

FOCUS 2009 FAQ
www.gbod.org/FOCUS2009

WHAT

Focus 2009 is about educating and ministering to children. The event provides attendees with innovative workshops, unique worship experiences, inspiring preachers, dynamic speakers, relevant resources, and networking opportunities that will support them in creating, renewing and revitalizing ministries locally and globally.

WHO

The primary audience for FOCUS is local church staff and laity involved with children's ministries including Sunday school teachers and weekday ministry staff; district and conference staff, coordinators of children's ministries, seminarians, and clergy.

WHEN

A Pre-Conference will head off the event on July 20, 2009. The FOCUS 2009 Conference begins at 2:00pm on July 21st and ends with closing worship on Friday July 24th around noon.

WHERE

FOCUS 2009 will be held in Indianapolis, IN at the Indianapolis Marriot East Hotel.

COST

Conference Costs:

Standard Fee \$290, received before May 31, 2009

Late Fee \$330, received *June 1, 2009 or later*

Day Pass \$100

Pre-Conference Seminar \$90

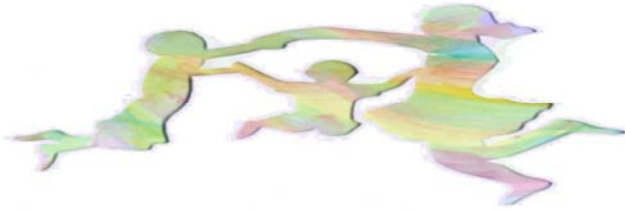
Cancellation Fee \$50

Childcare Costs:

Pre-Conference – July 20, 2009 – \$20 per child [please pay on-site]

Conference – July 21-24, 2009 – \$75 per child

Day Pass Attendees – \$30 per child per day [please pay on-site]



How do I register?

Register online at <http://www.gbod.org/ministries/children/focus2009/registration.asp> or contact Mary McDonald, Registrar by e-mail at mmcdonald@gbod.org or by phone at 877.899.2780, ext. 1760.

Where do I stay?

You can stay on site at the Indianapolis Marriot East:
7202 East 21st Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46219 USA
Phone: 1-317-352-1231
Fax: 1-317-352-9775
<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/inddt>
code registration: FOCUS2009
\$129 plus tax per room per night

RESERVATION CODE: METMETA

You can also stay at La Quinta Inns and Suites – on site
\$89 plus tax per room per night
Complimentary breakfast

How do I get from the Airport to my Hotel?

Call or e-mail CAREY Indiana Transportation for discounted ground transportation rates:
1.800.888.INDY or www.careyindiana.com

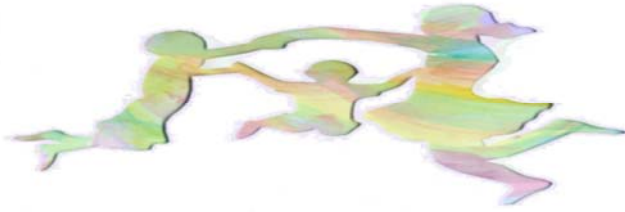
What if I drive to Indianapolis?

Numerous Interstates and Highways come to or through Indianapolis. For specific directions refer to mapquest.com or maps.google.com. The address for Indianapolis Marriot East Hotel is 7202 East 21st Street.

Indianapolis Marriot East provides complimentary parking for those staying at this hotel.

From Chicago: Take I-65 S. Merge onto I-70 by way of exit 112A to the left. Take the exit toward N. Shadeland Ave/N. Shadeland Dr. Keep right at the fork and follow signs for Shadeland Ave. Keep right at the fork, continuing toward N. Shadeland. Merge onto N. Shadeland Ave/N. Shadeland Dr. Turn left at East 21st Street. The Hotel is at number 7202.

From the Northwest: Take I-74 E. Take exit 73A, merging onto I-465 S/I-74 E. Take exit 9A, merging onto I-70 E toward Indianapolis. Exit onto I-65 N/I-70 E toward Columbus



and follow I-70 E. Take the exit toward N. Shadeland Ave/N. Shadeland Dr. Keep right at the fork and follow signs for Shadeland Ave. Keep right at the fork, continuing toward N. Shadeland. Merge onto N. Shadeland Ave/N. Shadeland Dr. Turn left at East 21st Street. The Hotel is at number 7202.

From St. Louis: Take I-70 E. Exit onto I-65 N/I-70 E toward Columbus and follow I-70 E. Take the exit toward N. Shadeland Ave/N. Shadeland Dr. Keep right at the fork and follow signs for Shadeland Ave. Keep right at the fork, continuing toward N. Shadeland. Merge onto N. Shadeland Ave/N. Shadeland Dr. Turn left at East 21st Street. The Hotel is at number 7202.

From Louisville: Take I-65 N. Take exit 106, merging onto I-465 E/I-74 E. Follow I-465 E. Take exit 48 for Shadeland Ave/US-52 E. Merge onto Indiana-100 N. Continue on N. Shadeland Ave/N. Shadeland Dr. Turn Right at East 21st Street. The Hotel is at number 7202.

From Cincinnati: Take I-74 W. Exit toward IN-100 N. Keep right at the fork, following signs for Shadeland Ave. Merge onto IN-100 N. Continue on N. Shadeland Ave/N. Shadeland Dr. Turn Right at East 21st Street. The Hotel is at number 7202.

From Columbus: Take I-70 W. Take exit 89 for Shadeland Ave. Turn right at N. Shadeland Ave/N. Shadeland Dr. Turn left at East 21st Street. The Hotel is at number 7202.

From the NorthEast: Take I-69 S. Take exit 0 for I-465 S/State Hwy 37. Merge onto I-465 S. Take exit 44 for Shadeland Ave. Turn right at N. Shadeland Ave/N. Shadeland Dr. Turn left at East 21st Street. The Hotel is at number 7202.

Can I bring my children?

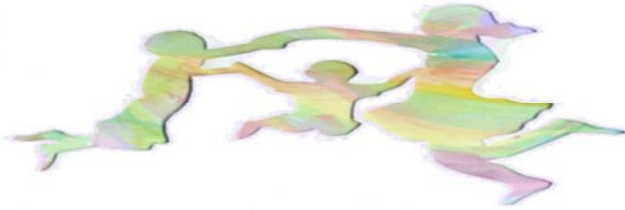
YES!

Childcare programs will be available for children 0-11, and Youth programs will be available for those 12 and up.

All children will take part in Faith Formation Activities, Music, Art, Play, Games, and Chapel Time. Children ages 6-11 will also take trips to the Children's Museum and the Indianapolis Zoo and Garden.

Youth will take part in morning worship, Faith Formation, a Community Service Project, trips to the Children's Museum, and a pilgrimage designed by Upper Room staff.

More specific information on children and youth programs can be found on the FOCUS 2009 website. <http://www.gbod.org/ministries/children/focus2009/children.asp>



How can I be contacted in an emergency?

Call 1.317.352.1231 and ask for Kim Gustin – hotel contact.

What should I wear?

Weather in Indianapolis in July is in the upper 60s to low 80s, and it can get quite humid. Dress for warm temperatures outside and prepare for air conditioned meeting rooms.

What about food?

Meals are not included in the registration fee, but we will provide snacks mid-morning and mid-afternoon. The Marriot East's restaurant provides Americana cuisine. There are several restaurants within walking distance and even more options a short drive away.

What is there to do in the evening in my free time?

Indianapolis is full of attractions, including the Children's Museum, the Indianapolis Zoo and Garden, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, Whit River State Park, and the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

For more information on these local attractions, check out the FOCUS 2009 Website.

Can I receive a Continuing Education Unit (CEU)?

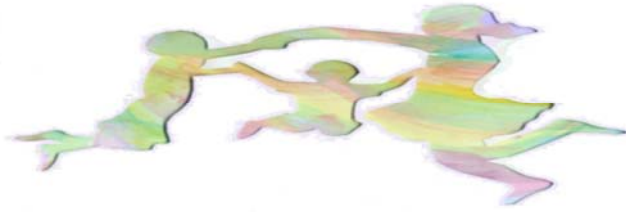
Yes, CEU's can be earned for attending FOCUS 2009 workshops.

Pre-Conference – 1 CEU

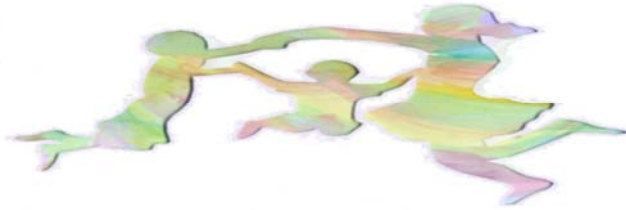
July 22nd – 1 CEU

July 23rd – 1 CEU

July 21st and 24th – .5 CEU total



<p>What is the schedule for the event?</p>	<p><u>Monday, July 20th</u> Pre-Conference Seminars</p>	<p><u>Tuesday, July 21st</u> 2:00pm Registration Opens Quiet Spaces Open 6:30pm Opening Worship 8:00pm Divine Desserts Resource Center Opens</p>
<p><u>Wednesday, July 22nd</u> 7:00am Morning Prayer/Bible Study Pilates / Walking Group 8:30am Registration Opens 9:15am Praise and Prayer Time Daily Announcements 9:30am Worship 10:30am Workshops 11:30am Resource/Exhibit Center 12:30pm Networking Groups Discussion Groups Make and Take Room 2:00pm Workshops 3:30pm Workshops 5:15pm Book Signings Networking Groups Resource/Exhibit Center 6:30pm Weaving Ceremony 7:30pm Game Night 9:00pm Songs and Prayers</p>	<p><u>Thursday, July 23rd</u> 7:00am Morning Prayer/Bible Study Pilates / Walking Group 8:30am Registration Opens 9:15am Praise and Prayer Time Daily Announcements 9:30am Worship 10:30am Workshops 11:30am Resource/Exhibit Center 12:30pm Networking Groups Discussion Groups Make and Take Room 2:00pm Workshops 3:30pm Workshops 5:15pm Book Signings Networking Groups Resource/Exhibit Center 7:30pm Night at the Café 9:00pm Songs and Prayers</p>	<p><u>Friday, July 24th</u> 7:00am Morning Prayer Pilates / Walking Group 8:30am Mini-Plenaries 10:15am Closing Worship 11:45 Dismissal with Blessing</p>



What kinds of workshops will be offered for the event?

Workshops at FOCUS 2009 cover an incredibly wide range of topics. Workshops will discuss the changing needs in the church and children's ministries, various curriculum for Sunday school classrooms and weeklong events, and unique ways to engage children of all ages in music and worship.

Workshops will be presented on child development and how to reach children during troubling times or times of grief. They will provide lessons in showing children the love of God and teaching children the importance of prayer. They will look at the struggles faced by older elementary-age children approaching middle school and challenges leaders face in answering children's difficult questions.

The workshops at FOCUS 2009 look at ministry to children but also ways to minister to the leaders of our children. We will explore through these workshops all aspects of children's ministry. Chances are you'll have trouble choosing which ones to attend because there will be too many workshops relevant to your specific needs.

What if I need to cancel?

A cancellation fee of \$50 will be charged for any individual cancellation prior to July 1, 2009. No refunds will be given after this date.

I want to talk to others attending FOCUS, where can I go?

www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=40864663015

If I couldn't find the answer to my question, who should I contact?

For registration questions and information contact:

Mary McDonald, Registrar
mmcdonald@gbod.org
877.899.2780, ext. 1760

For all other questions and information contact:
Melanie Gordon, Director of Younger Children's Ministries
General Board of Discipleship
mgordon@gbod.org
877.899.2780 ext.1762