

“WHOEVER HEARS THESE WORDS OF MINE AND DOES THEM, WILL **UN** BE LIKE A WISE MAN WHO **BUILT HIS HOUSE** THE ON **SHAKE** THE ROCK. **THE** RAIN CAME DOWN. **ABLE** THE WATER CAME UP. THE WIND BLEW AND HIT THE HOUSE. THE HOUSE DID NOT FALL BECAUSE IT WAS BUILT ON ROCK.

MATTHEW 7:24-25



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West Coast Christian Educator Conference

November 25, 2024

**Calvary Chapel
Christian School**

12808 Woodruff Ave.

Downey, CA 90242

Welcome!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the West Coast Christian Educator Conference. It is an honor and a privilege to have you with us today. We are really excited about the conference line-up this year. We have some exceptional speakers in both our general and break-out sessions.

The purpose of this conference is to provide an opportunity for leaders, teachers, and staff to receive professional development that is relevant and of high quality. It is also a place for networking with individuals in the same profession who have similar beliefs and values.

Our goal is to strengthen Christian schools while enjoying the friendly exchange of dialogue among Christian School leaders, teachers, and staff.

We pray this conference would be one where you receive encouragement and motivation as a Christian leader and gain new ideas to put into practice in your field of education.

Information about CEUs:

Collection of CEU information occurs electronically. Please visit the Conference Registration Table to scan the QR Code that will take you to the Google Form for CEUs. You will need to fill this form out entirely to receive your CEU certificate from your school Administrator. Detailed information about sessions attended by school staff and a certificate master template will be emailed to the administrator after the conclusion of the conference.

What's included in this program...

- Schedule
- Workshop Session Descriptions
- Campus Map

Schedule

- 8:00-8:30am Worship/Announcements
- 8:30-9:15am Opening Keynote
- 9:15-9:40am Browse Vendors
- 9:40-10:40am Breakout Session 1
- 10:50-11:50am Breakout Session 2
- 11:50-1:00pm Lunch
- 1:05-2:05pm Breakout Session 3
- 2:10-3:10pm Breakout Session 4
- 3:15-4:00pm Closing Roundtable

ACTS 2024 WEST COAST CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS

Richard Terhune

After becoming a Christian while serving in the United States Air Force Richard has been devoted to cementing in the hearts and minds of Christian Educators that the distinctive of Biblical worldview shaping is what gives Christian education a value above any other educational approach. Graduating from Sacramento Bible Institute with a degree in Theology, and from Bob Jones University with a degree in Elementary Education has given Richard Terhune a sound preparation for Christian education. He has taught 5th, 7th, and 8th grades. For the past 31 years, he has worked for both BJU Press and Precept Marketing Group in an effort to keep Christian education on the cutting edge. He has done hundreds of workshops helping administrators and teachers to effectively implement the BJU Press curriculum, Trajectory Computer curriculum, and Mimio interactive technologies.

Roy Faletti

Roy has been actively involved in Christian education for 36 years and has conducted training sessions at numerous schools and conventions throughout the nation. As a Colson Center Fellow, he has a passion for developing a sound Biblical worldview in each new generation.

He served as the Pastor and Administrator of a church-based school in Idaho for 15 years and has held leadership positions for Alpha Omega Publications, Summit Ministries, DeepRoots Bible and The Pray for Me Campaign. He currently serves as VP of Customer Care for Positive Action for Christ. He and his wife of 41 years, Mary, live in Colorado Springs and have three daughters, two sons-in-law and two granddaughters.

Steve Lindquist

In his almost 30 years of Christian education, Steve Lindquist has served as a classroom teacher (Secondary History, AP Government and Politics, Economics, Geography, etc.), Department Head, Building Supervisor, Assistant Principal and Principal. Originally from Virginia Beach, VA, Steve attended Liberty University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Religion – Youth Ministries Concentration and a Minor degree in Childhood/Adolescent Psychology. After moving to Florida in 1996, he attended the University of South Florida, earning a Master of Arts Degree in Secondary Social Science Education (6th-12th Grade) and completed Master's and Doctorate level coursework in Educational Leadership. Steve joined the ACTS team in 2012 as the Chair of the Accreditation Commission and member of the Board of Directors. In November 2013, the Board hired him in a part time role as Director of Accreditation and Member Services. In June 2015, he moved into that role full time. Now, Steve serves as the Chief Operations Officer, leading the organization into the future of Christian Education and increasing the Kingdom one student at a time...

He and his wife Katrina have been married 28 years and have two adult children and two four-legged kids – Taylor, an auto mechanic, Sarah, a student at Hillsborough Community College, studying Exercise Sciences & and at the University of South Florida, marching with the university's Herd of Thunder Marching Band (Football) and Rumble Pep Band (Basketball), Ringo, an Australian Shepherd/Great Pyrenees mix and Flynn Rider, a Great Pyrenees/American Staffordshire Terrier/German Shepherd mix.

Kim Van Vlear

Kim Van Vlear is the founding Executive Director of DeepRoots Bible, an Apologetics and Biblical worldview curriculum. DeepRoots offers an elementary curriculum, with a junior high version in the works. In its tenth year, DeepRoots is impacting students for Christ throughout the US and on five continents. To God be the glory! Kim speaks nationally for DeepRoots and has been interviewed on TV and radio. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Comparative Literature from UC Irvine and has taught Bible studies and Biblical Worldview classes. She has been happily married to her husband, John, for 37 years and they have two daughters and a son-in-law who love and serve Jesus.

Royce Nelsestuen

M.Ed., Executive Director, Branching Out Educational Consultants

Upon earning her Bachelor of Arts in Education from the University of Arizona, and her Master of Arts in Education Administration from Grand Canyon University, Royce spent 20 years as the Principal of Faith Community Academy in Tucson, Arizona. As a partner school with Branching Out, Royce had a front-row seat to the growing mission of Branching Out. She became the Executive Director of Branching Out in 2021. Royce is married to Jason, a Pastor, and the mother of four young men (they grow so quickly). Christian education has been a key element of her family life and ministry, and she is passionate about educating others to be successful in the place God has called them.

Rachael Peterson

Program Director, Trainer & Cognitive Coach

Rachael Peterson is a born and bred Tucsonan who graduated from Desert Christian HS and the University of Arizona. She spent two years in Tulsa, teaching with Teach for America in the Tulsa Public School District before moving back to Tucson to teach at Desert Christian Elementary (it always pulls you back!). Rachael has been teaching upper elementary classes since 2014. She left the classroom in 2023 to focus on her passion for mentoring and inspiring other teachers to implement research-based practices.

Breakout Session 1

9:40-10:40am

Little is Much when God is in it- Remaining Faithful in Your Calling

Room: Fellowship Hall

Presenter: Roy Faletti

Audience: Support Staff

It's often easy to become "weary in well doing," especially when it doesn't seem like our efforts are making an impact. The words of this old hymn remind us that our labor is "...great if God is in it and He'll not forget His own." This session will include group interaction as we consider the blessings, challenges, and victories of serving as Support Staff.

Classbuilding & Teambuilding: The Secret Ingredient to Engagement

Room: 120

Presenter: Rachael Peterson

Audience: All grade levels

Are you trying Active Participation and Student Engagement strategies, but you feel like something is missing? Let's learn about the secret ingredient that makes these strategies successful.

Talents of the Effective Manager

Room: 122

Presenter: Royce Nelsestuen

Audience: All grade levels

Creating a classroom environment that is conducive to learning is a critical element of classroom instruction. At the core of every well-run classroom is a teacher who has clear expectations and consistent procedures and routines. Join us as we dive into the 3 talents all effective managers have and how they can be developed in you!

Don't Relegate Biblical Integration to a Cherry on Top!

Room: 124

Presenter: Kim Van Vlear, DeepRoots Bible

Audience: All grade levels

Your class is like an ice cream sundae. Is it an untethered, sticky mess or does it have a firm foundation? Learn how to genuinely integrate biblical worldview into your classroom instead of adding it on as an afterthought, like a cherry on top. Hands-on object lessons and group workshop exercises will help you move from head knowledge to practical experience. Let the fun begin! Special features:

- Volunteers participate in an object lesson making ice cream sundaes.
- Participants gather in groups to collaborate on workshop exercises, determining what is true biblical worldview integration and what is just a cherry on top.
- Take home tools to apply this in your own classroom.

Breakout Session 2

10:50-11:50am

Gen Z and Beyond: Understanding Unique Challenges and Adapting our Approach

Room: Fellowship Hall

Presenter: Roy Faletti

Audience: All grade levels

From the oldest senior to the youngest kindergartner, students from Gen Z and Gen A attend your school. This session gives a brief overview of how we started naming generations and the disunity it has caused in our culture. We'll examine challenges common to both Gens Z & A and consider ways we may need to change our approach to them without compromising Truth.

Deepen Engagement with Cooperative Learning

Room: 120

Presenter: Rachael Peterson

Audience: All grade levels

Make your curriculum work for you by infusing each lesson with Cooperative Learning. Cooperative Learning is not synonymous to group work, rather, it's a way to structure learning so that students learn how to build effective working relationships with others and deepen their own learning.

Developing a Critical Thinking Classroom

Room: 122

Presenter: Royce Nelsestuen

Audience: All grade levels

Take your students deeper into your content with proven strategies to develop critical thinking students. Teachers can make this happen without assigning more "work" or creating more to grade. Critical thinking skills are important for our students in all of life.

Triple Your Bible Teaching Impact

Room: 124

Presenter: Kim Van Vlear, DeepRoots Bible

Audience: All grade levels

We live in a turbulent culture that no longer holds to Christian values. How do we turn the tide? We need to partner with parents to strengthen families in their faith. Come learn practical tips to equip parents with the tools and confidence they need to become their children's spiritual mentors. And learn the secret of one simple habit, that when adopted, will dramatically improve mental health for you, your parents, and your students. Let's improve our classrooms by reaching out to the home! Special features:

- Learn about eight tools you can use in your own classroom to increase parent engagement.
- Practice using a Bible reading plan so you can coach parents in how to read the Bible with their students.

BJU Trove

Room: 126

Presenter: Richard Terhune

Audience: All grade levels

The premier learning experience platform for teachers and students using BJU Press materials in schools. Streamline your workload and engage learners like never before. Building on the best features of our previous technology solutions, Trove makes it easier than ever to find instructional resources, build shareable lesson plans, create digital or printed assessments, and interact with students in an online format.

Breakout Session 3

1:05-2:05pm

Devotedly Different: Raising up Confident Students Speaking Truth to Their Culture

Room: Fellowship Hall

Presenter: Roy Faletti

Audience: All grade levels

How can we help students understand what it means to be “In, but not of” their culture and prepare them to shine light lovingly and confidently into their “crooked and perverse generation”? We’ll consider the meaning of culture from a Biblical perspective and how we can prepare students to stand strong for Truth in the post-Christian culture in which they are called to serve.

Hit the Reset Button

Room: 120

Presenter: Rachael Peterson

Audience: All grade levels

It's that time of year! Maybe you or your students have developed some bad habits in classroom management. Do you survive and try again next year? No! Now is the time to "Hit the Reset Button" and work on establishing better habits in the classroom. It's never too late to improve our classroom management.

Retention Theory

Room: 122

Presenter: Royce Nelsestuen

Audience: All grade levels

How much do your students remember when you spend so much time "teaching" all day? In this session, we will identify four main elements of retention, and strategies that increase how much content our students remember.

What is a Biblical Worldview?

Room: 124

Presenter: Steve Lindquist, ACTS Chief Operating Officer/ Director of Accreditation

Audience: All grade levels

According to a recent poll conducted by George Barna, only 51% of Pastors hold to a “Biblical Worldview”. During this session we will examine the context of worldview and show how it is absolutely necessary for teachers in a Christian school to hold a Biblical worldview when teaching students. This session is part 1 of a three-part series that will satisfy the classroom portion of the Philosophy of Christian Education requirements for ACTS Certification.

Snowflakes and Helicopters: Dealing with Today’s Parents

Room: 126

Presenter: Richard Terhune

Audience: All grade levels

Parents and students today are very different from those we dealt with 20 or even 10 years ago. In this workshop we will discuss several types of parental involvement, explore how and why parents are different than they were in the past, and talk about practical methods for handling difficult parental situations in your classroom - without losing your sanity!

Breakout Session 4

2:10-3:10pm

Closure – Make it Stick

Room: 120

Presenter: Rachael Peterson

Audience: All grade levels

Closure is a powerful tool to help students "own" their learning. Come to this session and find out how to make your lessons stick with your students long after class is over.

Differentiated Instruction: Learning Preference Matters!

Room: 122

Presenter: Royce Nelsestuen

Audience: All grade levels

Differentiation isn't just more or less work; it's the ability to uncover how God created our students and use their different learning preferences in the way we teach. We will explore strategies for lesson planning and how to provide appropriate and stretching challenges to all of our students.

The Fives: Pathways Discovering the Root Causes of Classroom Behaviors

Room: 124

Presenter: Steve Lindquist, ACTS Chief Operating Officer/ Director of Accreditation

Audience: All grade levels

During this session, we will discuss three separate processes to help teachers, school leaders, parents and students discover the potential root causes of classroom issues, going deeper than the surface symptoms.

LGBTQ+ Ideology: What Your Students Are Facing and How to Respond

Room: 126

Presenter: Richard Terhune

Audience: All grade levels

Students in our classrooms today are inundated with LGBTQ+ indoctrination via social media, entertainment, and personal friendships. Now there are movements, even within the church, that have accepted varying degrees of LGBTQ+ affirmation. What can Christian teachers do in response to students confused about what the Bible says about gender and sexuality?



calvary chapel downey
second floor



- House of Ruth
- CCBC Conf. Room
- CHAPEL STORE
- CHAPEL CAFE