

Gospel Jamboree
Christ Church Cathedral
August 3 - 6

Workshops and Speakers Biography

Captain Shawn C. Branch

In 2012, Shawn C. Branch was appointed as National Director of Threshold Ministries. At 32 and the youngest leader in the ministry's history, he had been tasked with leading and supporting its 70+ evangelists and many volunteers across Canada.

Shawn grew up in New Brunswick and came to faith at 16, after having been invited to a Christian youth rally by friends. Prior to this, the Church was nothing more than a curiosity and vague distant memory from a few weekends with his grandparents. Jumping in with both feet, he soon after got involved in youth groups, and the local youth centre, working with at-risk children.

Commissioned as an Evangelist in 2004, Shawn has been working with congregations, summer camps and regional leaders to help offer leadership for inviting children and youth to consider the Good News of the Gospel. His passion in ministry is to see individuals released in their vocational calling and to be empowered to be agents of change in their communities.

Licensed as an Evangelist in the Anglican church, Shawn is committed to working with all denominations who are looking to strengthen their outreach and commitment to the Great Commission.

Workshop on Evangelism

Friday August 4 - **The Great Commission:** How does the church respond to Jesus' challenge to reach the ends of the earth with the Good News? Is it possible for us to move from sedentary to mobile?

Saturday August 5 - **Reaching the Next Generation:** Is the message of the Gospel still relevant? In a world of people searching, how do we effectively reach them?

Sunday August 6 - **Being of Good Courage:** Afraid of saying or doing the wrong thing? We are called to be bold and confident, let's pursue this together.

Rev. Canon Ginny Doctor

The Rev. Canon Ginny Doctor is currently the Coordinator of Indigenous Ministries for the Anglican Church of Canada. She served as a missionary and later as staff in the Diocese of Alaska for eighteen years. During her time in Alaska her primary responsibility was leadership development and coordinated training for lay leaders and those seeking ordination in the diocese. Ginny helped to develop numerous training programs for the diocese and the

Episcopal Church of the United States. As the Coordinator she is still involved in leadership and spiritual formation. Ginny has also authored several articles appearing in the IKHANA, a publication of the Episcopal Church, The First People's Theological Journal, The Chant of Life and the Women's Book of Uncommon Prayers.

Ginny resides on the Six Nation Reserve in southern Ontario and is a member of the Mohawk Nation, Turtle Clan.

Introduction to Indigenous Healthy Pathways (IWP)

IWP has eight modules, each based on one of the traditional teachings of the Cree. However, these teachings are standard in many First Nations and they parallel Christian values. Three sessions will be presented in the time allotted. However, depending on how the group responds, it may be necessary to do other modules in place of anyone of these.

1. Friday August 4 – **Respect for where we come from**
 - a. Opening Ceremony
 - b. Rule of life for the circle and overview of activities
 - c. Talking Circle to introduce self and let go of frustrations
2. Saturday August 5 – **Truth and Honesty of our History**
 - a. Honoring Sacred Space – Gospel Based Discipleship
 - b. Building of the Altar
 - c. History Timeline
3. Sunday August 6 – **Bravery to know Racism and speak about it when it is used**
 - a. Racism
 - b. Internalizing oppression and Internalized White Superiority
 - c. Story Telling, Healing and Song

Bishop Larry Robertson, D.D.

Since 1976 Bishop Robertson has ministered North of 60 in the Diocese of the Arctic and the Diocese of Yukon in an area that spans Yukon, NWT, Nunavut and Northern Quebec. His ministry is extensively with, but not totally, First Nations, Metis and Inuit people. Elected by the people of the Diocese he became Bishop Suffragan (assistant bishop) of the Arctic in 1999 and then in 2010 he was elected as the Bishop of Yukon where he currently resides in Whitehorse.

Growing up in the slums of Toronto, Bishop Robertson's life was strongly influenced by alcohol, sexual abuse and lack of personal identity and self worth. At the age of 18 he put his faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour which began a healing journey that continues today.

In his ministry in the Church he has been Lay Minister, Church Army Evangelist, Deacon, Priest and Bishop.

Healing Workshop

During the two sessions on August 4 & 5, Bishop Robertson will share his own healing journey and how his faith in Jesus enabled healing to take place in his life along with a sense of identity and self worth. We will look at helping abused people towards healing and wholeness in Christ Jesus

Mrs Betty Davidson

Betty Davidson was a music teacher for many years at Robert Service School in Dawson City, and was actively involved with choirs, and musicals. Her heart has always been in church worship music. She led a youth Singing Group, Emmaus Road, with her husband in the mid 70's, travelling through BC and Alberta. Betty has participated in two singing Missions to Belize. She leads a children's singing group at St Paul's, along with a Christmas Community Choir. Betty believes that Christian music is vitally important to our church worship, drawing people closer together and to our heavenly Father through song and word. She is excited about sharing some new worship music at the Gospel Jamboree.

Music Workshop

During the two session of August 4 & 5 Mrs. Davidson will teach up to three modern songs per session suitable to use in worship. It is hoped that these songs can then be part of the Gospel Jamboree in the evening.

Dancing with the Spirit

Dancing with the Spirit is a project to connect youth and elders through music. The Rev. Trimble Gilbert from Arctic Village says "in the old days we fought Tribal wars with arrowheads. It's a different type of war now – against drugs and alcohol. I believe we can win with music." Music builds confidence, self-esteem and the closeness of family. In almost every community, elders play and sing and would like to pass on through music – their culture, their respect for the land and it's animals, and their values

This Alaskan Group starting August 3 to 6, will teach guitar and fiddle to young people. In the morning they will work with the young children, (specially sized instruments will be provided) and in the afternoon they will work with the older children.