

IOWA WORKSHOP SPEAKER BIOS

Dawn Gentry (M.A., M. Div. Assistant NCC Professor) joined the faculty of Nebraska Christian College in 2018 to head the Family Life and Counseling degree program. She has taught Children's Ministry as an Intensives adjunct for NCC for several years previously and has taught at Milligan College in Tennessee. Dawn has also spoken at leadership training events across the country on topics that include Volunteer Recruitment, Connections and First Impressions, and Women in Ministry. Her master's degrees are from Cincinnati Christian University and Emmanuel Christian Seminary.

Dave Fremstad stepped into the role of Executive Director of CEM (Christian Evangelistic Mission) on November 1st, 2018. Dave comes to CEM with an extensive background in ministry, fundraising and public relations. Most recently, he worked at Deaf Missions helping their ministry in the areas of fundraising, development and church relations. Prior to this, he was on staff at First Christian Church in Council Bluffs as Family Life Pastor, overseeing all aspects of discipleship. Dave and his wife, Dori, reside in Council Bluffs. They have been married for 26 years and have two grown children, Josh and Sarah.

Josh Weece has been in ministry for over a dozen years and has spent about half of that time in Whiting, as the Worship and now Lead Minister at WCC. He is passionate about leading people in worship, drinking coffee, listening to music, and building relationships with people in the church and community. Josh and his wife, Corrine, welcomed their first child, Leo, back in October and are thrilled to be parents. They are excited to see how God is going to continue to grow His church in rural Iowa and look forward to being a part of ministry for years to come." Josh is serving on the Planning Committee for the IA RCC.

Bill Thornton (M.Min., NCC Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministries) is a native of Garnett, KS, and a graduate of Manhattan Christian College (B.A. Bible Ministries) and Creighton University (MM in Pastoral Counseling). Thornton served on the pastoral staff of Capitol City Christian Church in Lincoln, NE, for 30 years (17 years as senior minister). In addition to guest preaching at a number of area churches upon request, Bill also preaches on Sunday nights at Jacob's Well, a church plant in the urban core of Lincoln.

Jane Jech, an alumna of Nebraska Christian College has worked as a teacher, as the Worship Arts Director of her church, candidate for the Iowa Legislature, presidential campaign staffer, and currently serves as the Director of Development and Church Relations for Nebraska Christian College. Jane is married to Kerry Jech, the Senior Pastor of New Hope Christian Church in Marshalltown. They have four children and eight grandchildren.

Robin Runge and her husband, Tim, have 5 biological children and 3 adopted children. In 11 years of ministering as Foster and Adoptive parents, they have had 24 children in their home. The Runges live near Marshalltown, Ia. Robin has her Associate Degree in Business Management and is currently the business manager for a Christian school in Marshalltown.

Mike Cahill (M.A., M. Div, NCC Associate Professor of Youth Ministry) is a graduate of NCC (2001), Mike joined the faculty team in 2011 to focus on helping the emerging generation of youth leaders clearly communicate the gospel message to today's postmodern culture. He previously spent 13 years in ministry, both as a youth minister and as a senior pastor. He has also completed 7 marathons so far (and counting!). He currently mentors youth ministers on the field and preaches and teaches at churches throughout the Midwest regularly.

John Erickson is the Preaching Pastor for the Sutherland Iowa Church of Christ. John is serving on the Planning Committee for the IA RCC.