage others who are traveling tough terrain. She has served as the director of the Heritage Acting Troupe for ten years. After educating and graduating their three children, Natalie and her husband, Jaime, are embarking their next adventure together: the empty nest. You can find tales from the trail and encouragement to navigate the landscape of your life by faith at <u>natalieogbourne.com</u>.

NATALIE'S WORKSHOP:

Drama Clinic | A Merry Heart: Acting and Improv [Teen Track Workshop]



Emily Verdoorn

Growing up in Des Moines in a homeschooling family, drawing and making was simply a part of the fabric of Emily's young life. With time, however, her interest in making developed into a way of paying attention and pressing more deeply into the life of the world around her. For Emily, keeping a nature journal really formed this practice of paying attention and growing in affection toward the world God made. Her interest in art led Emily to pursue a BFA in Visual Art at Belhaven University in Jackson, Mississippi. Since graduating from Belhaven, Emily has been an art teacher, spent time working at Summit Ministries in Colorado, participated in an intentional community fellowship in Texas, worked as a helper at Rochester L'Abri, and is now continuing her art-making process in Wheaton, Illinois as a full-time artist.

EMILY'S WORKSHOPS:

Watercoloring Nature [A Make & Take Workshop] Nature Journaling



Nick Reddin

Nick is a homeschool father of six and has over 20 years of experience in the employment and technology services industry. The majority of his background is in working with Fortune 500 companies to achieve their workflow and technology goals. Nick specializes in technology innovation, sales, change management, and driving operational efficiencies. He is an expert on the changing future of work and a consultant to many companies in helping them prepare for coming changes.

NICK'S WORKSHOP:

Technology and the Future of Work



Stacie Stanley



Amy Recker

I am Amy, owner of Aim Simple, LLC, and I am Stacie, owner and founder of A Simple Start, LLP. We have a passion for helping others create simple spaces within their homes, through organization. What started as a hobby has become our full-time jobs, and we absolutely love knowing we get to help others every day. We desire to help you build a calm, stress-free environment in your home so that you can relax.

STACIE & AMY'S WORKSHOP:

Home Organization: Bringing Calm into Chaos



Hannah Melody

Hannah Melody is a homeschool graduate who is newly married. She loves long walks, baking, and volunteering at her church's youth ministry. Hannah has loved to dance since she was four years old and currently owns a dance studio in Pella, Iowa, called Simply Dancing. She has loved the opportunity to share God's love as she teaches dance in a modest and God-glorifying way.

HANNAH'S WORKSHOP:

Stretching, Posture & Poise [Teen Track Workshop]



Colleen Meyer

While adventuring in Costa Rica, Gary and Colleen Meyer began a "romance with coffee" that is now a family business: Friedrich's World Coffees. Since 1991, the Meyer family has grown to four adult children, all homeschooled through their younger years. This vibrant, creative family continues to inspire each other and those around them with their joy, energy, and genuine care for people. If you've ever spent time in a Friedrich's Cafe, you've felt the warmth of their family and seen their passion for tea and coffee.

COLLEEN'S WORKSHOP:

Tea Tasting and Cold Brew Coffee



Annie Pool

From a young age, Annie enjoyed drawing on anything she could find, whether it was old sheet music or paper napkins. She studied art with Emily Verdoorn, Studio Virtu, Mary Muller and the Des Moines Art Center. Annie began teaching art in 2018, as a sophomore in high school, and, since then, has done a variety of workshops and classes for all ages, including classes at Grand Living, West Des Moines.

She graduated from a fully homeschooled education in 2020, and now is a junior at Drake University, where she is double majoring in Studio Art and Music with a Writing minor. When not studying, Annie teaches art and piano, is on the worship team at church, and serves as a Master Gardener volunteer at the Des Moines Botanical Gardens and is in their Artisan Guild. **ANNIE'S WORKSHOPS:**

Teaching & Learning the 7 Elements of Art
Kokedama [A Make & Take Workshop]
Preschool Busy Bags [A Make & Take Workshop]
Applied Color Theory: Art Design, Media & Style [Teen Track Workshop]



Tressa Vos

Tressa Vos is a homeschool graduate, avid traveler, passionate entrepreneur, and wilderness survival enthusiast. She has spent each autumn season of the past several years traveling as a staffer with the Bold Survival Ministry, where she has led teams of students through exciting and spiritually enriching weeks of outdoor survival camps. Tressa has also served as a traveling staffer for TeenPact Leadership Schools and a summer camp program coordinator, in addition to running her own outdoor education and survival workshops in lowa. She loves teaching on various topics and tying it all back to how the physical world relates to our spiritual reality as God's people.

TRESSA'S WORKSHOP:

Introduction to Wilderness Survival [A Teen Track Workshop]