

# Live Your Passion!

## Love & Faith in Action at Camp



Camp Abegweit, Prince Edward Island



# connections 2011

The United Church of Canada's National Camping Conference

Thursday, September 29-Sunday, October 2, 2011



## Keynote Speaker



**Maya Landell** learned what it means to be a leader when she became a camp counsellor at Pearce Williams Christian Centre the summer after grade 9. She spent the next decade immersed in leadership development and opportunities to grow as a youth and young adult at camp, including serving as director of the camp.

Only now, 20 years later, is the full significance of that experience being revealed. Maya is currently an ordained minister serving a two-point pastoral charge in southwestern Ontario (Eastwood and Innerkip United Churches), and her camping background is one of the key building blocks of her leadership in ministry. Maya is passionate about integrating these experiences into the relevance of the church for our time and heeding God's call to step out in faith and be *bold*.

In her keynote addresses, Maya will focus on the complexity of our common dilemmas at United Church Camps, helping us to see that sharing our love and faith really does make a difference and that together we can do what seems impossible. By putting our love and faith in action at camp, we become evolutionary seeds for new life and a new world.

## Worship & Music



**The Message**, a contemporary Christian band from the Maritimes, is a versatile group of entertainers dedicated to music ministry and Christian music education. The Message has a strong background in the United Church, and its members include professional educators, highly trained musicians, and prolific songwriters.

Along with a highly charged, spirit-filled stage show, the members each bring powerful individual skills to their music ministry.

- **Stephen Spencer**, a highly experienced educator, offers clinics on the use of African percussion in worship and on choosing music for a spirit-filled worship program.
- **Nathan Beeler** holds degrees in music education and conducting. He conducts workshops on conducting, arranging, choral and instrumental technique, and creating instrumental arrangements.
- **Vikki Reid**, an education student with a degree in kinetics, offers clinics on “realizing” accompaniments from *Voices United* and *More Voices* for pianists of varying levels and abilities, as well as advice on accompanying choirs and contemporary bands and developing movement in younger choirs.

Flexible, creative, and positive, The Message brings an intensity to worship, to sharing music, and to following the Spirit. Visit [www.myspace.com/hearthemessage](http://www.myspace.com/hearthemessage).

# Workshops

## Faith at Camp

### **W1: Faith Formation at Camp**

The United Church has a wide faith spectrum, from the holy in nature to a certain level of evangelism. For many children camp is their church, so what is the responsibility of camps around faith formation? How can we prepare and support our faith formation program leaders?

*Facilitator:* Judy Sullivan, with Darryl McLeod and David Exley *Audience:* All

### **W2: Creating an Awesome Vespers**

You've been asked to do vespers/lead worship tonight—*now what?* This hands-on workshop is designed to help take the fear out of planning worship services. Become more confident in your role of leading vespers, leave equipped with basic tools for leading worship at camp, and engage the sacred within the camping context.

*Facilitator:* Rev. Kelly Burke *Audience:* All

### **W3: God & Nature:**

#### **Bringing Christian Education Outdoors**

Learn about the benefits of taking the CE program outdoors and how to utilize natural surroundings in sessions that leave a positive impression on everyone. Gather ideas for lessons and how to use each camp's unique setting in session preparation and execution. Understand why the traditional "Sunday school" approach is ineffective for camp leaders.

*Facilitator:* Megan Graham *Audience:* Board, Staff

### **W4: Theology of Camp Leadership and Intro to the AST Diploma in Youth Ministry**

Learn about the new Diploma in Youth Ministry from the Atlantic School of Theology, and the theological foundations for effective ministry with youth at camp. Explore some of the biblical and theological materials that help us to think through *why* we "do" camp, and engage with film/video and other resources. Whether undertaking AST's Diploma at a later time or not, participants will benefit from being part of the workshop.

*Facilitator:* Rob Fennell *Audience:* Board, Staff

### **W5: United Church Camps & the United Church**

The church is taking a closer look at the camping ministry. Is your camp ready? What is "We Are Camp" and why is it important? What possible outcomes are there for your camp? What happened in B.C. and what was learned? Become better prepared for Conference-wide changes to camping ministry, and learn more about the importance of operating a camp at or above current standards and operating in a fiscally responsible manner.

*Facilitators:* Darryl MacLeod, with Judy Sullivan

*Audience:* All

## Planning and Fundraising

### **W6: Fundraising Ideas & Grant Applications**

Learn all about how to complete grant applications (what is required, what is not); sources of funding; and ideas for various fundraising methods. Learners will gain ideas for fundraising campaigns, and a methodology and wording of grant applications in order to be more successful.

*Facilitator:* Laurie Logan *Audience:* Board

### **W7: Planning for the Future of Your Camp**

If you don't plan for the future, you will never know when you get there. This workshop will cover the idea of visioning and site audits to help camps plan for the future—both the physical site and the programming done, and real-world lessons from Pearce Williams Christian Centre's visioning and site audit. Learn more about what a site audit is; how to vision as a board and camp staff; things to watch out for in the process; and how to reduce fear of change.

*Facilitator:* Joe Richards *Audience:* Board

### **W8: Revitalizing Our Camp: A Story of Hope, Hard Work, and Passion**

In 2004, Camp Abegweit had to make a decision whether to close or to begin a major revitalization program. This session will describe how the camp became re-energized and developed to what it is today. This is a story of love, hope, hard work, and passion demonstrated by a great number of people! Gain practical ideas about how to move out of difficult places to a better spot for your camp.

*Facilitator:* Carolyn Francis *Audience:* Board

## Training & Policy

### **W9: Effective Staff Training**

This session will help participants create an effective staff training schedule that ensures their staff members retain all the important information they will need to learn. Learn about effective time management, innovative ways to teach mandatory information, and how to use returning staff to train new staff. Share ideas and useful tools to ensure staff retain all the necessary and mandatory information without being “bored” or not feeling involved or motivated.

*Facilitators:* Lesley Kigar and Amy Maitre *Audience:* Staff

### **W10: Developing By-laws in Conjunction with Section 429, The Manual**

Are you aware of *The Manual* requirements for incorporated ministries? Has your board reviewed the by-laws recently? Gain an understanding of Section 429 and how it affects corporations within the United Church. Learn what you need to do to meet the Section 429 requirements, including getting approvals from the supervising court(s).

*Facilitator:* Bev Oag *Audience:* Board

### **W11: Policy/Procedure Development**

This session will provide an introduction on how to write policy and procedures, what to include, how to cross-reference, and how to track for review/revision. Leave with an understanding of what to include and what not to include when writing policies, the language to make them most effective, and a process to ensure regular review and revision so policies remain current.

*Facilitator:* Bev Oag *Audience:* Board, Staff

### **W12: Music at Camp**

The session will be hands-on, and will go through a variety of music ideas, including how to learn and teach songs to campers. We hope to tape this workshop so participants have something to take home with them.

*Facilitators:* The Message *Audience:* All

### **W13: Nature Play: Games & Activities to Facilitate Discovery**

Every camper spends time outside—but not always playing with nature. This workshop will give camp staff games, activities, and ideas to bring kids outside and play in and with nature. Participants will leave with selection of activities; knowing the importance of not just being outside, but playing with nature; and understanding how to engage campers and camp leaders.

*Facilitator:* Joe Richards *Audience:* Staff

### **W14: Mixers & Quick Games**

The session will be hands-on, and will go through a whirlwind of activities as we look at 20 mixer/get-to-know-you games. Includes a section on quick activities that require next-to-no supplies to play, and an opportunity for participants to share their favourite quick games. As a supplement to the session, all participants will receive a booklet that contains the activities covered, as well as others.

*Facilitator:* David Fletche *Audience:* All

## Forums

Open forums will be held on Saturday afternoon. Moderators will be assigned to each forum to begin discussion, and ensure that everyone has an opportunity to participate.

**Camp Directors**

**Board Members**

**Senior Staff**

**Conference/Presbytery Staff**

**Youth Counsellors**

**Small Camps**

**Self-Hosting** (to be self-identified through sign-up sheet at event)

# Conference At-a-Glance

## Wednesday, September 28

5:30 p.m.	<b>Registration: Tour Day participants</b>
6:00 p.m.	Supper
Evening	Informal Gathering & Tour of Camp

## Thursday, September 29

8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
8:30 a.m.– 4:45 p.m.	<b>TOUR DAY</b>
12:00 noon	Lunch
4:30–7:00 p.m.	<b>ON-SITE REGISTRATION</b>
6:00 p.m.	Supper
7:30 p.m.	<b>PLENARY GATHERING</b>
9:00 p.m.	Campfire/Vespers
9:30 p.m.	Mug Up (optional)

## Friday, September 30

7:30 a.m.	Morning Watch (optional)
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	<b>PLENARY GATHERING:</b> Worship & Keynote Address
10:15 a.m.	Break
10:30– 12:00 p.m.	<b>WORKSHOPS #1</b> W1: Faith Formation at Camp W8: Revitalizing Our Camp W9: Effective Staff Training W13: Nature Play
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:45–3:15 p.m.	<b>WORKSHOPS #2</b> W2: Creating an Awesome Vespers W7: Planning for the Future of Your Camp W10: Developing By-Laws/Section 429 W5: United Church Camps & the Church
3:15 p.m.	Break
3:45–5:15 p.m.	<b>WORKSHOPS #3</b> W4: Theology of Camp Leadership/AST Diploma in Youth Ministry W6: Fundraising Ideas & Grant Applications W14: Mixers & Quick Games W7: Planning for the Future of Your Camp
6:00 p.m.	Supper
7:30 p.m.	<b>PLENARY GATHERING:</b> The Future of Camping
9:00 p.m.	Campfire/Vespers
9:30 p.m.	Mug Up (optional)

## Saturday, October 1

7:30 a.m.	Morning Watch (optional)
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>PLENARY GATHERING:</b> Worship & Keynote Address
10:15 a.m.	Break
10:30– 12:00 p.m.	<b>WORKSHOPS #4</b> W3: God & Nature: Bringing CE Outdoors W1: Faith Formation at Camp W11: Policy/Procedure Development W12: Music at Camp
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:45–3:15 p.m.	<b>FORUMS</b> Camp Directors Forum Board Members Forum Senior Staff Forum Conference/Presbytery Staff Forum
3:15 p.m.	Break
3:30–5:00 p.m.	<b>FORUMS &amp; FREE TIME</b> Youth Counsellors Forum Small Camps Forum Self-Hosting Forum Games or Free Time
5:30 p.m.	<b>Participant's Group Photo</b>
6:00 p.m.	<b>Banquet</b>
7:00 p.m.	<b>Special Celebration</b> of UCC Camp Staff & Volunteers (Camp Award)
8:00 p.m.	<b>Maritime Kitchen Party</b>
9:30 p.m.	Campfire/Vespers

## Sunday, October 2

7:30 a.m.	Morning Watch (optional)
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	<b>PLENARY GATHERING:</b> Keynote and Music
10:00 a.m.	Event Evaluation
10:15 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	<b>SUNDAY WORSHIP:</b> Rev. Kelly Burke and The Message <i>Plan to stay—don't miss this rejuvenating, inspiring message!</i>
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Adjourned

## Tour Day Thursday, September 29



### Join the Anne of Green Gables Pilgrimage for only \$65!

Tour participants are expected to arrive at Camp Abby by Wednesday, September 28. You will leave the camp at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday morning, and arrive back at the camp at approximately 4:45 p.m. The \$65 fee for the tour includes transportation, one night's accommodation and meal, and entry to sites visited. Participants will be expected to pay for their own lunch. Transportation will be by motor coach (not a school bus).

#### Sites visited will include:

**Birthplace of L.M. Montgomery:** Montgomery's birthplace (born in 1874), is a modest green and white home decorated with authentic Victorian period pieces, overlooking New London Harbour. Special exhibits include a replica of her wedding dress and personal scrapbooks containing copies of her many stories and poems. Includes an opportunity to browse through the book and gift store.

**Montgomery's Cavendish Home:** This National Historical Park Site is where Montgomery was raised by her grandparents, Alexander and Lucy Macneill (her home from 1876 to 1911 and where she wrote *Anne of Green Gables*). Authentic, serene, and beautiful, this site gives visitors a real sense of the author and the inspiration of her writings.

**Green Gables and the Lucy Maud Montgomery National Historic Site:** At the Green Gables site, participants will be able to visit the original house, trails, farmyard, and displays that encouraged Montgomery's

imagination to flourish when she visited her relatives who lived here during her childhood. Includes a 15-minute walk.

**Avonlea Village:** Go back in time 100 years and visit heritage buildings and exhibits associated with L.M. Montgomery. Voted "best value" PEI Attraction by *WestJet* magazine.

**United Church:** Visit the church where Montgomery worshipped and was buried.

**Cavendish Beach:** Take a leisurely walk along the beach.

**The Dunes Gallery in Brackley Beach** (*with photo stops along the way*): An architecturally striking complex that overlooks beautiful water gardens and offers a panoramic view of the dunes. The gallery features paintings, prints, and award-winning pottery by leading Island artists.



Photos used from Wikimedia Commons under Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic Licence.  
Green Gables actors: Smudge 9000. Green Gables farmhouse: JAKclaplap47. Cavendish beach: Santryl.

## Register by August 25!

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Please register online at [www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/events/connections-2011](http://www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/events/connections-2011). Payment can be made by Visa or Mastercard (or cheques can be mailed in). If you are unable to register online, you may complete the registration form and mail it, along with your payment, to:

Judy Sullivan  
The United Church of Canada  
3250 Bloor St. West, Suite 300  
Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4

Your registration fee includes accommodation, meals, and all conference events. Registration is not considered complete until payment has been received.

EARLY Fee—by June 30	\$295
LATE Fee—by August 25	\$350
Upgrade to motel accommodations (limited availability)	\$87

No registrations will be accepted after **August 25**. Cancellations made by September 6 will be refunded less a \$50 fee. No refunds after September 6.

## Accommodations

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You can choose between on-site and off-site (motel) accommodations. Motel accommodation costs include a single bed, shared accommodation that will be assigned, and shuttle service to and from the camp. As we expect the motel will fill up quickly, you are encouraged to *register early*. On-site camp accommodations will be in rustic camper cabins, shared and assigned.

## Confirmation

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Within a month of registering, you will receive a confirmation packet with a number of important forms for you to complete, including travel assistance, emergency contact info, and release forms if under age 18. Be sure to return the forms *ASAP*.

## Travel

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Please book your flight to Charlottetown, PEI. Travel assistance to and from the camp and airport will be provided to those who complete the Travel Assistance form in the confirmation packet. **Note to drivers:** Bridge toll when leaving PEI = \$40.

## T-Shirts: Sold by Pre-order Only

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Connections 2011 T-shirts are for sale for \$10 (tax included) by pre-order *only*. Complete the appropriate information on the registration form to order yours.

## Camping Award! Celebration of Camp Staff & Volunteers

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At Connections 2011 we will continue the celebration of recognizing outstanding staff and volunteers associated with United Church Camping. *All camps are encouraged to nominate an individual* who has demonstrated an energetic commitment towards the continued success of their camp. **Deadline: April 15, 2011.** For more information see [www.united-church.ca/exploring/camping/award](http://www.united-church.ca/exploring/camping/award).

## NO Camp Displays

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No display space will be provided due to lack of space. Please do not bring display boards.

## Book Sale

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A book sale will be provided. If you have fabulous camp resources to suggest, please let Judy Sullivan know as soon as possible.

## Maritime Kitchen Party!

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Drop in on a Maritime Kitchen Party after the Awards Banquet. Rooted in the tradition that all our best parties invariably end up in the warmth and informality of the kitchen, enjoy local singers, dancers, fiddlers, and other musicians in an evening of maritime music and hospitality. You are most welcome to bring your instruments and jam along if you want!

# connections is a time to

laugh, share,  
and learn  
together

celebrate,  
nurture, strengthen,  
and renew our faith,  
commitment, and  
passion for United  
Church Camping

create  
new connections  
and renew former  
connections

strengthen  
and maintain  
national  
involvement

support  
our camping  
ministry  
family

# Live Your Passion!

## Camp Abby

Camp Abegweit (or Camp Abby, as it is known locally) is located in the South Shore community of Augustine Cove, nestled on the coastline of the Northumberland Strait (<http://campabegweit.peipresbytery.net>).

Located just 45 minutes from Charlottetown and 15 minutes from the Confederation Bridge, with beautiful views of the water, Camp Abby will make a wonderful location for Connections 2011.



## Contact Information

Judy Sullivan  
The United Church of Canada  
3250 Bloor St. West, Suite 300  
Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4  
E-mail: [camping@united-church.ca](mailto:camping@united-church.ca)  
Phone: 1-800-268-3781 ext. 4151

