



SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024

Online – Zoom link sent to registered participants

SCHEDULE OUTLINE

8:45 AM	Check-in begins online for pre-registered attendees
9:00 AM – 9:15 AM	Symposium opens Greetings, welcome, introductions
9:15 AM – 10:15 AM	Breakout Session 1 (60 min) Choose from 2 sessions – details on following pages
10:15 AM – 11:15 AM	Breakout Session 2 (60 min) Choose from 2 sessions – details on following pages
11:15 AM – 12:15 PM	Breakout Session 3 (60 min) Choose from 2 sessions – details on following pages
12:15 PM	Farewell



Find more details about the sessions on the Literacy Texas website.

Scan the code above, or go to:

LiteracyTexas.org/Faith

LITERACY SYMPOSIUM FOR FAITH-AFFILIATED PROGRAMS

reconnecting



PROGRAM DETAILS

8:45 AM **CHECK-IN ONLINE FOR PRE-REGISTERED ATTENDEES**

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM **Symposium opens – greetings, welcome, introductions**

Lester Meriwether – Literacy ConneXus
Dr. Jenny McCormack Walker – Literacy Texas

9:15 AM – 10:15 AM **Breakout Session 1 (60 min)**

ROOM 1: SLIFE: Students With Limited or Interrupted Formal Education

Katie Welch, Ph.D. - Literacy ConneXus

ESL students' home languages are considered linguistic assets that teachers can build upon. But, what happens when students have limited literacy in their home language due to war, poverty, refugee status, etc.? These students are referred to as SLIFE (Students with Limited or Interrupted Formal Education) and usually require additional support, as they often do not have foundational literacy skills to transfer from one language to another. In this session, we will learn about the unique needs of SLIFE students and how their educational backgrounds impact language acquisition. We will also consider ways that ESL teachers can provide instructional scaffolds and supports to accommodate SLIFE students.

ROOM 2: Ministries of Excellence

Lester Meriwether - Literacy ConneXus

In helping begin new literacy ministries in communities, Literacy ConneXus promotes the use of a twenty-point checklist developed by Robin Feistel. For example, Step 1 is Conduct a Community Assessment – make sure that what you are planning fits the needs of your community. But many faith-affiliated literacy programs in Texas have existed for 20 or more years. Several more than 50. For existing ministries, we recommend a 15-item checklist based on ProLiteracy's Quality Standards. In our breakout session on Ministries of Excellence, Lester Meriwether will review the 15 standards used by Literacy ConneXus to assist churches in addressing existing programming and making decisions about helpful changes. John Spear, Director of ESL at Southcliff Church in Fort Worth, was the first person to lead his church to do this self study, and will offer feedback during the session. Workshop participants will receive materials developed by Literacy ConneXus as well as links to ProLiteracy's model.

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10:15 AM – 11:15 AM **Breakout Session 2 (60 min)**

ROOM 1: DART – Digital Access & Resilience in Texas

Dr. Glenda Rose - GREAT Consultants

Know that you need to include digital literacy in your adult English language classroom but not sure how? This session was created just for you! Adult English Language Learners in 2024 need more than reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. They need to know how to safely navigate the increasingly digitized landscape, a task that is hard to do when you have to understand both the screens and buttons as well as the English on them! This session looks at basic concepts for including digital literacy in an easy way that does not take away from time spent acquiring the four basic English skills. Plus, discover the completely free Digital Access and Resilience in Texas (DART) Curriculum with lessons you can implement immediately.

DART was written specifically for adult English Language Learners, including those with limited or no Roman-alphabet experience, so let's get digital!

ROOM 2: Introducing Resource Partners: Literacy Texas, TCALL, and TextESOL

Dr. Cindy Kilpatrick - Literacy ConneXus, Dr. Jenny McCormack Walker - Literacy Texas

Are you looking for resources for teaching and training? Come get connected with key organizations that can help build success for your program! Many ESL programs need additional resources to help build capacity in their programs and provide training for teachers, but finding the right ones can be a struggle. This presentation will provide an introduction to several key resources that are available for faith-based programs. First, we will examine the resources available on the TCALL website and discuss how programs can use these resources effectively. Second, we review the teacher trainings offered by Literacy ConneXus as a training resource for faith-based programs. We further extend teacher training to professional development through regional TextESOL organizations that host annual conferences whose content is relevant to teachers in ESL programs. Finally, we offer an overview of the services, trainings, and resources provided by Literacy Texas and discuss their relevance for faith-based ESL programs.

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11:15 AM – 12:15 PM **Breakout Session 3 (60 min)**

ROOM 1: What do you need beyond the basics?

Karen Peiser - Literacy ConneXus; Kathleen Yarborough - Crosspoint Church

Join us for a transformative time to discover how to teach the needs of the higher-level student. You will walk through ideas, tips and examples of how to implement higher level strategies as you teach ESL.

The session includes an interactive time for questions. At the end of the session you will leave equipped with practical knowledge to elevate your teaching “beyond the basics”.

ROOM 2: Language Hospitality: Connecting Church Leaders With Literacy Experts

Kristyn Kidney - Language Hospitality Project; Katie Welch, Ph.D., Matthew Johnston, Janice Long - Literacy ConneXus

In an increasingly multilingual society, language hospitality is an important consideration for the Church. Kristen Kidney, creator of The Language Hospitality Project, is currently leading a group of Church leaders and literacy experts through a deep dive of language hospitality, with the goal of equipping local churches to more effectively welcome multilingual people. In this session, join Kristen as she unpacks the Biblical call to engage in intentional, radical, and reciprocal hospitality. Then, hear from representatives from 3 different churches in the DFW metroplex as they describe how they are applying the principles and practices of language hospitality in their own ministry contexts.

12:15 PM

Door Prizes & Farewell