

**"Preparing to Shine" Breakout Sessions  
Beautiful Feet Mission Conference 2023  
Saturday, November 11**

<b>Breakout Sessions</b>	<b>Descriptions</b>	<b>Presenters</b>
<b>Learnings from the Mission Field: Growing in the Tensions</b>	Do you prefer giving or receiving? Where do you find belonging and where do you feel like a stranger? We are sinners AND saints at the same time, broken by sin AND redeemed by God. Is it possible we could give AND receive at the same time? Could we be a stranger AND yet find belonging? Perhaps it is in these tensions and complexities of life that God truly grows us. Ruth and Angie as they discuss and share stories of their collective seven years on the mission field learning in these spiritual tensions.	Angie Steinbauer & Ruth Moon Mission Partners, Mission of Christ Network
<b>Mission fields in American rural and small towns?</b>	This session would introduce students to the changing mission fields of American rural and small towns. These changes include cross-cultural and socio-economic opportunities for Christian mission. God is providing new mission opportunities in rural and small town communities. Could you be a rural and small town missionary? Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom. Matthew 9:35.	Rev. Russ Sommerfeld Director of Concordia Institute for Rural & Small Town Ministry, Concordia University Nebraska
<b>Honor, Shame and the Gospel</b>	World cultures can be broadly divided into Guilt-Innocence cultures, Honor-Shame cultures, and Fear-Power cultures. While the Gospel provides an answer to guilt, shame, and fear, in the West we typically focus only on guilt and forgiveness when explaining Christ's work for us. Come learn about these different culture types – especially the speaker's experience with Honor-Shame cultures in East Asia – and learn to hear the Gospel more fully for yourself and speak it more clearly to people of many cultures!	Emily Belvery Mobilizer and Church Partnerships, Mission of Christ Network
<b>Here I am, can you really use me?</b>	"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here I am. Send me!'" Isaiah 6:8 Many of us would like to join Isaiah to say, "Here I am. Send me!" but are maybe wondering "Can you really use me?" If you are working toward a teaching, business, communications, nursing, church work, or any other bachelor's degree, there is a place for you to serve with the LCMS Office of International Mission! Come learn how God can use you and your unique gifts to help share Jesus with the world.	Chelsea Irwin LCMS Missionary Matt Wasmund Strategic Volunteer Coordinator for Asia, LCMS Office of International Mission
<b>From Invisible to Indispensable: Preparing to Shine for Christ</b>	Every nation has its "invisibles", its groups of people who are silenced, overlooked, and shunned. But God's Word reminds us that all people are indispensable; every person is a gift to the world. How can we be certain all lives are indispensable, and how do we carry this life-affirming message into a culture of death?	Michelle Bauman Director of Y4Life/Lutherans For Life
<b>Short Term Missions with Long Term Impact</b>	Based on 15 years of experience leading trips to Guatemala, Sarah and Jen will discuss the benefits and unintended consequences associated with short term missions. Topics will include defining poverty, sharing stories from their experiences, and strategic steps to improve impact.	Dr. Jennifer Janousek Professor of Health and Human Performance, Concordia University Nebraska Dr. Sarah Matthias, MD
<b>The World is at our Doorstep! Shine Christ's Light Now</b>	As you prepare to shine, start shining now! A million international students from all over the world attend universities right here in the USA! Most of these students come from some of the least reached countries of the world: Pakistan, Iran, Nepal, India, China, Egypt, etc. Learn how you can serve, build a friendship and share the gospel with an international student without even leaving the country.	Sue Hasselbring Ministry Catalyst for International Student Ministry, Inc. Mark Meyer Director of International Student Ministry University of Nebraska Lincoln
<b>Preparing for Spiritual Warfare</b>	Satan can do nothing to separate us from God's love for us, but his attacks in all areas of our lives can make us feel ashamed, helpless and even abandoned. In this session we will talk about how God gives us what we need to stand firmly in His love.	Rev. Dr. John Mehl Executive Director of Mission of Christ Network
<b>Engaging People with Different Faiths</b>	In this session we will talk about the underlying principles of major non-Christian religions and how we might share Jesus in ways that resonate with them.	Rev. Dr. John Mehl Executive Director of Mission of Christ Network
<b>Get Off Your Pew: How to Get a Congregation to Start Living More Missionally</b>	Every congregation in the U.S. is already located in a mission field. The trouble is that most Christians are trained to be church-goers but not Jesus-followers who join Him in the mission fields of their everyday lives. In this session, we will look at best practices for helping people to get off their pews and start living more missionally for the sake of the people in their community.	Rev. Greg Finke Executive Director of Dwelling 1:14
<b>At the Heart of Preparing to Shine</b>	Our theme verse tells us to 'set apart Christ as Lord' in our hearts. But how do we do this? Join us to explore practical ideas to grow our prayer and devotional lives in ways that connect our hearts to the heart of Jesus and fuel our mission in the world. (There may or may not be confetti involved).	Rebekah Freed Director of Student Life, Concordia University Nebraska
<b>Women in Mission</b>	In the Bible, Lydia was a successful businesswoman, a generous hostess, and an influential leader among early Christians in Philippi. Today, women all over the world are serving in God-given vocations to help spread the Gospel, plant Lutheran churches, and show mercy. What do Lydia and today's mission-minded women have in common? What can we learn from their bold commitment to sharing the Good News? Come join other women in mission to learn, discuss, and be inspired!	Chelsea Irwin LCMS Missionary
<b>Faithful in a Faithless World</b>	Christianity is no longer the "norm" in our society and culture. Join us as we explore practical ways to be a person of faith in a faithless world and at the same time live in a way that lends itself to faith conversations. We will discuss what it means to "love" where you live, regardless of if you actually enjoy where you live.	Dr. Jacob Youmans Director, DCE Program, Professor of Religious Education, School of Ministry, Concordia University Texas
<b>Teaching ESL as Gospel Proclamation</b>	ESL has become a powerful tool in recent decades for building relationships that lead to opportunities to share the Gospel or to support work in Bible translation, theological training, education, etc., which empower others to share the Gospel. In this session you will learn about a wide variety of international contexts in which ESL is taught and consider how God might lead you or someone you know to get involved.	Dr. Vicki Anderson Associate Professor of Education, TESOL Program Director, Concordia University Nebraska