



Welcome to Winter PTAC!

Directors

February 1, 2025

For over 20 years, the Winter version of the Preschool Teachers Adventure Conference has been helping those in the field of Early Childhood Education keep their training current and their motivation strong during our 3-day summer 'adventure!' We are back with our 1-day Winter version to serve those who would like a mid-year motivational 'push' to greet the New Year!

Working with children and their families is an important God-given task. Whether you work with infants and toddlers or preschoolers, in either a Christian or a secular setting, or you supervise people who do, you have the power to influence lives every day — "one heart at a time."

Amid these challenging times, let us help educate and inspire you — fill your spirit and entertain you! It is our hope that you will leave Winter PTAC renewed in body and spirit — ready to have a positive impact on the lives of the children and families that you work with!

Thank you so much for joining us!

Your Day at Winter PTAC

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
7:30 am — 8:00 am	Registration/Continental Breakfast
7:50 am — 8:05 am	Praise & Worship
8:10 am — 9:20 am	Keynote Speaker — Yancy
9:30 am — 10:20 am	Session #1 Workshops
10:30 am — 11:20 am	Session #2 Workshops
11:30 am — 12:20 pm	Lunch #1 OR Session #3 Workshops
12:30 pm — 1:20 pm	Lunch #2 OR Session #4 Workshops
1:30 pm — 2:20 pm	Session #5 Workshops
2:35 pm — 3:30 pm	Session #6 Workshops



Keynote Speaker - Yancy

Yancy is a worship leader, songwriter and producer of hundreds of songs that “make Jesus loud”. She has traveled the globe performing family concerts and leading worship. Her Dove Award winning music is all the things kids love and everything adults value. As a songwriter, she’s written a number one song, “I Don’t Want to Go,” recorded by Avalon. Yancy has toured coast-to-coast, sharing the stage with names such as Michael W. Smith, Newsboys, and the **Billy Graham Association**, in addition to touring as worship leader for SuperStart weekend events for preteens. Frequently, she can be found leading worship for kids camps, VBS weeks, and conferences across the country. However, the biggest component of Yancy’s travel calendar is comprised of local church family concerts which often include an audience of kids, parents, and even grandparents, yielding truly revolutionary multi-generational worship events of all sizes. Yancy says, “My life plan has always included music. I started off doing more CCM music for teens and adults, then began leading worship for youth groups and church congregations, and with God’s prompting, started creating music for children and their families. There are several elements that are a part of the music and ministry that I do, and all of that combined makes me who I am. Some see those things as diverse. I just see it as me **being obedient and doing what God has called me to do.**”



Session 1 Workshops

9:30—10:20 am

7 “Work-Life” Hacks to Conquer Overwhelm & Burnout

Director

Even in the best of times, our jobs are challenging. Let’s learn (or re-learn!) 7 simple tips to make center leadership more manageable so you can

Speaker: Debbie Tonne Jones FA: Professional Development Location: A124

The 5 Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace: Recognizing Individuality Among Your Staff

Director

Finding and keeping staff is a nation-wide issue in our industry. Providing training and orientation over and over is expensive and exhausting. Are you looking for a way to create connection and build ties that will allow you to invest in your staff and believe that they are a part of your team for the long term? Join our

session on **The Five Languages of Appreciation** and learn how to effectively communicate appreciation in ways that can be understood by all of your staff members.

Speaker: Sharon Jackson

Leadership & Development

Location: A125

Increasing Your Enrollment

Director

This session will include information on how to develop a marketing action plan — with five steps to power marketing & advertising in tough economic times. Participants will identify 20 no-to-low cost ways to advertise, discover how to convert inquiries into tours and prospects into guaranteed enrollment. We will discuss proven follow-up techniques and ways to determine your school’s competitive edge. *Sessions 1 & 4.*

Speaker: Kristy Thornton

FA: Business & Operation Mgt.

Location: A126

Session 2 Workshops

10:30 — 11:20 am

Keep Your Team Together . . .and Yourself Together

Director

Do you feel like you are doing everything yourself? Do you feel like your staff doesn’t share your vision? If so, come explore ways to build up and invest in your team, so that they can reach their potential and increase the quality of your program!

Speaker: Debbie Tonne Jones FA: Leadership & Development Location: A124

Engaging Parents in Their Child’s Learning: Plans & Resources for Family Events

Director

Family engagement in schools contributes to positive student outcomes, including improved child and student achievement, decreased disciplinary issues, improved parent-teacher and teacher-student relationships, and improved school environment. Education should be a collaborative effort to support a child’s learning and development based on the idea that families are

equal partners in their child’s education. Get lots of ideas that will make your next family night a huge success!

Speaker: Sharon Jackson

FA: Professional Development

Location: A125

101 Ways to Motivate Your Staff

Director

Explore cost effective ways to motivate your employees on a shoe string budget! We will discuss different options to recognize and motivate your staff on a daily basis, along with how to build a good team and basic human motivation for all employees. Finding and keeping good employees is one of the most challenging aspects of our industry. We will review whether or not your current staff is an asset or a liability. We will discuss solutions to get ‘problem’ employees back on track!

Speaker: Kristy Thornton

FA: Effective Organization

Location: A126

Session 3 Workshops

11:30 am — 12:20 pm

NOTE: Lunch 1 is served during this time period.

It's Just a Phase — So Don't Miss It:

Director

Making the Most of Every Moment in Your Ministry

Every kid matters. Every kid is made in the image of God. Do we believe every kid matters at every phase? A phase is a timeframe in kids' lives when you can leverage distinctive opportunities to influence their future. That means each one of your preschoolers are not just going through a phase that should be wished away. Instead, they are transitioning through a critical phase that you are called to discover, celebrate, and navigate strategically with them. Learn how to make the most of every phase in this session!

Speaker: Rev. Andrew Keyes **FA:** Professional Development

Location: A124

AXE THROWING

General

Are you ready for something completely different? Tomahawk Targets will be bringing their safe, contained, caged axe throwing lanes to PTAC! No experience needed, as their coaches will teach you all the safety points & skills needed to chuck axes! Sessions 3 & 4.

Teacher: Reggie Hicks

FA: Professional Development

Location: Parking Lot

Session 4 Workshops

12:30 — 1:20 pm

NOTE: Lunch 2 is served during this time period.

Increasing Your Enrollment

Director

This session will include information on how to develop a marketing action plan — with five steps to power marketing & advertising in tough economic times. Participants will identify 20 no-to-low cost ways to advertise, discover how to convert inquiries into tours and prospects into guaranteed enrollment. We will discuss proven follow-up techniques and ways to determine your school's competitive edge. Sessions 1 & 4.

Speaker: Kristy Thornton **FA:** Business & Operation Mgt.

Location: A126

AXE THROWING

General

Are you ready for something completely different? Tomahawk Targets will be bringing their safe, contained, caged axe throwing lanes to PTAC! No experience needed, as their coaches will teach you all the safety points & skills needed to chuck axes! Sessions 3 & 4.

Teacher: Reggie Hicks

FA: Professional Development

Location: Parking Lot

Session 5 Workshops

1:30 — 2:20 pm

The Art of Growing Leaders

Director

"Before you are a leaders, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others." - Former CEO of GE, Jack Welch. Of all the resources we steward as leaders, the most important by far is our people. Every plan, goal, and dream we have for our programs, our team, and the children they serve depends on our ability to grow, equip, and support inspired and invested leaders. This conversation with Lori Buxton, arguably the "peoply-est" person on the planet, will identify the leaders on your team) hint — it rhymes with shmev-eryone), discuss what people development really is, and guide you toward a workable plan to grow exceptional leaders throughout your team.

Speaker: Lori Buxton

FA: Leadership & Development

Location: A124

from your staff of 20 years ago? One of the biggest changes we have seen lately is a need in defining professionalism. This session will give strategies on how to promote professionalism in the workplace. By consistently reinforcing the practices that we discuss, professionalism will become a part of your workplace culture.

Speaker: Albert Wright

FA: Leadership & Development

Location: A125

What is Your Exit Strategy?

Director

Build a career worth having, a business worth running, a life worth living, experiences worth giving, and a legacy worth leaving. Everyone needs to have an exit strategy the day they start — even if not today, but in 1 year, 5 years, or 10 years down the road. Learn how to build a business that you can sell. Most people's 5-year business plan is making it through the week; we all need to get ahead of the game and make a plan!

Speaker: Kristy Thornton

FA: Professional Development

Location: A126

What To Do When Your Adults Aren't Adulthooding: **Director**
How to Promote Professionalism in the Workplace
Have you ever wondered why your staff today seem different



Director Open Forum

Call all ECE Administrators! Bring your questions, your challenges, your wins, and your losses to this authentic discussion with field experts and colleagues. Some of the best work we do happens in honest conversations about the real stuff that is leadership in early education!

Speaker: Lori Buxton

FA: Professional Development

Location: A124

Director**Catching Up to Tired:****How to Master a Work/Life Balance**

Do you feel like you are giving your family or home or your employees at work a watered-down version of yourself? Well, not having a good work/life balance may be the problem. Mastering a work/life balance can be challenging, but is achievable with the right strategies. In this session, we will go over some of the most proven strategies on how to be aware and present wherever you are!

Speaker: Albert Wright

FA: Professional Development

Location: A125

Director

Additional Information

- ◆ Last minute cancellations will be posted outside the session rooms and highlighted in our morning announcements.
- ◆ Some of your chosen sessions might be full, but be aware that some of the workshops will be repeated during later sessions.
- ◆ We recommend that you have an alternative workshop already chosen in advance for each session time. In fairness to all participants, saving more than one seat in a session is prohibited.
- ◆ Check our website out later this year for information on Summer PTAC 2025!
Our website is:
www.ptaconference.org

Disclaimer

The opinions expressed by presenters and/or exhibitors are their own, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Conference Planning Committee, The Adventure Preschool, or Windwood Presbyterian Church. The Conference Planning Committee does not officially endorse any particular product, program, teaching method, activity or handout presented at this conference.

