

THE FIRST

# GODLY PLAY SOUTH AFRICA CONFERENCE

ARE YOU READY...?

5 – 6 October 2018

St Dunstan's Cathedral, Benoni

## Pre-conference workshops

4 October 2018

Material making & Deep Talk

### What is Godly Play?

Children have an innate sense of the presence of God. The Godly Play approach helps them to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language and to enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Based on Montessori principles and developed using a spiral curriculum, the Godly Play method serves children through early, middle and late childhood and beyond.

## KEY NOTE SPEAKER

**Andrew Sheldon**

Godly Play advocate for international development

## PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

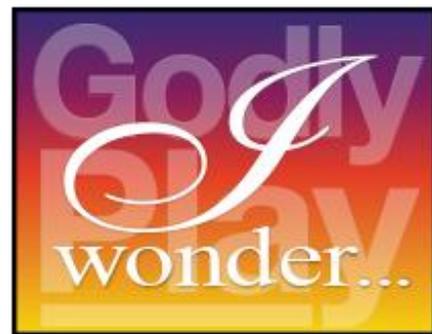
- Play as spiritual practice
- Godly Play with the elderly
- Children's spirituality
- Deep talk
- Making materials
- Godly Play circles in Africa

# International speakers



## Andrew Sheldon

Andrew describes his introduction to Godly Play in this way: “It was love at first sight!” Andrew immediately recognized the value of this innovative program and became an early advocate of the program in the Diocese of Toronto. He is an Anglican priest and professor and an experienced adult educator. Besides being a Godly Play Trainer and storyteller, Andrew functions as the Godly Play Advocate for International Development.



## Tuula Valkonen

Tuula Valkonen is Deep Talk is a new, fresh, and happy method for developing communities. It is a soul gymnastics trampoline for the community: it helps to empower you and helps you grow. It helps you find lost muscles, the real parts of your soul, with which everyone can be a whole person just as they are. When a person is themselves in the here and now, the whole group can be themselves in the



## Amy Crawford

Amy is the Team Leader for Faith Formation and Mission at the General Council Office of the United Church of Canada. She is also the volunteer Executive Director of Godly Play Canada. And a truly gifted and inspiring story-teller.



## Bridget Steenkamp

Bridget is a Godly Play practitioner and Godly Play UK Advocate with a background in grassroots community development. With her passion for crafting, she is an inspiration to all when it comes to creating quality story materials for Godly Play stories on a shoe-string budget.

# Pre-conference workshops

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**Thursday 4 October, 08h00 – 16h30.**

Cost: R 350 - includes tea/coffee and lunch.

*Limited places available.*

Choose from one of the following three options:

## Workshop 1:

### Deep Talk - Tuula Valkonen, Godly Play Finland

Deep Talk takes several Godly Play principles, some Godly Play stories and some other stories, and adapts these for a spiritual process suitable to secular and religious settings. The process helps groups consider their organisation or workplace vision, mission, issues or challenges. This has been used in Finland in secular and church contexts usually with existing adult teams such as a staff team.

The workshop will begin with the making of a circle; the showing of a story; and the wondering time. Then everyone changes places and a dialogue game is played when the group explores their work and life together. Finally, there is a celebration and chance to say farewell.

## Workshop 2:

### Wood-working - Stan Truby, Godly Play South Africa

- You will learn wood selection for different Godly Play stories
- Safe workshop practices will be covered
- You will use a circular saw, scroll saw, bench top router, belt sander, and eccentric sander
- You will make People of God using a scroll saw and wood plaques as typically used in stories such as Faces of Easter, Advent, Creation and others

Limited places available

## Workshop 3:

### Making meaningful materials on a limited budget - Laura Guida and Bridget Steenkamp, Godly Play UK

In the morning you will be making the story of Jonah which will include:

- Big fish made from a sock
- Salt-dough Person of God
- Wire and felt waves
- Paper mache boat
- Additional pieces for the story

In the afternoon you will choose:

- Learning wet-felting technique to make a dove
- Decoupage technique needed for stories such as Parables, Faces of Easter, and Creation

## Materials for sale

Selected story materials and materials in kit form and workbooks will be on sale at the Conference

# Conference Programme

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## Friday

08h00: Registration

09h00: Opening of Conference and opening Godly Play story

10h00: Keynote address: Are you ready? Readiness in Godly Play - Revd Canon Dr Andrew Sheldon, Godly Play International

## *Tea*

11h00: Play as spiritual practice - Amy Crawford, GP Canada

11h45: Godly Play: A Way for Today - Andrew Sheldon

## *Lunch*

14h00: Introduction of Godly Play South Africa Board

14h15: Godly Play as an Ignatian way of being with children - Rev Brenda Timmer, GP SA

14h45: How we started Godly Play in our communities: Panel discussion – GP South Africa

## *Tea*

16h00: Making meaningful materials - Pastor Bridget Steenkamp, GP UK

## Saturday

08h00: Coffee and muffins

08h30: Godly Play story

09h00: Deep Talk: Tuula Valkonen, GP Finland

09h45: Stories for the soul: using GP with older adults: Bridget Steenkamp

## *Tea*

11h00: Using GP in different contexts: hospital, school, adult groups - Panel discussion

12h00: Godly Play: Outside the Box - Andrew Sheldon

## *Feast*

14h00: Closing ceremony

To register go to:

<https://form.myjotform.com/81574206361555>

*Closing dates for registration: 20 September*

Contact Joan on [godlyplaysouthafrica@gmail.com](mailto:godlyplaysouthafrica@gmail.com) for any queries