



# McDowell Stafford

Lectureship Series in Child and Family Health

## EDUCATIONAL LECTURE

### Saving Babies, The Evolving Practice of Neonatal Nursing

Thursday | March 21, 2024 | 1-3 p.m.  
Alumni Center, Room 118  
1101 North Main St, Normal, IL 61761

Parking is free at the Alumni Center.

#### AUDIENCE

All RNs and especially those who work in maternal child health, and college of nursing faculty and students are encouraged to register.

#### OBJECTIVES

1. The audience will identify at least one strategy to reduce premature birth.
2. The audience will be able to identify at least one method to implement a practice improvement
3. Learners will be able to identify two drivers of change

#### CONTACT HOURS

This activity has been submitted for approved for 2 contact hours. For more information about contact hours, please call Amy Irving at (309) 438-7418.

#### ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

Illinois State University Mennonite College of Nursing is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

This live activity is a maximum of 2.0 ANCC contact hours. To be awarded for the CE learners must:

1. Attend the entire session
2. Sign in on the registration sheet, and
3. Complete the required evaluation at the end of the session.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

The faculty and planning committee have declared no conflict of interest.

#### REGISTRATION

This is a free event, however, if you would like to attend, please [register online](#) by Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

FREE LECTURES



# McDowell Stafford

Lectureship Series in Child and Family Health

## COMMUNITY LECTURE

### Saving Babies – A View into the Life of a NICU Parent

Thursday | March 21, 2024 | 6-7 p.m.  
Alumni Center, Room 118  
1101 North Main St, Normal, IL 61761

Parking is free at the Alumni Center.

*Keynote Speaker: Chris Wetzel, DNP, RNC-NIC, IBCLC*

Motherhood is a difficult journey even when everything is going well, so when the survival of the baby is questionable, and the medical team has 24-hour control over the baby's care, insecure maternal feelings can shake the confidence of even an experienced mother. As a NICU nurse, Dr. Wetzel will share her experiences of caring for mothers and their babies.

There will be a question and answer session after the presentation, followed by a reception with light refreshments.

This is a free event, however, if you would like to attend, please [register online](#) by Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> as seating is limited.



**MENNONITE  
COLLEGE OF NURSING**  
*Illinois State University*

These events are sponsored by the Marion McDowell Stafford Lectureship Series Fund.

## Meet the Speaker



### Chris Wetzel, DNP, RNC-NIC, IBCLC

**Dr. Wetzel** is an adjunct clinical instructor at the UIC College of Nursing Urbana campus, was named the 2021 National Magnet Nurse of the Year for “New Knowledge, Innovations and Improvements” by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

A NICU nurse at Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana, Wetzel has conducted research and developed practice standards to improve the care of newborns in NICUs across the country. She led the creation of the first evidence-based instrument to help NICU providers assess risk for necrotizing enterocolitis, a potentially deadly abdominal infection in premature babies.

Throughout Wetzel’s 28-year nursing career, she has been a passionate advocate of the importance of breast milk. She recently introduced the “Evaluation of Mother’s Own Milk (eMOM)” guide to help mothers and nurses assess breast milk production during the first month of a preterm infant’s life.

Wetzel calls herself a “legacy nurse” because her grandmother was a nurse, adding that it was important to her to continue practicing at the bedside even after getting a doctoral degree.

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## Registration

These lectures are free to attend; however, you must register as space is limited. On-site registration may be accepted if there are remaining seats available. Please notify us if you are unable to attend and need to cancel your registration.

To [register online](#), click/copy the following:

[https://forms.illinoisstate.edu/forms/mcdowell\\_stafford\\_2024\\_lectureships](https://forms.illinoisstate.edu/forms/mcdowell_stafford_2024_lectureships)

You may also email/call the Events Office at [amirvin@ilstu.edu](mailto:amirvin@ilstu.edu) or (309) 438-7418 to register.

**The deadline to register is Friday, March 15, 2024.**

If you need a special accommodation to fully participate in these programs, please contact Amy Irving at (309) 438-7418 or [amirvin@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:amirvin@IllinoisState.edu). Please allow sufficient time to arrange the accommodation.