



Early Childhood Methodist Conference

Track A



A Training Event for
Teachers of Children Ages 0–6
Sponsored by
United Methodist Texas Conference Weekday Ministries

Thursday and Friday, February 1 & 2, 2018

Conference Location:
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
3471 Westheimer
Houston, Texas 77027

Key Note Speaker

Lisa Murphy



Thursday:
Many Kinds of Smart!
Understanding the
Theory of Multiple Intelligences

Friday:
10 Little Hot Dogs Frying in the *What?!?!?*
Fingerplays songs and chants for transition
time, circle time or any time!

Lisa Murphy has been involved with early childhood education for over 20 years; teaching and working with children in various environments including Head Start, kindergarten, private preschools, family childcare, park and rec centers, group homes and many child care centers. Lisa is the founder and CEO of **Ooey Gooney, Inc.** where her mission is to assist in the transformation of the industry of early childhood education by offering 1) the best workshops and trainings; 2) the most up to date materials and resources; and 3) insightful conversations and connections through the power of social media. Lisa presents hundreds of workshops each year to both domestic and international audiences on various topics related to early childhood education.

Lisa has an M.Ed. in early childhood education from Champlain College in Vermont. She has authored four books, produced dozens of teacher training DVDs and is a popular keynote speaker at educational conferences. Lisa's standing-room-only seminars have become nationally known for their information, humor, inspiration and energetic delivery. Frequently asked if she has ever been a stand-up comic, Lisa practices what she preaches by blending the learning with the laughing.

Lisa collaborates with Jeff Johnson from Explorations Early Learning on various projects related to early childhood education, including hosting an annual UNConference and producing THE CHILD CARE BAR AND GRILL podcast – which releases two episodes a week to listeners around the globe. Lisa has become known for her ability to link hands-on activities to educational standards, her outspoken advocacy, and her commitment to creating child-centered, play-based early childhood environments. Her understanding of the importance of play is obvious in her personal and professional life.

Registration Information

1. Registration is ONLINE and participants will be able to choose from many workshops!
2. Priority is given to Methodist programs. Online registration begins December 5th for Methodist programs and December 12th for all other programs. Please be prompt with registration, as some workshops will fill early.
3. Participants must be registered individually. Directors may register each staff member or allow teachers to register themselves.
4. Cost per participant is **\$85**. Payment may be made for individuals via Paypal or credit card. An entire staff may register and request to pay via check. The school may submit one check that covers all participants. To ensure that we post your payment correctly, please include the Account Summary of each participant when paying via check. Please make your check payable to ECMC Houston and mail it to the address below.
5. After January 12, 2018, the cost to register increases to \$100.
6. Mailed checks must be postmarked by Monday, January 15, 2018. If your check is not received on time, participants may not be able to attend the conference.
7. Please be sure to contact the registrars, Josette Horaist and Debra Fischer, if you have any questions or problems. Their contact information is listed below.

To Register:

1. Go to our website at <http://www.ecmchouston.com>.
2. Locate your school on the Register page.
3. Choose from:
Conference Registration Advanced Track Registration Directors' Track Registration
4. Choose your workshops and times for the two-day conference.
5. Add all workshops to cart.
6. When you are ready, proceed to check out. Here you will complete your registration information, which will include an email address and a password. **Each person registered will be required to have an email address and a password.**
7. Decide your method of payment and agree to the terms and conditions of registration.
8. **Please be sure to print your confirmed workshops for the conference as we are going paperless this year!**

Please send payment and direct all questions to the Registrars:

via mail:

ECMC c/o Debra Fischer
5501 Main Street
Houston, Texas 77004

via email:

ECMCregistrar@gmail.com

Details of the 2018 conference:

Lunches: The conference fee includes a morning snack and lunch each day plus two (2) drinks. Please note that ECMC is not able to provide for special dietary restrictions. If you have special dietary needs, feel free to bring your own lunch.

Speaker Credentials: All speakers presenting at ECMC 2018 meet the trainer qualifications required by TDFPS effective January 2012. Speaker qualifications are kept on file and can be provided to participants if requested.

Parking: Signage will direct you where to park. We encourage carpooling.

Visit our **website** for more conference information: <http://www.ecmc.com>

Please note: In case of conference cancellation due to inclement weather or other circumstances beyond our control, there will be no refunds. Registered participants will be offered a make-up day at no cost.

Conference Schedule 2018 Track A

Thursday		Friday
Registration, Vendors, & Sharing	8:00 – 8:45 a.m.	Vendors, & Sharing
Session 1	8:45 – 10:15 a.m.	Session 3
Break, Vendors, & Sharing	10:15 – 10:45 a.m.	Break, Vendors, & Sharing
Session 2	10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Session 4
Lunch, Vendors, & Sharing	12:15 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch, Vendors, & Sharing
Welcome & Keynote	1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Keynote
I/T Advanced Track (includes lunch) 8:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.		PK Advanced Track (includes lunch) 8:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.
Director’s Track (includes lunch) 8:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.		

Please notice that we have tightened the schedule to allow participants to complete 5 hours of training by 2:30 p.m. PLEASE REMEMBER TO USE ALL FREE TIME TO VISIT THE VENDORS AND THE SHARING ROOM. You receive training credit for these activities.

Early Childhood Methodist Conference Etiquette

The conference mission is to provide a quality, professional training experience for quality, professional Early Childhood Educators. Please remember to respectfully represent your school at all times.

- All attendees must arrange their own childcare. No children are allowed at the conference.
- Cell phones should be turned off during the Keynote and all training sessions.
- Beverages and food are not allowed in the Sanctuary.
- Keep in mind that all the “staff” at the conference are volunteers. Please be kind and speak to them respectfully.
- The clock hour certificate will be provided after the attendee has completed her/his evaluation of the conference online. This certificate is provided in good faith. Each attendee is honor bound to attend all required training sessions.

Sharing Exhibit 2018

Show your ECMC strength this year by joining in our Sharing Exhibit!

We are looking for documentation of excellent early childhood activities that illustrate one or more of the three core considerations of Developmentally Appropriate Practices:

- Knowing about child development and learning;
- Knowing what is individually appropriate; and
 - Knowing what is culturally important.

Others will love seeing your successful ideas!

New This Year: Please document with photos and brief explanations on a tri-fold board.

NO props necessary.

All submissions must be accompanied by the Sharing Exhibit Description Form which has been sent to your program Director. Bring your trifold board to the SLUMC Fellowship Walk greeting desk on Thursday and pick it up at the close of the conference on Friday.

Questions may be emailed to Debbie Durkin, pandddurkin@att.net

Please Note: Sharing Exhibit contributors who meet all the criteria earn one clock hour of professional development credit!

We are stronger when we share!

Conference Workshops

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A1	1,2,3 Read and Learn with Me: STEM for the Littlest Learners	Christine Alderman	1, T, & 2	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Learn the latest brain research and see modeled activities for our littlest learners to set them up for success in literacy, science, technology, engineering, and math. Participants will learn how to make little moments with infants and toddlers into huge learning opportunities throughout the day.

Christine is an independent trainer (TECPD Registered #3671) of three years and has worked in public and private schools with Twos–PreK. She has an M.Ed. from Harvard University and a B.S. from Vanderbilt University Early Childhood and Early Education.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Areas
A2	Sensational Beginnings: Sensory and Motor Activities for Infants & Toddlers	Marilyn Bitsis	1, T, & 2, admin	Child Growth & Development

Discover how you can make a difference in the development of an infant or toddler. What you say and do really matters. Marilyn will demonstrate sensory and motor activities to encourage early learning.

Marilyn Bitsis, a Master Registered Trainer in the Texas Early Care and Education Development System, has co-authored a book *Sensational Beginnings – Sensory and Motor Activities for Infants and Toddlers*. She is a graduate of the University of Mississippi and has a combined twenty–six years of business and teaching experience. She is the owner of the motor skills company Kidbuilders.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A3	Making the Classics Rock!	Barbara Brandt	3, 4, & K	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Children like what is familiar, and music becomes familiar only when children hear it often enough, so if we introduce children to the classics when they are young, they will appreciate and listen to them their whole lives. Providing a musically stimulating environment for children in our classrooms not only increases their musical ability, it also promotes their physical development, language development, pre–reading skills, math skills, ability to self–regulate, and creative expression, among other benefits. You don't have to be a music teacher to learn how to pair children's literature with classical music in ways that are emotionally resonant, easily understood, remarkably relevant, and fantastically fun!

Barbara has worked with young children for many years in many places, including the Houston Zoo, where I was the early childhood educator. This is her eleventh year at St. Luke's Day School: I began as a classroom teacher (3–year–olds and PreK), and she is currently teaching music to everyone from infants through kindergarteners.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A4	Trauma and Attachment Theory	Nancy Cook, Ph.D	3, 4, & K	Child Growth & Development

This participative workshop will present a basic conceptualization of attachment theory as a way to understand children's behavior. It will then integrate some of the most recent research about trauma and the impact of trauma on a child's ability to develop socially and emotionally.

Dr. Cook has a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and a Ph.D. in Early Childhood Education and Child Development. She is in private practice in Houston, Texas.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A5	Consistency, Choices, & Consequences	Jan Flowers	PK & K	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

In this interactive session, we will be discussing how to use consistency, choices, and consequences in the classroom in a loving, intentional way.

Jan has always loved working with children. She has a degree in Health from The University of Houston and a masters in Early Childhood Education from The University of St. Thomas. She began her by being a nanny for nine years. She began her teaching career at St. Luke's Day School, where she taught 2s, Pre-K, and the Bridge class. She then did private tutoring before starting at The Joy School, where she has taught Kindergarten through 3rd grade for the past 18 years. She also takes groups of children on trips to Colorado where they work on organization, confidence and social skills. She loves teaching children to read and helping them find the joy in learning.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A6	Fine Motor Skills ... Write Out of the Box!	Marianne Gibbs, EdD, OTR	3, 4, & K admin	Child Growth & Development

Marianne will provide an engaging hands-on presentation of the fine motor development of young children 3-6 years old. session, which supports pencil grasp and pre-writing development across the curriculum, contains essential, rarely addressed; information for educators of all young children. Activities and techniques are ready to use in the classroom tomorrow!

Marianne Gibbs, EdD, OTR is an occupational therapist and dynamic, nationally-known early childhood educational speaker. In addition to being a contributing author to Frog Street Press Pre-K curriculum and Benson Handwriting programs, she is the owner of Gibbs Consulting, Incorporated. Dr. Gibbs provides once in a lifetime workshops - every time!

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A7	Handling Challenging Behaviors – Addressing the Underlying Stressors	Diane Goyette	T – K	Guidance

Many children are experiencing stressors in their lives which lead to challenging behaviors, especially children with identified special needs such as ADHD and autism. Learn how to buffer the effects of these stressors and accommodate these children's needs. You will learn effective guidance strategies for preventing challenging behaviors, managing meltdowns when they happen, and teaching these children what to do instead.

Diane is a Child Development Specialist, a TECPDS Master Registered Level Trainer, and a certified Child Care Health Consultant. She has a Master's Degree in Child Development and 30 years of experience in early childhood education and teacher training. She provides training and consulting through her company, Early Childhood Specialties LLC.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A8	Language Learning for Littles: Sharing Words, Ideas and Emotions with Young Children	Sharon R. Jackson	T – K	Child Growth & Development

Oral language development doesn't stop when a child learns to speak...it continues throughout life as children absorb vocabulary, are prompted to think deeply and learn to be both a speaker and a listener. This session will discuss ways that teachers and parents can encourage language learning and will offer tools and suggestions for a variety of ages. Finally, the opportunity to share and network will allow tried and true ideas to be presented.

Sharon is an early childhood veteran with over 40 years in the field! She is a strong proponent of play based learning and believes that respect is the foundation for positive early experiences. Sharon directs a birth to five program and presents nationally on a variety of topics about early learning and partnering with families for success.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A9	The Richards Institute of Education and Research/Education Through Music (ETM)	Carmen Kelly	all	Child Growth & Development

Offering a refreshingly different way to approach learning, Education Through Music (ETM) frees adults to teach and parent in accordance with the joyful nature of children. Through song and play, ETM provides a gateway for contemporary understanding of learning, motivation, child theory, and cognitive development; and helps with discipline in the classroom. Since 1969, the staff of the Richards Institute of Education and Research has traveled across the US; and Canada; and in Japan, offering a variety of courses and workshops in communities like yours to help improve intelligence through song-experience-games.

Carmen's 30-years as a physical therapist and 22-year history as a mother of a daughter with brain damage and sensory processing dysfunction have led her on a journey of learning how best to teach her daughter in home schooling and life skills. She has been certified in Sensory Integration and Praxis Testing (S.I.P.T.) for 17 years, and she currently works as a pediatric PT in an outpatient clinic, where she specializes in working with children with autism. She recently returned from teaching an Atypical Brain workshop in Japan, for the Japanese ETM. She has also begun her PhD program at Texas Woman's University in the Houston Medical Center, to learn how to teach other physical therapists how best to work with patients with autism. Carmen will be joined by Dr. Romanda Hutsell, a pediatrician, and Mary Mountford, a retired teacher of elementary school children and a church musician, who bring their wealth of knowledge to our workshop.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A10	Revive Your Read-Alouds	Pat Miller	PK & K	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

A well-done story time increases listening ability, grows language skills, breeds a love of books, and bonds you and your students – and it's fun! This session will give you techniques to increase engagement with story time rituals, dynamic book selections, and ways to enhance your storytelling.

Pat has taught grades PK – 5 as a classroom teacher and librarian for 37 years, both in public and private schools. She wrote 20 books of lesson ideas for school librarians, 200 professional articles, and seven books for children. She and her husband, a former principal, have three children, seven young grandchildren, and an illiterate Jack Russell terrier. Learn more at www.patmillerbooks.com.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A11	From Tantrums to Teachable	Peggy Osborne	T – K admin	Guidance

What is the most successful process to use when a child melts down? How can I begin to lay a new neural pathway in the child's brain so that they will have acceptable options to express their emotions when the world does not go their way? Does the Bible say anything about our emotions and give us any guidance? Join us as we discuss these and other questions!

Peggy has 25+ years in the field of education as a teacher and an administrator with the Early Childhood Department in College Station ISD. She worked for 14 years as a Certified Instructor in Conscious Discipline. She is currently Co-Owner and Consultant for You Are My Treasure. Peggy presents with her daughter and daughter in law at Women's Events, Retreats and Parent Workshops and trains Christian Educators as well.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A12	21 st Century Littles: Exploring the Future of Early Childhood and How to Keep Up!	Erika Sanchez	3 – K	Child Growth & Development

Education is rapidly shifting, and the future world of our Littles will be very different due to the many technological advances. Explore how we can keep up by utilizing a Professional Learning Network while maintaining our core preschool values. The world is full of iPhones, tablets and digital media and they're not going away. Let's begin the conversation of how to embrace 21st Century learning and foster Digital Citizenship as professional educators and for our young learners.

Erika Sanchez has been passionate about doing what is right for over 20 years. Her enthusiasm for education has led her to continue to be an advocate for innovation and best practices in Preschools. She holds an M.Ed. in Special Education and a B.A. SPED/Early Childhood. Erika has been a Preschool Director, Preschool teacher and Kindergarten teacher in both private and public schools and currently teaches PPCD/Kinder Inclusion for Cy Fair ISD. She has been presenting to educators at the local and state level for 15 years and is a fun loving Mom to 4 boys ranging in age from college age to 1st grade.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A13	Move Over Time Out: Movement Alternatives to Time Out	Margaret Schafer	T – K	Guidance

Let's face it, we all try Time Out in the classroom, but does it really work? In this workshop you'll learn the original intent for the technique and how to use movement and the 14 Basic KidBuilders Skills as alternatives to traditional, often unsuccessful time-out.

Margaret Schafer is a Master Professional Registered Trainer with the Texas Early Care and Education Career Development System. She is a graduate of Converse College and has 25 years of early childhood experience as a director and preschool gymnastics instructor. Margaret has also co-authored a book *Sensational Beginnings – Sensory and Motor Activities for Infants and Toddlers*.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A14	"Block"-buster Ideas or Teaching Literacy, Math and Science	Christine Smith	3 – K	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

This is a hands-on interactive workshop using blocks to teach across the curriculum. Teachers will learn how blocks construct pathways in the brain that lead to lifelong learning. We will share the joy of "building bridges" to literacy and "stack up" skills for math and science.

Christine is the Director of Early Childhood and the Carver ECC for Enid Public Schools. With 40+ years of experience in Early Childhood she also presents professional development nationally, at SECA and NAEYC and in OK, TX, KY, FL, AK, and TN. She also have taught university EC classes and serves on the State Department Early Childhood Consortium.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A15	Encouraging Creativity in Young Children Through Process Art Experiences	Donna Wheeler	T – K admin	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

During this session, we will explore and gain a deeper understanding of developmentally appropriate art practices. Through hands-on activities participants will be able to recognize the differences between "process art" and "product art". Participants will have the opportunity to develop intentional curriculum that supports a child's creativity, need for choice and exploration of materials at their own pace.

Donna has been in the field of Early Childhood education for 27 years. She has been a preschool director, a nature educator, and CDA instructor. She is looking forward to sharing her research and classroom experiences of how children develop and start on their path to creativity.

Directors' Track

Designed for directors, this is a 4-hour long workshop (including lunch) and will be offered on Thursday only. Participants will still go to the keynote address on the day they attend this workshop.

Thursday Directors' Track

#	Workshop	Presenters	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A16 DT	Follow the Leader & Ask the Experts	Mark Lukert, Jodi Carroll, Anna Williamson, Janie Gallagher	admin	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Mark Lukert will start us off with an inspiring workshop, Follow the Leader, where he will discuss how as school leaders you instigate, facilitate, evaluate, delegate, and most importantly CELEBRATE! Leading your school by example is of utmost importance. He will share team-building ideas that focus on valuing your teachers, and building your staff through the intentional use of team-builders and motivators.

Following the lunch together, you will have an opportunity to "ask the experts." We've brought together a panel of experts moderated by Jodi Carroll, Director of Holy Covenant Child Development Center. Our experts include: Mark Lukert (retired principal and national leadership speaker), Anna Williamson (Infant/Toddler Team Leader and Assessment Coordinator, St. Luke's Day School), and Janie Gallagher (Human Resource Manager, St. Luke's United Methodist Church)

Make sure you come ready to do some shopping!
This year, the vendors will be in the
The Activity Center

Advanced Track

Designed for very experienced teachers, this is a 4 hour long workshop (including lunch) and will be offered on one day only.

Participants will still go to the keynote address on the day they attend this workshop.

If you choose the Advanced Track, please ensure that you **ONLY** attend the workshop that is relative to the age that you teach.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A17 AT/IT	Thursday: Nursery Rhymes with Infants, Toddlers, & Twos	Susan Meriwether	I & T	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Children who listen and learn to rhyme become readers. Become aware of the importance of introducing nursery rhymes early and their influence on child development. Learn to use nursery rhymes as a teaching tool with infants, toddlers, and twos.

Susan has been in the field of early education for over 20 years and has a Masters degree with a Specialization in Working with Infants, Toddlers, and Families. Recently, she graduated from the Rice University's School for Literature & Culture Early Literacy Leadership Academy (ELLA). She teaches two and three-year-old children at St. Francis Episcopal School.

#	Workshop	Presenter	Ages	Core Knowledge Area
A18 AT/PK	Friday: Meaningful Math for Young Minds	Chrissy Liverman	PK-K	Professional Practice, Methods, & Curriculum

Learn ways to foster the development of mathematical concepts and skills in a fun and meaningful way! We will discuss ways to enrich implementation so that strong mathematical foundations of learning are being formed in each of your students.

Chrissy Liverman is currently in her 17th year of teaching. She has taught kindergarten and first grade in Katy I.S. D. and she is currently teaching Transition at Holy Covenant Child Development Center. In her career, she has had the privilege to serve in the role of Lead Campus Mentor which allowed her to work directly with mentors to better support first year teachers. In 2005, she was awarded Teacher of the Year at McRoberts Elementary School. This past Fall, she had the honor and privilege to speak and train teachers at other schools.