Bell Basics for Ringers and Directors  Mark Arnold
This class will focus on using and teaching correct handbell technique. Beginning with the “Three S’s” that provide a controlled yet relaxed ringing style, additional skills will include weaving and bell changes, special considerations for upper treble and lower bass ringers, and how to correctly produce stopped sounds with and without mallets - all in a musical and ergonomic way.

From Page to Performance –
Score preparation, bell assignment and Rehearsal Techniques  Mark Arnold
Preparation is the key to success! This session will delve into the pre-rehearsal planning needed for handbell groups, including bell assignments and score preparation, then discuss different approaches to rehearsing less advanced groups for musical success.

Beyond the Bell Choir - Introduction to Solo and Small Ensemble Ringing  Mark Arnold
Whether you're looking for a way to challenge a particularly talented ringer or just short on players, solo and ensemble ringing has a place in your handbell program. We'll explore the skills and technique required for success, attempt some "hands-on" ensembles, and survey some of the music available for solo ringer, handbell quartet, and other size ensembles.

Beginning / Intermediate Reading Session  Mark Arnold
Read and ring an assortment of music for Level 1 - 2+, including recent releases and some older gems.

Dots on the Lines - Creating Handbell Music  Mark Arnold & Hart Morris
How do composers approach creating a new work? What do I need to know to write or arrange music for my group? What in the world were they thinking when they wrote this? Insights from Hart and Mark on handbell music creation and the process of getting from ideas to print to sound. Bring your questions and ideas to share!

Sing Your Way through the Bible  Mark Burrows
From Genesis to Revelation, we will experience a wonderful variety of pieces that help kids explore God’s Great Story. SO much more than a reading session.
Anthems All Around
Mark Burrows
One of my favorite phrases is “Redeem it for the Kingdom.” There are SO many amazing, powerful, meaningful anthems out there – hidden in plain sight. Is it because they don’t show up on a typical church reading session? Or is it because we simply needed to put on our “God Goggles” so we can recognize the amazing anthems all around?!

Children in Worship: This Is Our Story
Mark Burrows
We will use singing, body percussion, movement, and drama – some of the gifts God gave us – to help bring God’s word to life in amazing ways for our children.

Children in Worship: This Is Our Song
Mark Burrows
As children’s music ministers, we are uniquely situated to advocate for the inclusion on children in the worship life of the community. The hymns we choose, the songs we sing, the way we encourage the congregation to interact with one another (rather than expect them to behave like an audience “consuming a product” – all of these can help our dear ones feel more connected to the place where Jesus has already said they belong.

To Musical or not to Musical
Mark Burrows
Are musicals possibly both the most popular and most stressful thing we do in our children’s music ministries? In this session we’ll explore ways to make the experience of putting on a musical as meaningful as possible. We will examine a few musicals and why they work. And we’ll even explore some “big fun project” alternatives to a musical that are still engaging for our kiddos.

Light Moments and Moments of Light
Mark Burrows
In between all the notes and rhythms are often where our greatest opportunities for music ministry take place. We will explore some ways to lighten the mood to keep kids energized. And we will go deep to discover those beautiful Moments of Light when we truly feel the presence of God’s Holy Spirit.

Drumming Our Story
Mark Burrows
Drums, rattles, and bells, oh my!
We will play easy-to-learn grooves to help us experience God’s Great Story from the inside-out.

Buckets to Body Percussion – Drumming on a Dime
Mark Burrows
We will explore ways to use found objects and body percussion to develop percussion experiences that celebrate God’s creation and our role in it.

The Heartbeat of Prayer
Mark Burrows
Drumming is about so much more than “performing” rhythms. We can utilize percussion to bring about some truly powerful, prayerful experiences.

Incorporating Modern Music in Any Style of Service
James Cheeseman
You don’t have to have a 12-piece band with dueling electric guitars, lights, and smoke in order to incorporate modern worship music in your service! We will discuss how to introduce modern music in
various ways. Whether you desire to sing some modern songs a cappella, with piano and organ, implement a rhythm section, grow your blended or band-led service, or just get some fresh ideas, this session is for you.

New Songs for Modern Worship
James Cheesman
This is not just a session to listen to songs on the CCLI Top 100 list! We will listen to songs from a variety of sources, including CCLI Top 100, modern hymns, and more peripheral genres like liturgical folk.

Questions and Creative Solutions for Band-Led Worship
James Cheesman
Text, tweet, or write out questions that we will address in this final session.

Resources for Band-Led Worship
James Cheesman
There are a plethora of resources for band-led worship in our day and time. We’ll dive in and explore as many as possible, including methodologies for learning instruments, different ways of writing/reading charts for bands, online resources for hearing new music, online resources for purchasing music, podcasts, blogs, helpful books, and additional worship technology resources. Hopefully everyone attending this session will walk away with one new resource they can use for band-led worship.

Worship Technology Part 1:
How to Plan Worship, Get Music, and Coordinate People With Ease!
James Cheesman
Explore worship planning programs which help you put an order of service together, store songs in a database, and coordinate your musicians’ schedules, such as Planning Center Online. We will also discuss resources like SongSelect, PraiseCharts, and LifewayWorship.com, where you can purchase music for your band.

Worship Technology Part 2:
Lyric Presentation Options, Rehearsal Technology, and Sound/Recording Technology
James Cheesman
Do you need a lyric presentation software for your projectors, or would you like to know what else is out there? We will pick up where we left off in Worship Technology Part 1 and discuss lyric presentation options for your projector like ProPresenter and Proclaim. You should also come to hear about technology like click tracks and in-ear monitors, and ways to use recording software (free software like Audacity as well as expensive software like Logic Pro) for your ministry.

Family Systems & Congregational Life: A Map for Ministry
Robert Creech
We will explore how understanding the ways that congregations function like families provides a "map," or way of thinking about ministry, that can guide leaders and ministers in their relationships.

Exploring the Champions of Faith Curriculum with Younger Children
Teresa Granger
(Grades 1-3)
In this workshop we will explore biblical characters who were Champions of Faith through the singing of anthems, singing games, sound stories, movement, and the playing of instruments with younger children’s choirs. Attention will be given to learning how the GIG Curriculum can be implemented in your church or school setting.
Exploring the Champions of Faith Curriculum with Older Children (Grades 4-6) Teresa Granger
In this workshop we will explore biblical characters who were Champions of Faith through the singing of anthems, singing games, sound stories, movement, and the playing of instruments with older children’s choirs. Attention will be given to learning how the GIG Curriculum can be implemented in your church or school setting.

Let All Children Sing Together: Resources for the Combined Choir Setting (Grades 1-6) Teresa Granger
This workshop provides an introduction to brand new resources from Growing in Grace designed specifically for use in a combined choir setting. Attention will also focus on addressing the challenges choir directors face when directing a combined age choir.

“What’s in the Bag?” Teresa Granger
A Bag of Tricks for Children’s Choir Workers - Special Interest
Discover the gadgets and props in the bag that combine hands on activities for actively involving the children in choral singing while developing choral skills. Attendees will receive practical strategies, props, and choral tips that are ready to use in children’s choir rehearsals or the school setting.

Getting the Wiggles Out Nan Grantham
Let’s plan on movement and fun to get us warmed up for the day and gather a collection of ideas that work with preschoolers—hopefully pulling together the energies of some who might wiggle too much, while introducing ideas that will bring forth the participation of the most shy child in the class.

Mentors and “New-bies” Welcome! Nan Grantham
Every class has a mixture of the two! In this session we will bounce ideas back and forth to help the “new-bies” move forward with confidence, plus ideas of “things that worked for me” from the mentors in the group. If you have worked in choir before you may well be a mentor to someone just getting started. Please be thinking of things you can share!

Meet GIG! Nan Grantham
Yes! We will see, touch, sing, and do activities and songs from the Growing in Grace Fall Semester Curriculum. If you are currently using it, what a terrific boost for your preparation! If you have never used it, then you will see it in a truly wonderful display and demonstration.

Do It Again! Nan Grantham
What an assortment for you in this class—things that worked so well and brought so much joy (could be through fun, or even worship experiences), they have survived the test of time and must be used again! Sources may be previous Growing in Grace materials, giving you a glance at the themes used through the years which continue to be available. If original sources are lost or gone forever, then we will offer ways to revive them and use them again!
I Am Teaching What!?!  
Nan Grantham

The elements of music we teach do not change—rhythm, melody, harmony, form, tone, and expression. Even if you say you are not a teacher or musician—or if you say “these are just preschoolers”—do I have a barrel for you! We will pull scarves and legos and bouncing balls and puppets and more surprises from that barrel and link them to those elements, enabling preschoolers to experience—and thereby learn—these things. And—you can look at what you have taught, pat yourself on the back, and think “I guess I’m better than I thought!”

Preparing a Masterwork: Gloria, RV589 by Antonio Vivaldi  
Stephen Gusukuma

Want to prepare and perform a choral masterwork with limited resources? It is absolutely possible with the right knowledge and preparation. Dr. Gusukuma will present a practical guide to planning, preparing, rehearsing, and performing a masterwork using Vivaldi: Gloria, RV 589 as a model.

Children and Singing  
Wynn Anne Hook

In this session Wynn Anne will discuss tips and techniques on how to develop the child’s voice and teach them to sing in harmony!

Children's Music Program in the Local Church  
Wynn Anne Hook

This session will explore how to develop a children’s music program that fits both the needs and size of your church.

Music Activities that Teach  
Wynn Anne Hook

In this session Wynn Anne will share tips for using music to teach scripture and truths.

Children, Rhythm, and Instruments  
Wynn Anne Hook

This session is designed to introduce you to a variety of ways to have fun with instruments. Join us as Wynn Anne walks us through multiple ways to connect children to instruments in fun and exciting ways.

Children and Worship  
Wynn Anne Hook

How can children be a part of worship in your church? This session will cover creative ideas for including children in leadership in corporate worship.

Tis Pleasant to Repeat!  
Monique Ingalls

The Art and Science of Repetition in Musical Worship
The topic of repetition abounds in our conversations about music in worship. Whether we’re discussing words, melodies, songs, or song genres, everyone seems to have an opinion on how much repetition is too much, too little, or just right. This workshop draws from recent work in cognitive science, musicology, and practical theology to present a framework for determining why we should repeat, what we should repeat, and how we should repeat when leading music in congregational worship.

The Path to Excellence: Good Enough Never Is  
Hart Morris

A discussion of the rehearsing and presenting of the best your ensemble has to offer.
You Are a Percussionist Now – Deal with it: Rhythm
Rhythm games: emphasizing the importance of internalizing rhythm.

You Are a Percussionist Now – Deal with it: Mallet Technique
An effort to address an ever-present issue: ‘Are you kidding me? I can’t do that!’

Intermediate / Advanced Handbell Reading Session
Read and ring an assortment of music for Levels 3-5.

300 Years of Isaac Watts’s Psalms of David Imitated
The Psalms of David Imitated was a groundbreaking work of congregational song and the source of such hymns as "Joy to the World" and "Jesus Shall Reign." This session will include discussion of Watts’s technique of paraphrasing the psalms and the singing of some of his best known texts.

Come to Us, Creative Spirit
Practical tips for creative hymn playing.

The Organist’s Alpha and Omega
A survey of chorale-based repertoire, both old and new, suitable for preludes and postludes.

There’s a Sweet, Sweet, Spirit in the Air
A survey of spirituals and African/African American organ literature.

Dieterich Buxtehude: Master of the Art of Music
Lecture/demonstration of Buxtehude’s organ and sacred music.

The French Connection
A workshop on French Classical organ music performance practice.

Music and Conscience: Bach and Bonhoeffer
An exploration of the intersection of Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s theology and ethics with the music of Bach and other composers that he loved.

The Organ Anthem
Favorites from the vast repertoire of anthems with a significant organ accompaniment.

The 21st Century Organist
Teaching today’s young organ students.

The Art of Melody
Tips on how to write solid melodies.