

2025 “United” World Conference
September 23-27
Gaylord Opryland Hotel – Nashville, TN

Track Workshops

1. Abuse, Violence, and Trauma-informed Care

Possible Topics: *Physical, Sexual, Verbal, Spousal, and Spiritual Abuse; Abuse by Counselors/Ministers; Hiding and Denying Abuse; Neglect; PTSD; Dissociation; Recovered Memories; Secondary/Vicarious Trauma; Disasters and Accidents; Compassion Fatigue; War/Refugee Trauma; Spiritual vs. Secular Trauma Treatment; Critical Incident De-briefing*

2. Addictions, Relapse, and Recovery

Possible Topics: *Styles of Addictive Disorders; Disease Model vs. Psychosocial Disorder vs. Moral Responsibility; Relapse Issues; Cutting-edge Detox Treatments; Polydrug Abusers; Ecstasy Abuse; OxyContin and New Drugs of Abuse; 12-step Programs and the Church; Role of the Holy Spirit and Accountability in Recovery; Harm-reduction Model*

3. Grief and Loss, Crisis Response, and Disaster Recovery

Possible Topics: *Styles of Grieving; Loss of a Child, Spouse or Parent; Sudden Death as Loss; Counseling with Cancer Victims/Terminally Ill; Pathological Grieving; Complicated Bereavement; Suicide; Survivor Guilt and Fostering Resiliency; Crisis and First Responder Training; Acute Stress; Natural Disasters; Domestic and Community Crisis Response*

4. UPDATED! Suicide, Self-harm, and Risky Behavior: Awareness, Prevention, De-escalation, and Postvention

Possible Topics: *Creating a Safety Plan; Assessment; Survivor Support; Non-suicidal Self-injury; Models of Suicide Prevention; Suicide Awareness; Lethal Means Restriction Counseling*

5. NEW! Compulsive Behaviors: Trends, Assessments, and Effective Treatment

Possible Topics: *Pornography; Sexual Desire; Compulsive Sexual Behavior; Problematic Internet Use; Gambling, Gaming; Emotional Eating; Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder; Religious Scrupulosity; Symptom Management; Accountability*

6. Sexuality, Sexual Interventions, and Sexual Health

Possible Topics: *Sex Therapy; Impact of Past Abuse; Gender and Sexual Response; Teens and Single Sexuality; Theology of Sex; Same-sex Attraction; HIV/STIs; Differing Sexual Expectations; Lifelong Love; Emotional Closeness and Connection; Developing Sexual Communication Skills; Impact of Past Abuse and Sexual History; Gender and Sexual Responses; Sexual Dysfunction; Pregnancy and Infertility*

- 7. UPDATED! Love, Intimacy, Pre-marital Counseling, and Marriage Enrichment**
Possible Topics: *Strengthening Marriage; Cultivating Love and Intimacy; Spiritual Oneness; Pre-marital Counseling; Marriage Mentoring; Conflict and Money Issues; Infidelity and Recovery; Divorce and Remarriage; Disaffection; Rebuilding Trust; Rekindling Romance; Marriage as a Safe Haven; Anger and Intimacy; Reconciliation and Forgiveness; Selflessness*
- 8. NEW! Marriage and Family, Parenting, Family Systems, and Therapy**
Possible Topics: *Internal Family Systems; Parenting Styles; Communication and Conflict Resolution; Generation Gap; Gender Roles; Uniqueness of Each Child; Remarriage and Blended Families; Children with Developmental Disorders; Attachment-based Parenting; Biblical Discipline; Sexual Education; Boundaries and Freedom; Parent and Adult Child Relationships; Balancing Marriage and Parenting; Counseling Gen Z; Millennials as Parents*
- 9. Couples in Crisis, Relationship Conflict, and Marital Recovery**
Possible Topics: *From Conflict to Collaboration; How to Build Honesty, Trust, and Understanding; Personality Differences; Family of Origin Issues; Characteristics of Lasting Relationships; Dating/Pre-marital Issues; Infatuation vs. Biblical Love; Gender Differences and Communication; Approval-seeking; Friendships; Importance of Christian Community*
- 10. NEW! Youth Mental Healthcare: NextGen Issues and Interventions**
Possible Topics: *Play Therapy; Media and Culture; Birth Order Influence; Peer Pressure; Conduct and Oppositional Disorders; Attachment Disorders; Teen Sexual Behavior; Suicidal Ideations; Self-injury; Eating Disorders; Substance Abuse; Impact of Parental Divorce; ADD/ADHD; School Problems; Bullying; Dating; Finding God's Will; Children and Technology*
- 11. UPDATED! Biblical Counseling, Theological Foundations, Chaplaincy, and Pastoral Care**
Possible Topics: *Transformational Psychology; Spiritual Disciplines; Experiencing God; Biblical Mediation; Forgiveness; Theology of Spiritual Transformation; Role of Scripture in Counseling; Confession and Repentance; Biblical Change Processes; Idols of the Heart; Suffering and Faith; Resisting Temptation; Grace and Redemption; Healing Prayer; Chaplaincy; Clinical Pastoral Education*
- 12. Spiritual Formation, Interventions, and Discipleship**
Possible Topics: *Spiritual Doubt and Questioning; Hypocrisy and Legalism; Caring for Ministry Leaders; Preventing Burnout; Spiritual Intimacy; Building Strong Families; Church-based 12-step Study Groups; Discipleship Programs; Spiritual Gifts in Counseling; Bringing People into God's Presence; Emotional Healing; Spiritual Interventions*
- 13. UPDATED! Mental Health Coaching, Lay Counseling, and Church-based Care**
Possible Topics: *Foundations of Care; First Responder Core Skills; Pitfalls of Caregiving; Decreasing Stigma; Congregational Counseling; Ministering as Lay Leaders; Peer Coaching; Mental Health Ministry; Small Groups; Recovery Groups*
- 14. Counseling Skills, Techniques, and Empirically Supported Treatments**

Possible Topics: *Rapport and Relationship Building; Empathy; Active Listening; Assessment and Goal-setting; Individual and Group Interventions; Emotion-focused Therapy; Cognitive Behavioral Therapy; Narrative Therapy; Existential Therapy; Solution-focused Therapy; Expressive/Art Therapies*

15. Clinical Assessment, Research, and Evidence-based Practices

Possible Topics: *Empirically Supported Treatments for Anxiety, Stress, Depression, Personality Disorders, and Psychotic Disorders; Bio/Psycho/Social/Spiritual Development; Dual and Differential Assessment; Research in Diagnostics and Treatment Planning; Eating Disorders; Addictions; EMDR; Biofeedback; Visualization; Outcomes-based Research; Models and Assessment of Christian Counseling; Brief vs. Longer-term Therapy*

16. Psychiatry, Behavioral Medicine, and Collaborative Care

Possible Topics: *Managing Side Effects of Psychotropics; Psychopharmacology; Chronic Pain; Impact of Faith on Medical Healing; Psychosis; Split Treatment; Medical Psychotherapy; Mind/Body Issues; ADD/ADHD; Anxiety Disorders; Dementia; Sleep Disorders; Depression; Bipolar Disorder*

17. Mental Health, the Brain, and Neuroscience

Possible Topics: *Applications of Neuroscience, Psychotherapy, and Brain Plasticity; Cutting-edge Research; Interpersonal Neurobiology*

18. Personality Disorders, Challenging Issues, and Complex Cases

Possible Topics: *Evidence-based Practices; Recent Research; Diagnostic Tools; Borderline Personality Disorder; Narcissism; Bipolar Disorder; Treatment-resistant Depression; Counselor Skills and Techniques; Working with Difficult Clients; Therapeutic Models; Treatment Efficacy*

19. UPDATED! Positive Psychology, Performance and Well-being: Human Flourishing and Resilience

Possible Topics: *Sports Psychology; Performance; Weight Management; Mental Toughness; Energy Management; Focus; Goal setting; Imagery, Visualization, and Mental Practice; Motivation and Grit; Green Environments, Diets, and Exercise; Nutritional Counseling; Cognitive Coaching Techniques*

20. Christian Psychology: Theory, Practice, and Integration

Possible Topics: *Models and Theories of Christian Psychology; Christian Spiritual Practices; A Biblical Understanding of Emotions; Christian Meditation and Anxiety; Christian Atonement Models; Shame, Guilt, and Redemption; The Christian Virtues; Self-revelation of God; Application of Theology in Clinical Practice; A Biblical Perspective on Mental Illness*

21. Social Work: Advancements in Theory and Practice

Possible Topics: *Case Management; Policy and Advocacy; Welfare; Human Services; Recidivism; Evidence-based Interventions; Social Environment; Community Outreach and*

Development; Cultural Identity; Racial Trauma and Reconciliation; Foster Care and Adoption; Intervention Programs; Education; Family Violence; Social Isolation; Trauma-informed Care

22. UPDATED! Ethics and Practice Management: Advocacy, Public Policy, and Counselor Education and Supervision

Possible Topics: Clients' Right to Self-determination; Dual Relationships; Confidentiality; Consent; Managed Care; Credentialing; Consultation-Referral-Termination; Harmful Counselors; Abortion; Assisted Suicide/Euthanasia; Sexual Misconduct; Alternative Therapies; Telehealth

23. UPDATED! Multicultural Counseling: Cross-cultural and Global Competency

Possible Topics: Racial Trauma; Cultural Sensitivity and Competency; Ethnicity and Identity Development; Oppression/Discrimination and Racism; Working with Minorities; Counseling African-American, Asian, Latino/a, and Middle Eastern Clients; Counseling those with Disabilities; Counseling Immigrants/Refugees; Social Justice Issues; Post-trauma Care Around the World

24. Professional Life Coaching and Consultation

Possible Topics: Strategies to Reach Clients; Launching and Growing a Successful Coaching Practice; Coaching Assessments and Tools; Career Planning and Vocational Development; Marriage/Relationship Coaching; Divorce Coaching; Health/Wellness Coaching; Spiritual Formation Coaching; Financial Coaching

25. Executive and Leadership Coaching and Organizational Psychology

Possible Topics: Organizational Dynamics; Models of Leadership; Developing Leaders; Counterproductive Work Behavior; Training and Motivation; Performance Management and Job Satisfaction; Leadership in the 21st Century; Servant Leadership; Transformational and Authentic Leadership; Biblical Principles in Leadership; Healthy vs. Unhealthy Leadership