

Workshops for Preaching Conference (March 6, 2018)

God Speaks my Language!

Synopsis:

Context matters! The context of the Biblical text matters and so does the context of our everyday lives but communicating how the Word of God transcends every context is critical if we're preaching for discipleship and life-transformation. How do we communicate the truth of Jesus with clarity, warmth and relevance? Digging deeper and approaching the text with fresh eyes every day is a joyful challenge that every preaching pastor faces, so let's face it together for love of the people we serve, for the love of Christ and His Kingdom.



Speaker: Rev. Kaarina Hsieh

Lead Pastor, Parkway Forest Community Church, Toronto

Kaarina Hsieh has been serving in pastoral ministries for over 20 years. She also served as the Dean of Students at Tyndale Seminary for 17 of those years and has been serving as Lead Pastor at Parkway Forest Community Church in Toronto for the past 6 years. Parkway Forest is a diverse and vibrant church plant in the heart of North York that seeks to love people towards a saving knowledge of Christ for the joy and blessing of the Kingdom.

Relevant Preaching in a Global Community

Synopsis:

Relevant preaching isn't just about using a certain kind of vocabulary, using video clips or wearing jeans to church. Relevant preaching is truly understanding your audience. It is about understanding their world, their dreams and their fears. To preach with relevance in a global community we need to find the common ground that exists between our audience and our experience.



Speaker: Rev. Dr. Mona Scrivens

Pastor, Amberlea Presbyterian Church, Pickering

Mona Scrivens is an ordained minister in The Presbyterian Church in Canada. She has a passion for the Family...of every configuration. She believes strongly that the role of the Church is to be a support and resource so that families and individual members are nurtured, strengthened, and empowered to honor God in their homes and in the whole of their lives. Mona believes passionately that it is through families that the church extends its reach in nurturing faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Mona's passion for the family began long before entering into ordained ministry. For fourteen years Mona owned and operated a company called Expectations and was contracted by several hospitals to provide pre and postnatal education. She has been seen on Cityline, The Women's Network, CTV morning shows and a variety of other broadcasts, communicating her knowledge and passion for the family. Her video *Ready for Delivery* was also produced at that time.

Mona is currently working on her second book, with a focus on pregnancy, childbirth and spirituality. She lives in Scarborough with her husband, Brian and her two amazing children, Emily and Tyler.

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Sharing the Pulpit: Building a Lay Preaching Ministry

Synopsis:

The biblical injunction to "equip God's people for works of service" includes the ministry of preaching. Lay preaching is certainly not a new idea and yet it is certainly not widespread or commonplace in most of our congregations. What are the motivations and benefits of building a lay preaching ministry in your church?



Speaker: Rev. Dr. Tim Tang

English Pastor, East Toronto Chinese Baptist Church and Associate Director, Tyndale Intercultural Ministries Centre

Rev. Dr. Timothy Tang was born in Toronto where he now lives with his wife Joanne, who is a high school teacher in the York Board of Education. They have two sons and a daughter, Tobin Wesley, Mathis Jiles, and Breylin Emmanuelle, who are 11, 9, and 5 years old respectively. Pastor Tim has been the English pastor at the East Toronto Chinese Baptist Church where he has been ministering for 15 years. After studying at Upper Canada College, he went on to the University of Waterloo where he completed his B.Sc. in Kinesiology. Though Tim planned a career in health care, God called him to full time ministry during a short-term missions trip to Asia in 1996, after which he finished his M.Div. in Youth and Family Ministry at Tyndale Seminary. Since that time, Tim has been involved with John424, a worship ministry; the Tribe of Issachar, a leadership training ministry; and completed a 2-year program called Arrow Leadership. Tim has also recently completed a Doctor of Ministry in Leadership at Gordon-Conwell Seminary.

Confessing Christ in Troubled Times: Bonhoeffer as a Resource for Preachers

Synopsis:

In 1935, in the midst of the struggle for the soul of the church in Nazi Germany, Dietrich Bonhoeffer led a workshop for preachers on the theme of preaching "relevant" New Testament sermons. His penetrating insights into the realities of preaching not only cut against the grain of much of the popular wisdom of his own day, but they also challenge and encourage us to boldly reclaim our true calling as proclaimers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Speaker: Rev. Dr. Robert Dean

Adjunct Professor of Theology, Tyndale Seminary

A graduate of Wycliffe College, Robert previously served for seven years as a pastor at Good Shepherd Community Church in Scarborough. Over the past six years, he has taught a variety of courses as an Adjunct Professor in the theology department at Tyndale Seminary and has engaged in an itinerant preaching ministry, speaking in pulpits throughout the province.

Robert's scholarly work is motivated by the question of what it means for the church to be a faithful community of disciples in our contemporary post-Christendom Canadian context. While formally trained as a systematic theologian, his experience as a pastor and his dissertation work with the theologies of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Stanley Hauerwas have left him deeply convinced that theology is properly a practical discipline. As a result, his writing and interests traverse the fields of systematic theology, theological ethics, pastoral theology, homiletics, worship and liturgy, and missional leadership in the interest of seeing theological reflection brought to bear on the concrete realities facing the church. This past year, Robert published his second book, *Leaps of Faith: Sermons from the Edge*, a collection of sermons with a Foreword by Fleming Rutledge.