

North
American
Godly Play®
Conference



“Come from Away, Come to Play!”

JUNE 20 - 22, 2019
SHERATON HOTEL
ST. JOHN'S,
NEWFOUNDLAND

Hosted by the Godly Play Foundation
and Godly Play Canada

Sponsored by The Anglican Diocese of
Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

are you ready?

The eighth Godly Play Conference to be held in North America will be a time for everyone – from experienced trainers to curious newcomers – to deepen understanding of the art and practice of Godly Play in North America and around the world. The conference will be held amid the extraordinary hospitality, rugged beauty and playful environment of St. John's, Newfoundland – the easternmost city in Canada.

featured speakers



ELAINE CHAMPAGNE

Dr. Elaine Champagne is an associate professor in the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Laval (Québec, Canada), where she holds the Chair in Educational Leadership in Spiritual Theology and Spiritualities. After serving as a chaplain in a children's hospital, Dr. Champagne engaged in teaching spirituality and practical theology.

Her research focuses on children's spirituality and health care as well as Christian spirituality today. In her keynote presentation Dr. Champagne will explore "Children's Spiritual Journeys." Christian tradition has often compared spirituality to a journey – a life journey that requires a destination. Today's children and adults bear many questions, old and new, about this journey: Where does it lead? Is it the right track? Why is it like this? What does it mean? Will it help me through the difficulties I am facing? Sometimes, the track seems to fade. At other times, the options are overwhelming. How not to get lost? How to choose? Through storytelling, wondering and play, Godly Play encourages children to recognize, name and value their relationships with God, others, creation and their own deepest selves - as well as engage in the larger Christian story. As we examine the narrative, relational, and playful qualities of the spirituality engaged in Godly Play, we will explore how it can foster valuable meaning making and sustain true hope for children in their life journeys.

"When we are at play, we are full of life, connected to the game and to the players of the game."

JEROME BERRYMAN
THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO GODLY PLAY, VOLUME 1



ANDREW SHELDON

We are pleased to welcome as a featured speaker The Reverend Canon Doctor Andrew Sheldon, who serves as the Godly Play Advocate for International Development. Andrew will provide the opening keynote address, "Are You Ready?" in which he will explore readiness from emotional, theological, pedagogical and spiritual perspectives as a discipline for Godly Play practitioners.

Andrew describes his introduction to Godly Play as "love at first sight." He immediately recognized the value of this innovative program, becoming an early advocate and promoting it in his roles as both priest and professor in the Diocese of Toronto.

Andrew was trained as a storyteller in 2006 and became an accredited trainer in 2009. In late 2015 he assumed the role of Godly Play Advocate for International Development. In this role Andrew provides support to both the global community as a whole, as well as its constituent regional and national associations. He is privileged to travel the world to provide training to storytellers and trainers, speak at Godly Play conferences and gatherings, and to engage in the "business" of Godly Play. Andrew's greatest delight, however, is the weekly opportunity to get on the floor with children for stories and wondering.

featured speakers



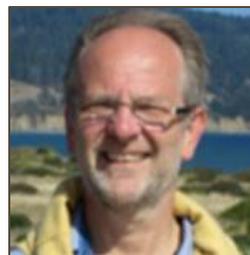
REBECCA NYE, WITH PETER PRIVETT

Dr Rebecca Nye is a specialist in childhood spirituality. In her published works she has explored this theme in church, school, hospital and home contexts with pre-schoolers to teens. Applying her training in psychology to issues in Christian ministry, Rebecca spent eight years in the Faculty of Divinity at the University of Cambridge, where she introduced Godly Play to the UK.

For the last decade Rebecca has been working for The Open University where she enjoys teaching courses in child and educational psychology, listening to very young children, children's rights, and the challenges of researching with children. Together with her husband, Andrew, she has three children who have been an inspiration always. Together with Peter Privett, Rebecca was the first non-US trainer. When she and Peter first returned to the UK following their trainer-training course, they had no idea whether Godly Play would take hold. Since that time, Rebecca and Peter have been part of more than 150 core trainings, frequently working together and often helping European, Chinese and Australian colleagues catch Godly Play's vision too. In this conversation Rebecca and Peter will discuss how their common interest in childhood spirituality has underpinned all of this and what really matters to them now.



worship leader



PETER PRIVETT

The Reverend Peter Privett is a priest in the Church of England, currently part of the Family Ministry Team at St. Andrew's Church in Rugby. He is a Godly Play practitioner and international trainer, as well as Chair of the Godly Play International Council (GPIC). Peter is beloved for his playful and embodied liturgies, which feature visual art, poetry and laughter. Peter is also a contributor to *Through the Eyes of a Child: New Insights in Theology from a Child's Perspective* (2009).

about the theme

COME FROM AWAY, COME TO PLAY

Come From Away is the hit musical about a remarkable true story that touched the world. On September 11, 2001, some 17,000 international airline passengers were forced to land in Newfoundland and Labrador when all air traffic was halted in the USA. While the circumstances were trying for all, Newfoundlanders never wavered in their warm hospitality toward strangers from around the world. Participants at the Godly Play North American Conference will have an opportunity to experience the warm welcome and generosity of this very special place. Whether you are a lifelong Newfoundlander or you "come from away," you are invited to enjoy the playful atmosphere this conference will create.



conference schedule

THURSDAY JUNE 20TH

- 8:30 a.m. Registration opens at the hotel
- 4:30 p.m. Welcome and opening worship at St. Thomas' Anglican Church
- 5:30 p.m. Plenary 1 – Are You Ready?
- 6:30 p.m. Reception at St. Thomas' Anglican Church
Dinner on your own; Trainers' gatherings

FRIDAY, JUNE 21ST

- 8:45 a.m. Gathering and announcements
- 9:00 a.m. Morning Prayers
- 9:30 a.m. Plenary 2 – Children's Spiritual Journeys
- 11:00 a.m. Storytelling (various options)
- 11:45 a.m. Workshops (45 minutes)
- 2:00 p.m. Workshops (2 x 45 minutes or 1 x 90 minutes)
- 3:45 p.m. Storytelling (various options)
- 4:30 p.m. Workshops (1 x 45 minutes or 1 x 90 minutes)
- 6:30 p.m. Departures to banquet
- 7:00 p.m. Banquet and entertainment

SATURDAY, JUNE 22ND

- 8:45 a.m. Gathering and announcements
- 9:00 a.m. International developments
- 9:30 a.m. Plenary 3 – Q&A with Rebecca Nye and Peter Privett
- 11:00 a.m. Closing worship at St. Thomas' Anglican Church
- 1:00 p.m. Excursions (various options)

workshops you will experience

- Godly Play Stories of God at Home
- Godly Play and Ignatian Spirituality
- Godly Play and the Montessori Tradition
- The Theological Significance of Storytelling
- Godly Play in Clinical Settings
- Faithful Adaptations (a panel discussion of Gott im Spiel, Torah Godly Play, Faith and Play, and The Salvation Army)
- Using Godly Play for Vacation Bible School
- Playing and Praying
- The Godly Play Church
- Godly Play Large
- Come Play with Me: Play and Spirituality
- The Ethic of Blessing
- Creating a Godly Play Guild
- Importance of Gestures in Godly Play
- Honouring Sacred Space
- Deepening Response Time....

people you will meet

- Ryan Campbell (Godly Play US Trainer and Hospital Chaplain)
- Amy Crawford (Godly Play Canada Trainer and Executive Director of Godly Play Canada)
- Lee Dickson (Godly Play US Trainer and Executive Director of the Godly Play Foundation)
- Emily Griffin (Episcopal Priest and Godly Play US Trainer)
- Robert Hurley (Godly Play Canada Trainer)
- Cheryl Minor (Godly Play US Trainer and Director of the Center for the Theology of Childhood)
- Right Reverend Dr. Geoff Peddle, Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador
- Donna Ronan (Clinical Social Worker and Godly Play Canada Trainer)
- Rabbi Michael Shire (Professor of Jewish Education at Hebrew College and developer of Torah Godly Play)
- Martin Steinhauser (Godly Play Germany Trainer and Theological Professor for Church Work with Children, Evangelische Hochschule Moritzburg)
- Brenda Timmer (Godly Play South Africa Trainer)

join us!

Register today at

2019gpnac.eventbee.com

Registration is limited!

COSTS

\$345/person by April 15, 2019

\$395/person after April 15 – June 15, 2019

Cost includes all sessions, reception on Thursday evening (with cash bar), lunch on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, banquet on Friday evening (with cash bar), morning and afternoon snacks.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Sheraton Hotel

115 Cavendish Square,
St. John's, Newfoundland
Canada A1C 3K2

Phone: +1 709-758-8453; +1 888-870-3033

Book through In-House Reservations Department:
reservations@sheratonhotelnewfoundland.com

Booking Code: North American Godly Play Rate

Rates: Double rooms starting from \$224 CAD/night. Discounted conference rate guaranteed to May 21, 2019. Discounted rates available for up to three days pre- and post-conference.

ALTERNATE ACCOMMODATIONS

Neighbouring Bed & Breakfast options include

The Roses Heritage Inn

11 Military Road, 1-877-767-3722 (rates from \$109 - \$169 CAD with a 10% discount offered for Godly Play conference attendees)

Elizabeth Manor

21 Military Road, 1-709-753-7733 (rates from \$129 CAD)

The Rendell-Shea Manor

82 Cochrane Street (rates from \$129 CAD)

optional tours

Thursday, June 20 evening

“THE HAUNTED HIKE”

A guided walking tour of old St. John's following the opening reception. St. John's is steeped in history...and the paranormal. Join the hike, if you dare. \$10 CAD

Pre-booking is required on the conference registration page.

Saturday, June 22 @ 1 pm (following the closing worship):

“LEGEND TOURS”

Bus tour including Signal Hill, Cape Spear Lighthouse, Petty Harbour fishing village etc. - \$69 CAD / \$65 seniors / \$49 child (plus tax)

“ICEBERG QUEST”

Two-hour boat tour departs from harbour within walking distance of hotel – icebergs and whales are common but cannot be guaranteed due to the nature of the ocean \$70 CAD / \$65 CAD - seniors / \$30 CAD children
Pre-booking is required on the conference registration page.

Many tours and attractions are available pre- and post-conference:

- Puffin and whale watching boat tours from \$56.20 CAD
 - Walking food tours from \$62.40 CAD
 - Bus, walking and photography tours
 - Johnson GEO CENTRE; museums; art galleries; botanical gardens
 - East Coast Trail (300 km of shore line trails within minutes of the hotel)
- Further information is available upon request.

getting here

There are direct flights to St. John's International Airport (YYT) from New York LaGuardia, Washington Dulles, London Heathrow, Toronto Pearson, Montreal Trudeau, and Halifax Stanfield airports. From the airport, taxis and public transit are available. Metrobus #14 departs from the west end of the terminal and arrives steps from the hotel. Cost is \$2.50 CAD to board. Individuals can share their arrival times on the [Facebook Events page](#) to share a taxi.

more information

pre-order stories and save

Is there a story missing from your shelves that your children are ready to hear? It just may be the perfect time to purchase it, save on shipping charges and pick it up in June at our St. John's conference.

Godly Play Resources will be offering free shipping on pre-ordered stories for attendees of the 2019 North American Godly Play Conference. Just pre-order and pick up at the conference.

The pre-order code will be sent out to registrants beginning in March.

I wonder what stories you need?

child care

If there is sufficient interest, licensed private child care may be an option on a fee for service basis. Please respond on the conference registration page with the numbers and the age of your children if you are interested.

special events

THURSDAY
7:00 pm

Gathering for Godly Play Canada and Godly Play U.S.A. trainers following the opening reception.

FRIDAY
7:00 pm

Newfoundland-style banquet and entertainment (included in your registration fee). You won't want to miss it!

“Through story we invite one another to make meaning of our world and ultimately of our lives.”

JEROME BERRYMAN
THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO GODLY PLAY, VOLUME 1

St. John's, Newfoundland



A Tangled Tale:
Newfoundland and Labrador Tourism



GODLY PLAY CANADA

godlyplaybusiness@gmail.com