

# Ignite!

## Missions Conference Breakout Sessions

April 29, 2023

<b>Title</b>	<b>Leader</b>	<b>Description</b>
There's Life in Hope	Dr. Mike Boone	We find ourselves living in an ever-evolving anti-Christian culture. Many cultural issues are being presented that Christians understand to be against the worldview that God would have us embrace. Yet, through these times of persecution and anxiety, we have a 'living hope' that is founded in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Come and discover how Peter presented this 'living hope' to his readers in 1 Peter 1:3-9 and how we as 21st-century believers can apply these teachings to our lives each day.
Obligated or Obedient?	Missie Branch	While man looks on the outside God looks on the inside and sees our hearts. As we serve in ministry it is easy to lose focus, motivation, direction, and energy. When this happens, we can begin to work in our own strength. In this session, we will hear Jesus' heart for us and look at ways that our personal devotion to him affects our public service to others.
Embracing Your Strengths	Connie Dixon	We usually don't consider our strengths as unique or as stunning as someone else's because whatever ours is, it comes so easily to us that we may take it for granted. We are uniquely equipped with natural strengths. Strengths that just feel right. If we deny our strengths and miss out on using our God-given abilities, we may walk through life feeling like we don't fit. Join National WMU President Connie Dixon as she teaches you how to embrace your strengths.
Leading Preschoolers to Develop a Heart for Missions	Shelia Prevatte & Susan McClary	How early can a child begin learning Christian missions concepts? The preschool years! In Mission Friends, leaders have the opportunity to help develop preschoolers' hearts for missions. This session will provide ideas for leaders to show preschoolers how to grow toward God as they become aware that God wants everyone to know of His love. Parents and grandparents, you can also learn ways to develop missions concepts at home with your children and grandchildren.
What Teens Wish You Knew	WMU NC Youth Panelists	Have you ever wondered how teens really feel about church or what they want to know about their faith? Have you wondered if there are things churches can do to better minister to them? If so, come hear from our NC Youth Panelists as they share things teens wish you knew.

Not Alone: A Look at Mental Health & the Church	Paula Hill	1 in 5 adults experience mental illness or a mental health challenge each year. That adds up to around 50 million Americans each year who are affected by mental health challenges. It may be someone we love, or it may be our own mental health that we have struggled with. As Christians, we can uniquely respond to and support people experiencing mental health challenges. Together, we will look at ways to respond to people struggling with mental health challenges, how to care for your own mental health, and some ways to address mental health within your congregation and community.
HOPE in Prayer	Barbara Hill	This will be a prayer experience for all. Using God's Word in prayer stations, come and experience a time of prayer with the Father all the while gaining HOPE in Him.
Creating a Missional Family Environment: It Starts at Home	Dollie Noa	According to Dr. James Dobson, "American parents are intentional about many aspects of their children's lives; education, athletics, the arts. Yet, how intentional are we about our children's spiritual lives outside of Sunday school and an occasional prayer time?" Help your family embrace the behaviors, mindset, and commitment of a missionary in their own community, starting in the home. Missional living is a lifestyle that comes from nurturing in the Gospel; teaching to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.
Finding Comfort and Hope in the Midst of Grief	Linda Phelps	Grief comes in many forms. From the loss of a loved one to the loss of something that was dear to you. If you are struggling with a grief that is difficult for you to get past or want some encouragement for your heart in a difficult time, come and let's talk about some intentional tools and resources that might help all of us find comfort and hope.
Raising the Special Child God Gave Me	Patricia Gann	Patricia & her husband's worlds were turned upside down with just two words – ' <i>Down Syndrome</i> '. Don't miss her share her story as she talks about the challenges, truths, and the not-so-truths about raising a daughter with Trisomy 21. She will also give you ideas on ways that the church can be supportive of special needs families.
CWJC: Fuel Her Fire for Change	Carol Polk	There are women in your area of the state who have a spark, a fire to change their lives. That's where Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC) steps in, fueling that fire for a better life! CWJC is a compassion ministry of national WMU that equips women, in a Christian context, for life and employment. Through CWJC sites across the nation and overseas, thousands of women each year gain hope for their future. Hear the story of a relatively young CWJC site in Winston-Salem and see whether God inspires you to start a site or get involved with a local CWJC ministry. You just may be the one to add fuel to the fire and watch God transform their lives!

How to Help Adoptive and Foster Families	Baptist Children's Home	Not everyone is called to adopt, but every Christian can do something to help those who are. In this session, staff from the Baptist Children's Home will share practical ways for churches to help adoptive and foster families.
The Other Side of Adoption: Caring for Birth Mothers and What the Post-Dobbs Era Means to the Church	Baptist Children's Home	States who have restricted abortion are seeing increases in birth rates. Adoptions have also increased in these states. The church has an opportunity to support and care for birth mothers in today's pro-choice culture. How can we embrace and encourage adoption as an option for women who are not ready to parent? Come hear how to support the birth parent ministries of Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, and how you can be a support to birth mothers in your local community.
Disaster Relief in Your Church	Tom Beam	When disaster strikes, whether overseas or right in your own community, how can you help? What can your church do? Come learn how your church can be involved in disaster relief in your community and further from home.
Only the Grace of God	Darbelia Saucedo	Many times, we find ourselves in situations or moments of anguish, where only the grace of God sustains us and gives us strength to move forward. This session will encourage you to see the ways God pours out His grace to us over and over again.
<b><u>Missionary Conferences</u></b>		
Pray, Give, Go!	Rebecca Garrett	In this session, you will get a South Asian field perspective from an IMB missionary passionate about working with unreached people groups and starting churches in rural areas. Hear her story and allow it to influence your praying, giving, and going.
You Want Us to Go WHERE and Do WHAT?!	Missy Bentley	When God called two unsuspecting individuals to venture overseas with three little ones, He got their attention. Come hear how God's call on their lives hasn't changed, though the geographical locations have over the course of 20+ years serving as missionaries, and throughout their time serving in Central Asia and working with Muslims.
The Way to IGNITE God's Mission to the World	Rhonda and Glen Stewart	Learn from IMB missionaries about an intentional disciple-making growth path and how it is having a profound global impact. You will hear stories from the mission field, how their work is impacting the world today, and ways you can IGNITE your own outreach locally.

Test Drive on Missions	Ashley Abernathy	Are you unsure about your calling? Are you in a transitional phase of your life or know someone else who is? Do you have a heart for the nations but don't know what to do with it? Come hear about different ways to serve overseas in what is considered Mid-term partnership. Whether it be Journeyman, Hands On, Macedonia, or other options; find out how the Lord could be calling you to serve overseas.
Gardening & the Gospel	Jessica Hearne	Jessica Hearne serves as CBF Field Personnel in Danville, VA. She works with Grace and Main Fellowship, an intentional community in Danville that focuses on community development and advocacy among people experiencing homelessness, addiction, hunger, food and housing insecurity, and injustice. She works with community members to use natural and sustainable gardening practices to teach people how to grow food and offers economic development opportunities through access to tools. In this session you will hear about Jessica's ministry work and get ideas for how to live more sustainably in your own neighborhood.
Effective Ways to Help Missionaries	Rebecca Autry	We pray diligently for missionaries serving around the world every day, but how can we help care for and support them when they come home on furlough, or when we go to them on a mission trip? It's not always an easy transition to make, but you can help! This session with former NAMB missionary Rebecca Autry will give you tips and ideas for caring for missionaries, whether at home or abroad.
Village of Hope: Updates on Ukraine	Gennady and Mina Podgaisky	Gennady and Mina Podgaisky have served in Kyiv, Ukraine for the last 20 years. As the war in Ukraine continues, your prayers and support are extremely important. In this session, Gennady and Mina will share about their ministry in Ukraine and about the work they do with Ukrainians (now in eleven different countries!). They will also give you an update on what is going on currently in Ukraine. Don't miss the stories of how God is working and moving there.
Hope Among the Darkness	Rachel & Wiliamson Louis	Wiliamson and his wife started a nonprofit ministry serving in Wiliamson's home village in Haiti. Come hear about the current situation in Haiti, the ministry work that is taking place, and how you can be a part of it. Learn more about the families in the village where Rachel & Williamson serve, and how you can help bring hope to those in great need.