

## DISC 2015 Preview

The DISC 2015 Planning Committee has been hard at work these past few months working to make this year's conference one you won't forget. Here is a preview of what they have planned.

We'll start our PreConference on Tuesday at 8 am in the hotel and conference center. This year, in response to feedback received from our membership via surveys, we will focus the day on the technicalities of migrating away from an in-house solution to the ever expanding in popularity hosted solutions. Google Apps for Work and Microsoft Office 365. With changes in licensing and just the I.T. world in general, many of our organizations are making this choice. We will have representatives from both Google and Microsoft present to split our day between the two solutions. We will focus first on the nitty gritty details of what it takes to migrate to each platform (Google in the morning, Microsoft in the afternoon). We will provide step by step details. Next we will discuss the application highlights, have a little bit of "here's how we use this" conversation. And then we will have a case study led by a Diocesan representative who's been through the trenches. At the end of the day, we will have a group discussion comparing the two solutions and sharing best practices for both.

Tuesday evening St. Francis Xavier Cathedral will host our Opening Mass. Transportation will be provided from the hotel to the Cathedral. Next door is Xavier Hall, a beautiful building where the Knights of Columbus will provide fresh, warm beignets and a bowl of Gumbo! In addition, we will hear about the history of the Diocese.

Wednesday we will start our day with Mass (as we will do each day of the conference) at the hotel. Following a day packed full of information, we will depart for the Kent House Plantation. A beautiful grounds very close to where we are staying. We will be able to tour the Kent Plantation House (a sugar cane plantation) and the grounds, mingle under a fanned canopy.

This year we are super excited to announce ALL THREE of our keynote speakers!

Wednesday's Keynote will be Theresa Payton. Former White House CIO, Cybersecurity Authority, Expert on Identity Theft and the Internet of Things! She is one of America's most respected authorities on Internet security, net crime, fraud mitigation and technology implementation. As White House Chief Information Officer from 2006 to 2008 – the first woman to ever hold that position--- she administered the information technology enterprise for the President and 3,000 staff members. Theresa now lends her expertise to organizations (large and small) helping them improve technology systems against emerging cyber threats.



Thursday's Keynote speaker will be W. Curtis Preston. Mr. Preston (aka Mr. Backup) is an expert in backup and recovery systems; a space he's been working in since 1993. He has written three books on the subject. He is an independent consultant, writer, blogger, and has spoken at over 300 seminars and conferences around the world through TruthinIT.com; BackupCentral.com; and BackupCentral Live!. Preston's mission remains the same: arming today's IT Managers with truly unbiased information about today's storage industry and it's products.



Our Closing Keynote Speaker on Friday will be Kelly Wahlquist. Kelly is a dynamic and inspiring Catholic author and speaker whose gift of weaving personal stories and Scripture together with practical advice allows her audience to enter more fully into what Pope Francis has called us to do – to live the Joy of the Gospel with missionary zeal. She is the Assistant Director for the Archbishop Harry J. Flynn Catechetical Institute that serves the Archdiocese of St. Paul – Minneapolis in Minnesota, and the co-creator of Hearts Afire Parish-based Programs. She is the founder of WINE: Women In the New Evangelization, a contributing writer for CatholicMom.com and The Integrated Catholic Life. She travels the country speaking on the New Evangelization in an effort to encourage all to spread the message of Jesus by living the Joy of the Gospel. She will end our conference on such an inspirational note that you will go home later that evening or on Saturday SO REFRESHED and ON FIRE that you will not be able to wait to implement what you've learned over the past 3-4 days.

