

Cascade Christian Writers Spring Conference

Saturday, March 16, 2024 ~ 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Peoples Church ~ 4500 Lancaster Dr. NE ~ Salem, Oregon 97305

“Called and Gifted”

“I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, and with all kinds of skills.” Exodus 31:3 NIV

- 8:30–9:00 **Registration, Continental Breakfast, Bookstore**
- 9:00–9:05 **Welcome and Introductions:** Julie Bonn Blank
- 9:05–9:15 **Call to Worship:** Cody and Christy Wildman
- 9:15–9:30 **Devotional:** Sandra Peterson
- 9:30–10:20 **General Session I:** Matt Mikalatos, “**Called**”
- 10:25–10:45 **Morning Break:** Refreshments and time to visit the bookstore
- 10:45–11:35 **General Session II:** Matt Mikalatos, “**Gifted**”
- 11:35–1:35 **CCW Business Meeting:** Business updates; book giveaways; introduction of workshop teachers
- (NEW!) **Panel Discussion: Current Publishing Trends in the Christian Marketplace** with **Nick Harrison**, an agent from WordServe Literary; **Kevin Ferguson**, owner of Willamette Valley Christian Supply in Albany; and **Rick Adams**, owner of Rainbow West Christian bookstores in Gresham and Salem. **Linda Kruschke** will moderate.
- Lunch** – brown bag; coffee, tea, and water provided
- 1:40–2:40 **Workshop Session 1:**
- A. Matt Mikalatos – Changing the World Through Young Adult Literature**
 - B. Julie McDonald Zander – Cobbling together an Income as a Writer** (all writers)
 - C. Lindy Jacobs – Dialogue and Beats: Essential Tools for Compelling Writing** (fiction)
 - D. Julie Bonn Blank – Marketing Strategies to Set You Apart & Increase Sales** (all writers)
- 2:40–3:00 **Break:** Bookstore is open.
- 3:00–4:00 **Workshop Session 2:**
- E. Matt Mikalatos – Screenwriting and Community Storytelling**
 - F. Kristen Joy Wilks – Humor in Writing: Using Humor to Engage Readers, Hone Characterization, and Ease into Tough Topics** (all writers)
 - G. Julie McDonald Zander – Ethical Wills: Creating Your Spiritual Legacy** (nonfiction)
 - H. Lindy Jacobs– Critique Clinic: Get the Help You Need!** (all writers)
- 4:00–4:30 **Dessert, Autograph Party, and Photo Session**—all authors available to sign their books