

VITAL CHURCH MARITIMES 2018 CONFERENCE

BREAK-OUT SESSIONS:

Thursday, Nov. 8 – 3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

- **The Holy Spirit & Mission - (New Evangelization), David Deane**, Associate Professor of Theology, Atlantic School of Theology
By many metrics, the Christian faith has been declining in recent decades in the Western world. This presentation explores some of the reasons for this decline and suggests how a renewed focus on the Holy Spirit as an agent of transformation can help respond to it.



David Deane is Associate Professor of Theology at Atlantic School of Theology. He has a PhD from Trinity College, University of Dublin. His articles have appeared in The Times of London and his second book, "Resisting the Tyranny of the Banal" is coming out early next year with Fortress Press. He lives in Dartmouth with his wife Jennifer and daughters Sophia, Chora (Cora), and Áine (Awn-yah).

- **Rural Missional Communities, Greg Jones**, Associate Executive Minister, Congregational Renewal, Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada
Much of the rural church in Atlantic Canada is struggling for its very existence, even while hundreds of people with no meaningful church connection live within their reach. Does this mean that God has abandoned the church in such communities, or might it instead mean that we need to reconsider what it means to be the church God calls us to be? This workshop will explore the meaning of being missional, and how such an understanding can help churches of any size and age journey to renewed effectiveness and vitality through meaningfully engaging their communities with the good news of Jesus Christ.



Greg Jones identifies as a husband, dad, grandfather, and most importantly, a Christ follower. A graduate of Mount Allison University and Regent College, he is now completing a DMin thesis on the Missional Church within the context of his home denomination – the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada (CBAC). Greg pastored in Sackville, NB and Moncton, NB prior to being called to serve with his denomination as a resource and consultant for CBAC churches these past sixteen plus years.

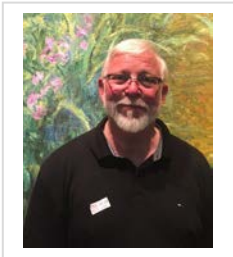
- **PANEL [A]**
Tuesday is the New Sunday, Louise Knowles, Timberlea Baptist
Imagine if your bank, grocery store, or doctor's office was only open once a week? Imagine if all the banks, grocery stores and doctor's offices were only open at the same time?! Our culture is changing and flexibility is essential if we're going to grow. Come hear about how trying alternate worship times can engage your congregation and help reach your neighbours!



Rev. Louise Knowles is an Associate Pastor at Timberlea Baptist Church where she works in children's and family ministry. She also works for Canadian Baptist Ministries (our denomination's mission agency) in the area of Youth and Young

Adult Engagement and is part of the Canadian Baptist Youth Team and Canadian Baptist Kids Team. Louise lives in Timberlea, NS with her two young daughters.

Acts 29 (Sunday eve gatherings), Stephen Croft, Our Saviour Lutheran, Dartmouth
For the past several years Stephen Croft has led his parish into starting a completely different service at a different time for different people. The new Sunday night service is called “Acts 29.” Acts 29 is the next chapter of what is the unwritten part of the Bible and the church; our lives. In this session, Stephen will share what he has learned about conducting innovative and experimental church services.



Stephen Croft is an Anglican priest who is ministering in the Eastern Synod of the ELCIC. He is the pastor of Our Saviour Church in Dartmouth. He has a desire to help make church accessible to the unchurched and is committed to the risk of exploring different ways to do that. He studied Small Church Growth at the Virginia Theological Seminary (Summer Collegium), Holocaust Studies at Yad Veshem in Israel, and he holds a doctorate in Practical Ministry from the Wagner Leadership Institute (it took eleven years).

➤ **PANEL [B]**

Making Change - Michelle Cockell, Parish of St. Martin’s, Western Shore

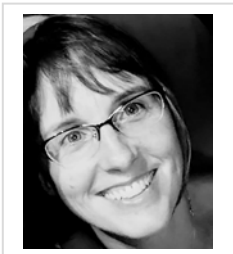
Discover what Baking Soda has to do with change in the church. See how British Airways can help your parish soar to new heights in the mission field. Explore solid practices to help make change happen for good.



Michelle Cockell is an Anglican priest and Rector of the Parish of St. Martin’s Western Shore. She has served town-and-rural communities and urban centres in the Dioceses of Huron (Ontario) and Christchurch (New Zealand). She has a depth of interdenominational ministry experience with church and para-church organisations. She is an early adopter of Fresh Expressions and Mission-shaped Ministry. Prior to ordained ministry, Michelle ran a successful Marketing Communications Management consultancy, working with global market leaders. She lectured in Integrated Marketing Communications at the university level. Her 2017 sabbatical project was training a golden-doodle puppy.

The Art of Introducing New Ideas, Tammy Hodge, St. Nicholas’ Westwood Hills

My experience around change in the church always starts with what God is revealing to her church. Who are we being called to care for, who are we not reaching and how can we better serve those we already call our church family? Then we look to what scripture has to teach us, discern what change might bring about a better outcome and then run with it. I believe God will empower our desire to love radically.



Rector St. Nicholas Anglican Church, Fort-Sackville Regional Dean - Ordained to the Priesthood in 2009, Tammy’s call is focused around the God of love: How we are loved by God and called to love in God’s name. Her experience in the church has been, that our structures and church culture do not always support our ability to live out our mission share God’s love, so we should feel inspired and empowered by the Spirit to bring about change that will allow the church to share God’s limitless love of God with all people.

Friday, Nov. 9 – 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- **Habits for Highly Missional People (BELLS), Shawn Branch**, Parish Development Officer, Diocese of Fredericton

Living Life Intentionally - What would it mean for us to live our lives intentionally? Living our lives as citizens of the Kingdom of God? Imagine if each moment of the day was somehow our response to God's love for us? Come and find how your life can impact your community and those around you.



Shawn C. Branch is the parish development officer for the Diocese of Fredericton. His focus is on helping to mobilize congregations to reach out into their communities and help raise up innovative leaders for the church. Prior to this, he was the national director of an evangelistic organization with members across Canada.

- **PANEL [C]**

Benedictine Canon Community of St. Patrick, Chad McCharles, Mahone Bay

When Father Chad's journey of faith brought him to the South Shore, it became evident that a modern expression of monasticism, like that which he was a part of on the prairies, would flourish. The Anglican Benedictine Canon community of St. Patrick was soon started, and now meets in Chapter monthly at the rectory in Mahone Bay and has 15-20 regular attendees. This fresh expression of the ancient wisdom and rhythms of our monastic forbearers serves as rich soil for mission within the parish of Mahone Bay to grow, as it informs and guides the faithful to draw on the depths of God's merciful relationship with us to sustain, encourage, and build up, rather than being torn down by the trappings and failings of this life. Time spent with Father Chad during the 2018 Vital Church Maritimes conference will explore what it means to be a modern monastic today, while living and working in an increasingly secular culture, and how this compels us to engage deeply in the missional work to which Christ calls us.



Father Chad McCharles OSBC(n) is the Rector of the Mahone Bay Anglican Parish, a ministry he began in January 2017 when he and his wife Dawn and their two children moved to Nova Scotia from their home in Manitoba, after a decade of priestly ministry in the Diocese of Brandon. Born and raised on a large cattle and grain farm in Southern Manitoba, Chad approaches mission and ministry with the same work ethic, values, and grass-roots approach he learned on the family farm, and finds this to be a firm foundation for both parish and family life. Chad spends spare time baking bread, as a holdover from his first vocation as a professional baker and bakery owner, as well as woodworking, hiking the gorgeous trails around Mahone Bay, and hosting friends and family in the rectory. Mildred the family Dachshund likes a great deal of his attention too!

Contemplation in Mission, Sandra Fyfe, St. John's Wolfville

At a time when some are leery to return to church - or to attend worship for the first time - contemplative practices offer a gentle way to introduce people to the heart and

mind of Christ. Sandra will talk about her parish's efforts to offer contemplative practices such as Christian meditation, quiet days and contemplative worship services, with a view to inviting those not currently connected to the parish community. Learn more about how to reach out by offering a space for quiet in the midst of the busyness of life. The session will also feature a shortened form of Christian Meditation including ten minutes of intentional silence.



Sandra Fyfe is the Rector of the Parish of Horton in Wolfville, N.S. Recognizing that contemplative practices are not just for introverts, Sandra describes herself as an extroverted contemplative. She has a passion for liturgy that is contextually-relevant, and in finding new ways to reach out to people who are not connected with the institutional church. She holds a Master of Divinity (Honours) degree from Queen's College in St. John's, NL, and a Bachelor of Public Relations degree from Mount Saint Vincent University. She lives in Wolfville with her husband Jim, their two teenage children, Emma and Alec, and their wise dog, Yoda.

➤ **PANEL [D]**

Ministry with Older Adults, Cheryl Rafuse, Hatchet Lake & Terence Bay

We will look through the lens of older adults (55+) in order to see into their world and get a vision of what they are experiencing in their lives i.e. life changes, health issues, caregiving of loved ones, divorce, grief, loneliness, and other issues in their lives. Relationship is key, how do we form and maintain them. Let's also do some brainstorming together as to how to be missional with this invaluable community.

"Even in the aged they will still produce fruit; they will remain vital and green." Ps. 92:14



Cheryl is blessed to be a Vocational Deacon in the Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island serving in the Parish of St. Timothy's, Hatchet Lake and St. Paul's, Terence Bay. Her ministries in the parish mainly consists of pastoral care i.e. funerals, marriage preparation, recovery groups for grief, divorce and depression, distribution of food from their Food Share program as well as advocacy and suicide intervention and post-vention. She enjoys leading services in her parish occasionally, as well as Camp Hill, Veterans Memorial Chapel. Midweek Cheryl leads a Morning Prayer and Bible Study program which is attended mostly by seniors. It is followed by discussion and lunch. She enjoys some Diocesan involvement with Diocesan Council, VSST-HR (Human Resources) and as Assistant Spiritual Director for Cursillo. Cheryl also serve as a Call Back Chaplain for the Nova Scotia Health Authority and sits on the board of the Open Door Centre and H.E.Y. (Helping Exploited Youth -Human trafficking).

Wisdom and Wonder: Intergenerational Ministry – Penny Nelson, Tatamagouche Pastoral Charge

Increasingly in our society, church communities are the one place where the wisdom of the elder can meet the wonder of the child. In this workshop, we'll explore ways that any church--rural or urban, big or small--can live into intergenerational ministry when

we start with the premise that every age has gifts we need and every age has needs we can gift.



The Rev. Penny Nelson is an ordained minister in The United Church of Canada. She grew up on a multi-generational farm in Alberta and has taken the love and wisdom of this intergenerational experience into her present-day ministry with her rural, three-point Pastoral Charge in Tatamagouche, NS. Penny and her wife, the Rev. Nicole Uzans live on 10 acres of land outside Tatamagouche where they're slowly learning how to farm and meet God in the garden every day.

➤ **PANEL [E]**

Missional Stewards – Mike Briggs, Stewardship Officer, Diocese of Fredericton

This presentation will focus on finding out what the local community needs. We ask questions to discover (not assume) what people need. His parish in Moncton has been very successful in running programmes for a local school that has expanded this summer with working with refugees. The session includes some display panels and a short power point presentation.



Michael lived and went to school on the British Channel Island of Jersey and worked for a major English Bank. In 1982 while on vacation in the Caribbean he met a Canadian who is now his wife. Emigrated to Canada in 1984 and he and Judy were married at St Philip Moncton. Mike and Judy lived in Toronto until 2005 when they returned to Moncton where Judy grew up. They worship at St Philip Moncton and Mike was appointed Vestry Clerk in Feb 2009 and Treasurer in Feb 2010. He has served as a member of the Diocese of Fredericton Finance Committee and since Jan 2016 has been Stewardship Officer for the Diocese of Fredericton. He is also a Lay Reader and leads a service of Morning Prayer monthly at a seniors residence in Moncton as well as assisting in services at St Philip's.

Giving Our Thanks & Praise – Susan Graham-Walker, Stewardship Ministry, Resources for Mission, Anglican Church of Canada

Inspire, Invite & Thank - the essentials of any giving program. A giving program is about encouraging discipleship and deepening the spiritual practices of generosity, giving and gratitude. This is usually narrowly defined as stewardship. Let's break that open to discover many and various ways of encouraging faithful living by inspiring, inviting and thanking so we can be engaged with God's mission wherever God calls us.



First, Susan wants you to know that she grew up in the congregation of All Saints Cathedral Halifax between 1956 and 1973. Susan brings a varied experience in faith formation and stewardship education with denominational leadership and local churches. She has a deep commitment and enthusiasm for encouraging generosity, giving and gratitude. She has developed numerous congregational giving programs for the United Church of Canada (Called to Be the Church - <http://www.stewardshiptoolkit.ca>) as well as the Giving Our Thanks & Praise (www.anglican.ca/atp) for the Anglican Church of Canada, along with the I

Intend (<https://www.anglican.ca/gifts/i-intend/>) congregational discipleship program. Susan has chaired the Stewardship Committee of the Church of the Redeemer in Toronto and knows the joys and challenges of the role. She was awarded the Order of the Diocese of Toronto for her volunteer work including coaching Parish Selection Committees. While Nova Scotia is still home, she and her spouse, the Rev'd Paul G. Walker, live in downtown Toronto and have two adult children, Caroline and Mark.

Friday, Nov. 9 – 1:45 p.m. to 3 p.m.

- **Paths to Discipleship (The Game Plan), Ron Huntley**, Director of Coaching, Divine Renovation Ministry, Archdiocese of Halifax
Saint Benedict Parish, Halifax, has developed a strategy to develop disciples who joyfully live out the mission of Jesus Christ. Join Ron Huntley as he breaks open the Game Plan to help inspire you as a church leader to create your own Game Plan to make disciples.



Ron Huntley works internationally with church leaders to build passion and get results. Ron's love for Christ, people and the church drive him to make a difference in the lives of pastors, priests and ministry leaders everywhere. Ron Huntley and Fr. James Mallon worked side-by-side to bring about the divine renovation of Saint Benedict Parish in Halifax, Canada. Ron has expanded to parishes around the world through international speaking engagements, the divine renovation podcast, and the divine renovation coaching network where Ron coaches and mentors pastors who seek to bring their parish from maintenance to mission.

- **Making the Dream a Reality, Carl Fraser**, Parish of Fall River & Oakfield
Have a dream or an idea about trying to reach people for Jesus, but haven't quite figure out where to start or what to do? This is the session for you - Putting Dreams into Action! Acts 2.17 says that when God poured out His Holy Spirit on His people (Pentecost) that our young people will see visions, our old people dream dreams – we've got the dreams - let's put them into action. This will be a very practical session, where people can come with an idea or even the spark of an idea and get some help bringing it to life and fruitfulness. This session will likely cover a variety of areas – where to finding possible funding, where to connect with others who might assist or partner with you and your church, how to best use social media/website and advertising, and much more. Ultimately, the hope of this session is encourage people to dream and dare and deliver for Jesus.



Carl loves Jesus, equipping others for ministry and serving the church. He currently serves in the Parish of Fall River & Oakfield, but is also active as an EFM Mentor and within the life of the Diocese, Team Leader for FMD (Financial Management & Development), part of the MORE Mission Schools, sits on Diocesan Council, and loves to get his 'geek' on as Synod Tech guru. He is

passionate about the development of young people, the ministry of laughter, and is always looking for new ways to build community, and to share faith and the love of Jesus. He lives in Stewiacke with his wife Gloria (now retired from full time ministry), their 2 collies and 2 cats. A man of the outdoors, Carl enjoys snow blowing, chain-sawing, splitting wood and leaf blowing. He loves winter and prays constantly for snow (which does not endear him to many).

➤ **PANEL [F]**

The Uke's the Thing – Mel Malton, Parishes of Berwick/Aylesford

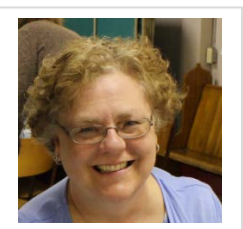
A ukulele is a small, friendly and inexpensive instrument. It's easy to learn the basics and great fun to play in a group. The internet is teeming with uke-arrangements for every song you've ever heard. Starting a uke-group is amazingly simple, and a sure-fire way to connect with your neighbour. Singing and playing together, offering sing-alongs in care-facilities, at community events and in worship settings – this is the kind of ministry that has fellowship built in. Mel Malton offers a quickie tutorial and tips on how to start a group in your area.



The Rev. Mel Malton - Mel is rector of the Anglican Parishes of Berwick/Aylesford. Before entering the ministry, she worked for more than a decade in the professional theatre business as an actor and stage manager, touring shows throughout Canada and the United States. She is a writer, enthusiastic gardener and musician, and is delighted to be living and working in the lovely Annapolis Valley.

Open Door (for pedestrians) - Janice Mumford, St. Alban's, Dartmouth

As numbers within St. Alban's began to dwindle, and the community around us shifted from residential to more commercial and health-care related facilities, we wondered about our ministry purpose. We asked ourselves "Who are our neighbours now?" Desiring to connect more deeply with those living and working near us, the idea of a bi-weekly "Open Door" drop-in took shape. This session will explore how, even with hesitant faith and few resources, it is possible to step out of our comfortable pew and respond to Jesus' call to love our neighbours – simply by recognizing our common humanity, and serving a great cup of coffee!



Janice Mumford, RN, is semi-retired, though she continues to teach RN students emergency nursing care. She's an active volunteer at St. Alban's Open Door, and also exercises leadership as a parish Warden. A native of Dartmouth, Janice lives with her husband Terry, youngest son Patrick, beagle Mollie and two cats - Harrison and Frankie.

➤ **PANEL [G]**

Prayer in the Park – Shirley Carras, All Saints Bedford

When summer evenings, lovely weather, a picturesque setting and a desire to pray all intersect, we have Prayer in the Park. Dewolfe Park more precisely. Night Prayer or

Compline more specifically. Shirley will speak about the birth of this very simply missional initiative which has just finished up its second summer. How it got started, the mindset, the tools and the experience. She will speak to the community it forged, what grew from it, the experiences that might otherwise not have been shared, and where it might go from here.



Shirley Carras serves as the Priest Assistant at All Saints Church in Bedford, NS, having been ordained an Anglican Priest in 2017. While working in her former career as a Chartered Accountant, she was dubbed a “mismatched accountant”, and when she came to the realization that her “job” was turning her into someone she truly didn’t care for, the time had come to pursue her vocation. After spending a few years lecturing in Accounting at St. Mary’s University, Shirley enrolled in her MDiv at the Atlantic School of Theology, a degree and an experience about which she can’t say enough. A born and bred Cape Bretoner, and an extrovert at heart, Shirley spends a large proportion of her time in Pastoral Ministry, both at All Saints and as a Call-back Chaplain for the Halifax hospitals. Her passion is to help others recognize what she calls their God-moments through liturgy and small group discussions, and, in turn, to help them share these moments with others.

Beer & Theology, Katherine Bourbonniere, Church of St. Andrew, Cole Harbour
At the Church of Saint Andrew Katherine has a Beer and Theology session planned on a monthly basis. Hear about how it all began, our missional understanding, and the joys and challenges that we have faced along the way. There will be time for discussion and interaction is key!



Rev. Katherine Bourbonniere has served joyfully as an ordained priest with the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island for 21 years. Currently the Rector of The Church of Saint Andrew, Cole Harbour and Archdeacon of the Dartmouth Region, Rev. Katherine is known for her energetic approach to both liturgy and overall parish life. She has a passion for meeting people where they are in their spiritual journey, whether it's exploring their faith through bible study, liturgical dance, service to the community, or discussing theology over beer at the local wing joint. A wife and mother of two herself, she works hard to make families feel welcome and included in parish life. She brings a special mix of reverence and joy-filled enthusiasm to the liturgy and works tirelessly to make the word of God fresh and accessible to her parishioners.

