



Volume 3 | Issue 1
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Canadian Circle Godly Play Canada

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We look forward to gathering with many of you in a large Godly Play circle at the 2019 North American Godly Play Conference in St. John's from June 20 to 22. The conference promises to be a fabulous opportunity to revisit the stories of the spiral curriculum, to hear new stories and stories in other languages, to learn more about how to support children's spirituality, and to be reminded of the community of storytellers around the world. The conference also offers the chance to be immersed in Newfoundland history and culture in St. John's, so if you have not yet travelled to Canada's easternmost province, be sure to take advantage of this opportunity! Canadian trainers: please plan to attend the Core²: Enrichment Training (Advanced Training for Trainers) prior to the conference from June 17-19 to gather together to learn about how best to deliver this training to the wider circle of Godly Players in Canada. We are so grateful for the planning team's hard work in bringing us all together for this conference.

The Advisory Board continues to work hard and has filed for charitable status, as well as completed work on a Godly Play Canada Trainers Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). We have also provided new story manuals to all Canadian trainers for Core Training purposes, reflecting the changes to the stories that were made in Volumes 2-4. Core training participant binders have also been updated recently and will be introduced to Trainers at the upcoming conference.

If you have any questions, ideas, suggestions or concerns, please be in touch.

Maya Landell, Chair, Godly Play Canada Advisory Board (Mlandell@mac.com)

Godly Play Canada Advisory Board

Amy Crawford, Executive Director

Adam Hanley, Treasurer

Erin Arrowsmith, Secretary

Judson Bridgewater

Shawn Redden

Geoff Peddle

Andrew Sheldon (Godly Play International)

I Wonder Where You Are Doing Godly Play in Canada? A Look at Quebec and the Maritimes

Here are the churches that we are aware of, that are currently doing Godly Play in the provinces of Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

If we've missed anyone, please let us know so that we can update our info.



St. Thomas Church, St. John's, thought to be the oldest Anglican church in Newfoundland dating from as early as 1835, will be one of the sites for the 2019 North American Godly Play Conference.

Quebec

- Christ Church Anglican, Beaufort
- St. George's Anglican, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue
- St. Paul's Anglican, Greenfield Park
- St. Thomas Anglican, Notre-Dame de Grace

Newfoundland and Labrador

- Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, St. John's
- All Saints, Conception Bay South
- Parish of the Ascension, Mount Pearl
- Church of the Good Shepherd, Mount Pearl
- The Resurrection, South River
- St. John the Evangelist, Topsail
- St. Lawrence, Portugal Cove
- St. Mary the Virgin, St. John's
- St. Peter's, Conception Bay South
- St. Thomas, St. John's
- St. James United Church, St. John's
- Topsail United Church, Topsail
- Cochrane Street United Church, St. John's
- St. Paul's Anglican / United Church, Labrador City

Prince Edward Island

- Kensington United, Kensington
- O'Leary United Church, O'Leary
- Trinity United Church, Charlottetown

New Brunswick

- Nashwaaksis United Church, Nashwaaksis

New Brunswick (cont.)

- Quispamsis United Church, Quispamsis
- Sackville United Church, Sackville
- St. Paul's United Church, Riverview
- St. Paul's United Church, Sussex
- Visions United, Moncton,
- St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Fredericton
- Anglican Parish of Nerepis & Saint John
- Christ Church Anglican Cathedral, Fredericton
- Anglican Parish of Woodstock
- St Andrew Church (Anglican Parish of Salisbury and Havelock)
- Church of the Good Shepherd (Anglican Parish of Cambridge & Waterborough)
- St Paul's Anglican Church, Hampton
- Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Parish of Hammond River (Adult Faith Formation)

Nova Scotia

- First Baptist, Halifax
- Bedford United, Bedford
- St. Luke's United Church, Tantallon
- St. John the Evangelist, Lower Sackville
- St. John's, Truro
- The Parish of French Village, St. Margaret's Bay
- Christ Church, Amherst

“Come from Away, Come to Play!” The North American Godly Play Conference - Newfoundland 2019

By Kathy Peddle, Godly Play Trainer, Newfoundland and Labrador

Come to Play in St. John's!

On behalf of the Anglican Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador, I would like to invite you to come to St. John's this June to experience our fabled Newfoundland and Labrador warmth and hospitality, and deepen your understanding of the art and practice of Godly Play.

Godly Play is central to faith formation in our diocese and we are proud to support the North American Godly Play Conference this coming June.

We are looking forward to welcoming Godly Players from around the world to join us in worship and seminars, storytelling and workshops, and to come play with us amidst the rugged beauty of the Newfoundland coast!

*With my every blessing,
The Right Reverend Dr. Geoff Peddle
Bishop of the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador
<https://anglicanenl.net/home/>*



In 2009, Godly Play arrived on the shores of Newfoundland and in a place rich in stories, wondering and church affiliation, it was a natural fit. This spring, Godly Play will once again arrive on our shores – this time in the form of the North American Godly Play Conference. Newfoundland and Labrador is excited and honoured to be hosting this year's conference, and to welcome guests and fellow

Godly Play enthusiasts from around the globe. We look forward to visitors from across Canada, the US, England, Scotland, Germany, Latvia, Sweden, Denmark, South Africa and Hong Kong. It will be a time for all participants to deepen their understanding of the art and practice of Godly Play in the natural beauty of Newfoundland.

The theme of this year's conference – “Come from Away – Come to Play” – to be held at the Sheraton Hotel in historic downtown St. John's, June 20-22, is inspired by the name of the hit musical “Come from Away,” which was inspired by a traditional Newfoundland expression for those not from the island. It also references the importance of play in Godly Play's faith formation of children.

Participants will have the opportunity to share in worship, seminars, addresses and storytelling while experiencing Newfoundland's genuine hospitality. There will also be opportunities to see more of St. John's, the oldest city in North America, located just a few miles from the most eastern point of North America, Cape Spear.

Featured speakers for the conference include Dr. Elaine Champagne from the University of Laval, who will explore Children's Spiritual Journeys; The Reverend Canon Dr. Andrew Sheldon, Godly Play Advocate for International Development, who will address our readiness as Godly Play practitioners from emotional, theological, pedagogical and spiritual perspectives; and Dr. Rebecca Nye, a specialist in children's spirituality, and The Reverend Peter Privett, Chair of the Godly Play International Council, who will discuss their common interest and work in children's spirituality and international training. In the spirit of play and learning, there will be opportunities to hear familiar stories in unfamiliar languages (French, German, Spanish and Afrikaans), to attend workshops and presentations on a multitude of topics including the use



View of St. John's, Newfoundland

of Godly Play stories at home, the theological significance of storytelling, using Godly Play in Vacation Bible Schools, deepening Response Time and so much more! I wonder what part of this conference is about you?

The North American Godly Play Conference in 2019 will be a wonderful opportunity to experience firsthand all that is happening in Godly Play, to meet old friends and make new friends, and to share and learn together in our beautiful island home.

Are you ready? To see the brochure and to register, go to Godly Play Canada: <https://godlyplay.ca/news/>. Canadian residents please use "OCanada" in the discount code box to access the Canadian exchange rate. Register before April 15 for the \$50 early registration discount!

Making NAGPC 2019 Attendance More Affordable...

If you are hoping to attend the NAGPC in St. John's, make sure you explore possible sources of funding from your denomination's children and youth ministry programs. For example, the [Vision Fund Bursary](#) provides grants in support of continuing education events with a focus on First Third Ministry (children, youth, young adults, camp, campus ministry, family ministry) to members, ministries, and partners of the United Church of Canada. If you are a volunteer or a congregational designated minister (CDM), you can receive up to \$500 per person, per year, while designated lay ministers (DLMs) and ordered ministers can receive up to \$300 per person, per year, with a cap of \$1,000 per pastoral charge per year. Consult the **program description** to learn more about Vision Fund Continuing Education Bursaries at <https://www.united-church.ca/community-faith/being-community/vision-fund> and apply by the April 15, 2019 deadline to be able to access funding for the conference this June.

Canadian Trainers!

In conjunction with the North American Godly Play Conference, Amy Crawford and Andrew Sheldon from Godly Play Canada will be offering "Core²: Enrichment Training for Godly Play Mentors" - what is being called Advanced Training in the U.S. - in St. John's prior to the conference.

Core²: Enrichment Training will be held at [St. Thomas Anglican Church](#) beginning Monday, June 17 at 3:00 p.m. and concluding Wednesday, June 19 at 5:00 p.m. Canadian trainers will also meet Thursday morning, June 20, as well as Thursday evening as a group. We hope to see as many Canadian trainers in St. John's as possible to take advantage of this great opportunity to learn together and deepen our knowledge of Godly Play. In this vein, there is no registration fee for Core²: Enrichment Training and we will be working on how to subsidize travel and accommodations to assist our trainers in being able to attend and to offer this new training in their regions. Please contact Amy Crawford at godlyplaybusiness@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Additional information on the Core²: Enrichment training can be found at <https://www.godlyplayfoundation.org/godly-play-training/us-training-options/> (see Advanced Godly Play Training) and in an excellent article about the spiral curriculum at <https://www.godlyplayfoundation.org/the-full-curriculum-taking-time-to-wonder/#more-2896>.

Godly Play Moments



Storytellers and doorkeepers working with children at O’Leary United Church in Prince Edward Island



Maya Landell and Adam Hanley, Godly Play Canada Advisory Board members, were visiting their friend Padre Judson Bridgewater, also a Godly Play Canada Advisory Board member, at CFB Petawawa. Judson invited Maya to share the story *Ten Best Ways* with the children during worship at St. George's Chapel, which is the Protestant chapel on the base at CFB Petawawa.

Godly Play Maritimes held an Introductory Day in October 2018 in this new Godly Play space at First Baptist Church in Halifax, where Rev. Jenny Drewitz, Minister of Faith Formation started a Godly Play program this past fall. It is a bright open room, with framed Creation and Faces of Easter prints hung on the walls.



Focus on Godly Play Rooms: Newfoundland

This edition's photo gallery features two Godly Play rooms from the diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador: St. Peter's, Conception Bay South and Church of the Ascension, Mount Pearl.

Bonnie Morgan from St. Peter's, Conception Bay South, writes "Our room was truly a community effort. ...the Men's Service Club installed new flooring and painted the walls. [Parishioners] made the small-scale church furnishings, desert box, tables and most shelves...models and parable figures. We had a work party where a group of women made covers for the throw cushions and painted the figures for World Communion. I made a lot of the materials myself and found items at thrift stores that could be repurposed for story materials. ...Thank God for the gift of so many talented and enthusiastic parishioners who made our beautiful room possible."



St. Peter's, Conception Bay South



Focal Shelf



St. Peter's, Conception Bay South



Handmade Church Furnishings



Handmade Circle of the Church Year



Church of the Ascension, Mount Pearl



Response Area

Upcoming Training Opportunities!

Register now for NAGPC 2019!

My name is Susan Sheppard, a Designated Lay Minister with the United Church of Canada, Godly Play Storyteller and Community Drum Circle Facilitator. I'm a Newfoundlander born and bred, and a townie (someone from St. John's). I've been a Godly Play storyteller since 2010 and we use Godly Play in our congregation weekly.

I attended the North American Godly Play Conference several years ago in Toronto and was very excited when I heard the conference would be here in St. John's. No travel cost! Apparently, I was the first person to register for the conference. I know you would love a story of me sitting at my computer waiting for the moment registration went live, but alas, I was sitting at my computer writing a very dull report, which wasn't going well. The registration email popped up and as a distraction, I decided I might as well fill it out, hit the send button, and there you have it - I was the first!

I really am very excited to welcome all of you to my corner of the world! As this year's tourism commercial says: "An Island of Stories" (see <https://www.newfoundlandlabrador.com>) and some may even be true. You will be staying in our beautiful downtown with lots of history, walking, pubs and characters. I will warn you that the weather in June can be very unpredictable, so be prepared for sun, fog, rain, wind, hot, warm and cold temperatures, and that can be all in one day!

Looking forward to sharing stories and learning with you in June. It will be a 'time'.

*Susan Sheppard
St. James United Church, St. John's, NL*

Core Training – Brockville, ON

Thursday, May 2 to Saturday, May 4, 2019

Trainers: Andrew Sheldon and Amy Crawford

Training will be hosted at St. Paul's Anglican Church, 12 Pine St., Brockville, ON

For more info and to register online: <https://godlyplay.ca/training/>

Commuter Core Training – Langley, BC

Module A: Saturday, January 26, 2019 - 8:30 am - 5:00 pm - Sacred Story Day

Module B: Saturday, March 2, 2019 - 8:30 am - 5:00 pm – Parable Day

Module C: Saturday, April 6, 2019 - 8:30 am - 5:00 pm - Liturgical Action Day

All modules will be hosted at United Churches of Langley, 21562 Old Yale Road, Langley

For more info and to register online:

<https://godlyplaybcevents.weebly.com>

Contact: Anne Clark – arbc52@gmail.com

Core Training – Halifax – Coming soon!

Visit <https://godlyplaymaritimes.com>



Newly
accredited
Storytellers
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