



GRAND RAPIDS CHRISTIAN

Parenting Conference

“Celebrating the Family”

When: Saturday, February 27, 2010 ■ 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Where: Grand Rapids Christian High School
2300 Plymouth SE, Grand Rapids
Richard and Helen DeVos Center for Arts and Worship

Cost: Free! All are welcome. No registration required.
Sign language interpreters will be provided.



Parents with children of all ages are welcome to attend the **2010 Grand Rapids Christian Parenting Conference**. The morning begins with a keynote address, followed by your choice of two, one-hour workshops. Professionals in the areas of psychology and social work, representing five area agencies, will present practical information and tips for raising young people today. Workshop topics are listed on the back.

Welcome and Devotion Mayor George Heartwell

Now serving in his second term, **Mayor George Heartwell** has been the driving force behind City government “going green.” The Mayor has implemented a variety of environmental measures including renewable resource energy, alternative fuels in city vehicles, continued attention to water quality in the Grand River, and energy conservation. He is married to Susan Heartwell who is the Executive Director of the Student Advancement Foundation. The Heartwells have three children and six grandchildren.



Keynote Presentation – Doug Swink “What Deeper Purpose Is My Life Serving?”

Doug Swink is committed to teaching others how to lead Christ-centered homes and to inspire people to take a fresh look at their primary relationships. Prior to joining **Winning At Home, Inc.**, Doug served at churches in Michigan and California. He and his wife Shawn have three daughters and live in West Michigan.



Schedule

8:30 - 8:45	Check In	9:45 - 10:00	Break - Find your workshop
8:45 - 9:00	Welcome and Devotion <i>Mayor George Heartwell</i>	10:00 - 11:00	Session I
9:00 - 9:45	Keynote Address <i>Doug Swink</i>	11:00 - 11:15	Break - Find your workshop
		11:15 - 12:15	Session II

The Richard and Helen DeVos Center for Arts and Worship is located on the campus of Grand Rapids Christian High School. It is a state-of-the-art facility where students can develop and express their artistic talents and gather in collective worship. The 1,200-seat, 82,000-sq. foot center and auditorium also serves the greater community as a place to come together for performance and worship.

WORKSHOPS

Sibling Rivalry

Room #204

Faene Fritch, LLPC, Bethany Christian Services

Some degree of competition can be healthy but when siblings turn from competitors into rivals, minor conflicts can quickly become major conflicts. This workshop will explore common causes and helpful responses to this age-old dilemma.

Parenting Without Losing It

Room #205

Elaine Decker, MS, LPC, Wedgwood Christian Services

This workshop will help parents learn to establish healthy control without resorting to threats, nagging, or exhausting power struggles.

"Tuning In: A Parent's Guide to Media and Youth"

Room #206

Meghan Aupperlee, BSW, Carrie Parlin, MA, Cathy Jordan, MA, CHES, Wedgwood Christian Services

This session will highlight the media youth consume, how it affects decision making, strategies for guiding the use of media, using media to provide teachable moments, and talking points for parents.

Grace-Based Parenting

Room #207

Emily Vanden Heuvel, BS, Wedgwood Christian Services

Grace Based Parenting is an intentional response by parents to the gift of God's grace through Jesus Christ. We will discuss the challenges and joys of parenting despite and the ways we can model to our children how to live in grace, accept grace and offer grace.

"Parenting Your Teen in Today's Cyber World"

Room #208

Courtney Clark Dunnill, PsyD, Clinical Psychologist, Christian Counseling Center

Are you feeling overwhelmed by the social media affecting your teen's everyday life? Come learn how to talk with your child about safe cyber decisions, and acquire helpful resources.

Standing in the Gap for Our Kids

Room #209

Mike Rinker, LMSW, ACSW, Bethany Christian Services

Modern culture emphasizes achieving over relationship building and personal development. This workshop will explore ways parents can help children realize that their worth is based on who they are rather than what they do.

Angry Teens — How To Keep Your Cool When They Have Lost Theirs

Room #210

Sharon Ronan, LLP, CAC, Bethany Christian Services

Tips and techniques for understanding anger in teens as well as creative ways to respond. The focus will be on ways to recognize and intervene positively when you see signs of anger in your adolescent.

Strategies For Parenting The Strong-Willed or Defiant Child

Room #212

Tim Zwart, EdD, Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services
Strong-willed children can bring great joy, but even greater frustration. This workshop will focus on effective approaches for parenting children who are strong-willed, oppositional, and defiant.

Strengthening Your Family's Communication

Room #213

Pam White, PhD, Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services

This workshop will offer nuts and bolts of good communication techniques that can strengthen relationships in your family. Special attention will be given to interactions with pre-schoolers, elementary "schoolers," and teens.

Grandparenting....Walking on Eggshells

Room #214

Carol Butler, MA, LCP, Christian Counseling Center
Navigating the delicate relationship between adult children and their parents can be a challenge. We'll discuss how to handle differences in rules, traditions, money and control, especially as it relates to grandparenting. Carol is the mother of three and grandmother of six.

Why Children Misbehave: Understanding Your Child's Unspoken Needs

Room #215

Paul Hewitt PsyD, Christian Counseling Center

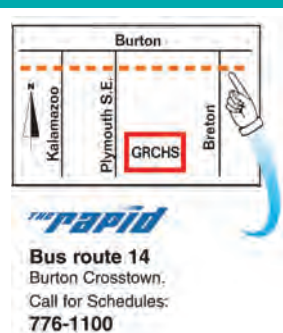
Are you beating your head against the wall, trying to understand why your child misbehaves and what to do about it? This workshop will explore some of the underlying reasons for misbehavior and provide helpful ways for parents to respond to their children effectively.

My Child Has What? Demystifying Autism and Related Disorders

Room #216

Bruce Retterath, PhD, Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services

A diagnosis of High Functioning Autism, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Asperger's or Pervasive Developmental Disorder can be frightening and confusing. Dr. Retterath will provide an overview of these terms used in clinical and school settings, what they mean, and what treatment approaches are available.



SPONSORING AGENCIES:



OTHER SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS:



Call the DeVos Center for Arts & Worship at (616) 574-5600 or visit www.dcaw.org