

# Cascade Christian Writers Fall One-Day Conference 2025

**Date:** Saturday, October 11th

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

**Location:** Suburban Christian Church, 2760 SW 53rd St, Corvallis, OR 97333

**Directors:** Christina Nelson [ccwcdirector@gmail.com](mailto:ccwcdirector@gmail.com) & Amy Earls [ccwcassistant@gmail.com](mailto:ccwcassistant@gmail.com)

## **SCHEDULE**

**9:00–9:30 AM:** Check In & Continental Breakfast (includes pastries, fruit, coffee & tea)

**9:30–9:40 AM:** Opening from CCWC Director Christina Suzann Nelson (in worship room)

**9:40–9:50 AM:** Devotional

**9:50–10:010 AM:** Worship

**10:10–11:00 AM:** Keynote Message from Jason Hague

**11:10–11:55 AM:** Workshop #1

**12:00–12:45 PM:** Lunch (located in B3. Bring your own; outside options 3-minute drive away)

**1:00–1:45 PM:** Workshop #2

**2:00–2:10 PM:** A Word from CCW President, Julie Bonn Blank (in worship room)

**2:10–3:00 PM:** Keynote Message from Jason Hague

**3:15–4:00 PM:** Workshop #3

**4:00–4:30 PM:** Bookstore

## **WORKSHOP DETAILS**

### ***Workshop #1***

- 5 Steps to a Marketable Devotion — Heidi Gaul (located in C4)
- Soul Care for Characters— Tracie Heskett (located in B4)
- The Secrets to Branding Yourself and Selling Books Like the Big Guys/Girls — Julie Bonn Blank (located in Worship Center)

### ***Workshop #2***

- Children's Illustrated Book Indie Publishing Part I — J.Todd McMillan (located in B4)
- The Craft of Poetry — Amy Earls (located in C4)
- Staying Biblical in Our Writing — John Avery (located in Worship Center)

### ***Workshop #3***

- Hook Them from the Start: First Line to First Page to First Chapter — Christina Suzann Nelson (located in C4)
- Children's Illustrated Book Indie Publishing Part II — J. Todd McMillan (located in B4)
- Writing the Word — Tracie Heskett (located in Worship Center)

## **ADDITIONAL DETAILS**

- Prayer will be available in the Prayer Room throughout the day. Times TBA.
- A water station is available near the restrooms. Please bring your water bottle.
- Snacks will be provided in the afternoon. Coffee and tea will also be in the lobby throughout the day.

## **WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS**

### **5 Steps to a Marketable Devotion – Heidi Gaul**

At some point, you've probably spotted God's movement in everyday life and thought it would make a great devotion, but how do you write devotions that connect with both editors and readers? Join me at this fun workshop where I'll share the dos and don'ts of successful devotional writing, start to finish.

### **Soul Care for Characters – Tracie Heskett**

The biblical counseling model informs our understanding of people and how to help them work through struggles and difficulties in life toward a redeemed life with God. Together we'll explore biblical principles to understand our characters as people who need God's transforming work in their lives. Characters who choose a different path may play the antagonist's role in our stories.

### **Writing the Word – Tracie Heskett**

Use your God-given writing abilities to enhance your reading and learning in God's Word. In this workshop, we'll invite God to illuminate His Word and explore how we can incorporate it into our writing.

### **The Secrets to Branding Yourself and Selling Books Like the Big Guys/Girls – Julie Bonn Blank**

Learn what the most successful small-time authors do to sell like they're big-time. In a world that prints 2.5 million titles a year, you can stand out within your niche. Do you know what that is? Find it, own it, use it, and succeed.

### **Children's Illustrated Book Indie Publishing Part I & II – J. Todd McMillan**

Have you wanted to self-publish that children's book you've been chewing on forever? The process can seem intimidating. Maybe you just don't know where to start and what the process looks like? Author J. Todd McMillan will take you step-by-step all the way from trim selection to a final print quality product ready to upload.

### **The Craft of Poetry – Amy Earls**

Explore the art of shaping language into rhythm, image, and meaning. Practice techniques that bring poems to life—from word choice and line breaks to sound, form, and voice.

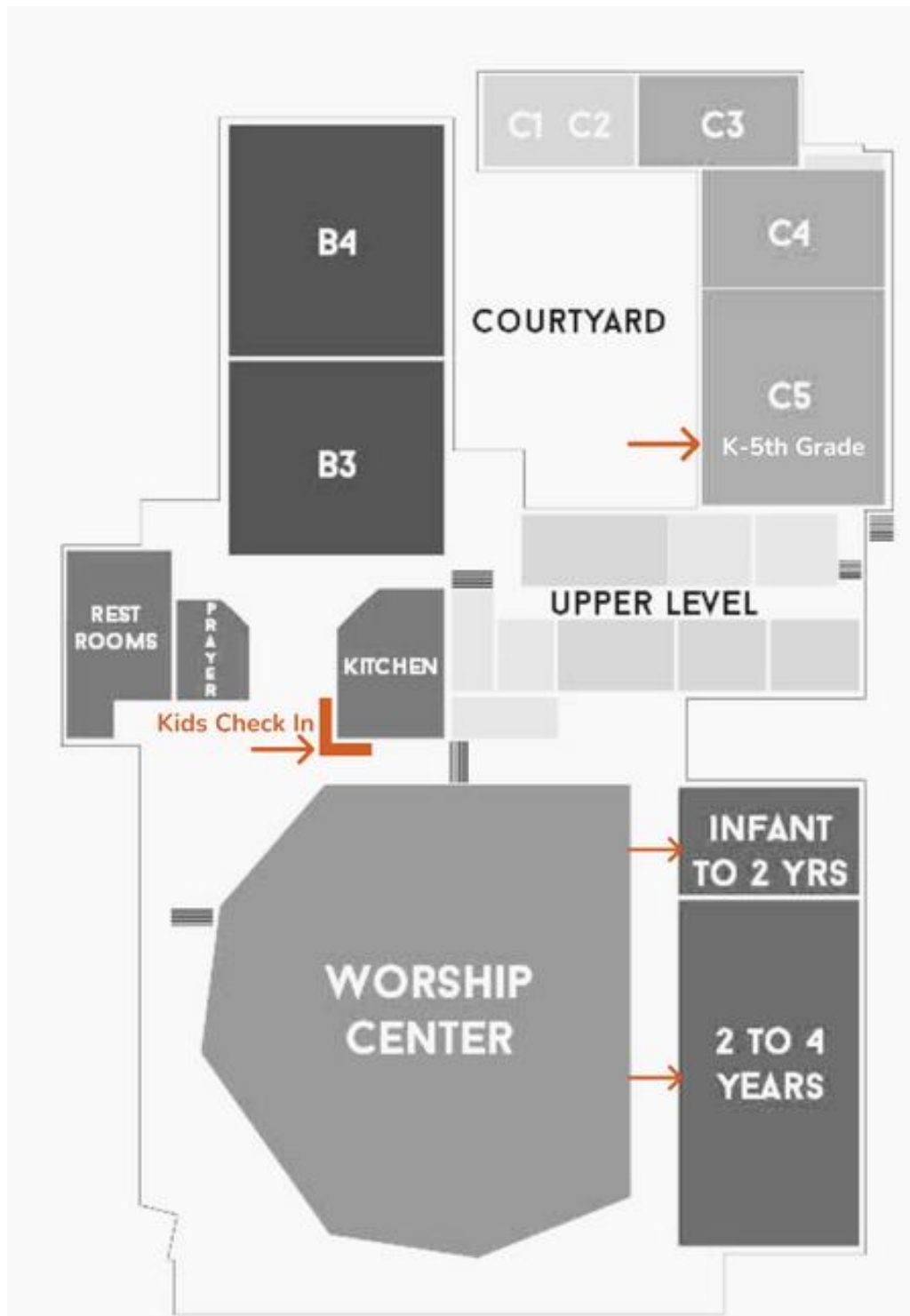
### **Staying Biblical in Our Writing – John Avery**

A chance for fiction and nonfiction writers to reflect together on the collection of 66 books that undergirds everything we believe and do as Christians. What are some best practices for getting truth from its pages into our lives and onto the pages we write?

### **Hook Them from the Start: First Line to First Page to First Chapter – Christina Suzann Nelson**

This workshop addresses essential techniques for crafting compelling openings that immediately capture readers' attention and draw them into the story, from the importance of a gripping first line to the seamless transition into the first page and the setup of the initial chapter.

## CHURCH MAP



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