

**Missionfest Manitoba 2026**  
**Breakout Sessions - Saturday, February 7, 2026**

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**1. Session Title:** Church Planting as the New Evangelism

**11:45 a.m. (60 minutes) – Chapel**

**Session Description:** The global church is experiencing a massive wave of church multiplication. There are many reasons for this including disillusionment with traditional churches, a heightened crisis in the mega-church model, and the growing diversity of the church globally. The pace has accelerated to 1,000 new denominations per year in the world. The purpose of this workshop is to explore the opportunities and concerns this poses for global evangelization.

**Presenter name:** Timothy Tennent

**Presenter organization:** Beeson Divinity School

**Presenter Biography:** Timothy Tennent joined the faculty of Beeson Divinity School in January 2025 after serving for 15 years as the president of Asbury Theological Seminary. He previously directed the mission's programs at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary from 1998-2009. He teaches courses in missiology, focusing on the Christian response in both Muslim and Hindu contexts. He also has served for more than three decades as a regular adjunct professor of missions at the Luther W. New Jr. College in Dehra Dun, India. He has published many books and articles on missions and co-authored with his wife, Julie, a metrical psalter and a theological journey through the Psalms. He is ordained in the Global Methodist Church.

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**2. Session Title:** Mission Miracles in Quebec in Spite of Politics

**11:45 a.m. (60 minutes) – Theatre**

**Session Description:** This one-hour session will demonstrate historically why Quebec became a distinct secular society that made it the least evangelized people group in the Americas. It will also share miraculous missionary stories that has greatly contributed to the advancement of the kingdom of God in this unique Canadian province.

**Presenter name:** Toe-Blake Roy

**Presenter organization:** BLF Canada

**Presenter Biography:** Toe-Blake Roy was born in St-Gédéon, Québec. In 1970 his family encountered the gospel. At 16, during a mission's conference at his home church, the Lord called Toe-Blake to full-time service. Toe-Blake undertook the task of learning English by moving to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and then pursued a Bachelor of Religious Education in Pastoral Studies at *Briercrest Bible College*, a Masters of Divinity at *London Baptist Seminary*, a Masters of Theology in Old Testament at *Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary* and a Masters of

Arts: Administrative Studies in higher education and organizational leadership at *Briercrest Biblical Seminary*.

The Roys have served as Church planters in Quebec with Fellowship French Mission for 15 years. Since 2006 Toe-Blake has served as the director of BLF Canada which aim to reach French speaking people for Christ through evangelism, literature and pastoral training at home and oversea.

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**3. Session Title:** The History of Jewish-Christian Relations and Its Impact on the Reception of the Gospel

**11:45 a.m. (60 minutes) – Room K1**

**Session Description:** From the Council of Nicaea forward, the Church treated the Jewish people with disrespect and contempt, in its preaching and actions. There is a chasm of hurt and distrust which needs repentance by the Church toward the Jewish people, both in word and deed. In contrast to this historical tragedy, ministries of support and compassion, like Bridges for Peace, are changing hearts, restoring trust in Christians and creating curiosity about Jesus.

**Presenter names:** Don James

**Presenter organization:** Bridges for Peace

**Presenter Biography:** Don joined the staff of Bridges for Peace in December 2013 and currently serves as National Director. He studied at McMaster Divinity College and pastored Baptist churches for twelve years. Secular employment followed for twenty years. During this period, God opened his eyes to the centrality of Israel in his purposes. He is passionate to see more believers have this revelation. In addition, building relationships with the Jewish community in Winnipeg, Canada and Israel is an immense privilege afforded through this ministry.

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**4. Session Title:** People Who Need to Hear (Survey of the Unreached)

**11:45 a.m. (30 minutes) – Youth Room**

**Session Description:** The Muslim world is a vast field. By identifying and prioritizing the least-reached peoples and places among Muslims, we can streamline Spirit-filled and Gospel-grounded ministry outlets to complete the Great Commission. Come and hear how the words of Jesus are impacting Muslims to the ends of the earth.

**Presenter name:** Mawande Mani

**Presenter organization:** Frontiers

**Presenter Biography:** Mawande Mani is a FRONTIERS CANADA representative, actively engaging in mobilization and outreach. He promotes church planting movements and gospel

transformation, especially within Muslim communities. Since joining FRONTIERS CANADA in 2020, he has organized youth events and trained church teams from Manitoba. His passion lies in making disciples, planting healthy churches locally and internationally, and leading prayer trips to foster spiritual renewal and church growth among Muslims. Mawande's work emphasizes evangelism, discipleship, and church multiplication in diverse contexts.

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**5. Session Title:** Best Practices and Benefits of Short-Term Ministry  
**12:30 p.m. (30 minutes) – Youth Room**

**Session Description:** Discuss the best practices in making the short-term experience effective for both the short-termer and the ministry served, as well as the benefits of short-term ministry for churches, the short-termer and the ministry served.

**Presenter name:** Scott Gillespie  
**Presenter organization:** Action International

**Presenter Biography:** Scott Gillespie is the Director of Promotion and Recruitment for Action International Ministries. He has been involved in full-time ministry for over 40 years, from First Nations outreach in Canada to ministry trips in several countries overseas. He has a passion for using what God has given him, both for hands on ministry and to encourage and motivate others to get involved as well.

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**6. Session Title:** Convergence: When Prayer Movements, Missions Movements, and Research Movements Work Together  
**1:15 p.m. (60 minutes) – Chapel**

**Session Description:** We are living in accelerated times. This includes unprecedented progress in the gospel spreading into new places, peoples, and contexts. One of the main reasons why is that different niches of the global Church, formerly siloed, are now deliberately working together. Come hear stories of the amazing things God through this convergence.

**Presenter name:** Jason Mandryk  
**Presenter organization:** WEC International

**Presenter Biography:** Jason Mandryk grew up in Winnipeg, although he is old enough to have St Boniface on his birth certificate. After deciding to follow Jesus, somehow surviving to adulthood, and getting his MA in Global Christian Studies at Providence University College and Theological Seminary, he moved to England as a “short-term missionary”. He proceeded to live there for more than 20 years, serving with Operation World, a ministry of WEC International. He has also served in mission for multiple years on the MV Doulos, in Singapore, and South Korea, where he currently resides with his wife Becky. From Seoul, he leads a diverse and fully virtual Operation World team spread across 16 time zones. Jason finds joy and satisfaction being part

of a ministry that gets to sit at the juxtaposition of the dynamic movements of world mission, Christian research, and intercessory prayer. Helping other followers of Jesus connect the dots between their lives, the wider world, and the Great Commission is a delight – and even more so when it can involve data, maps, and charts!

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**7. Session Title:** We are the Supply Chain  
**1:15 p.m. (60 minutes) – Theatre**

**Session Description:** Charles Spurgeon said that it is the whole business of the whole Church to preach the whole Gospel to the whole world. Join us for an interactive workshop to learn practical ways each member of the Church can participate in making Jesus known among the nations.

**Presenter name:** Dr. Mary Ho

**Presenter organization:** All Nations International

**Presenter Biography:** Dr. Mary Ho is the International Executive Director of All Nations (<http://allnations.international>), a global Christian missions organization with workers making disciples and church planting in 45 countries. She also serves as an adjunct professor at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, co-leading a three-year doctoral program on “Mission, Development and Leadership in the Global Christian Context.” Dr. Ho is passionate about finishing the Great Commission in this generation by sharing the love of God among every people and in parts of the world where the name of Jesus Christ is little or not known. Dr. Ho received her Doctor of Strategic Leadership from Regent University, VA, U.S.A. in 2016. She is married to John. They have two young adult sons.

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**8. Session Title:** Ignite: Relational Evangelism in Everyday Life  
**1:15 p.m. (60 minutes) – Room K1**

**Session Description:** This session will equip believers to confidently share the gospel through natural, relational conversations. Using ShareWord Global’s *Ignite Relational Evangelism* curriculum, participants will discover biblical principles, practical tools, and real stories that inspire courage and compassion in outreach. Together, we will explore how God can use ordinary connections—at work, school, or in the neighborhood—to open doors for extraordinary gospel impact.

**Presenter name:** Anthony Froese

**Presenter organization:** ShareWord Global

**Presenter Biography:** Spending the last two decades in international, pastoral, and church planting ministry, Tony’s love for the gospel is undeniable. With a passion for evangelism and discipleship, his relatable approach to communication is refreshing for all ages. Tony currently

serves in leadership at New City Church and as the regional manager of ShareWord Global. He resides with his lovely wife Joanna and two teenage children in Niverville, Manitoba

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**9. Session Title:** The Problem of Suffering: Theology and Missions Amid Crisis

**1:15 p.m. (30 minutes) – Youth Room**

**Session Description:** The question of suffering in the world is increasingly relevant today. How does living through crisis impact, challenge or shape theology? How can we still offer genuine hope to those living through times of great suffering? How can we ensure that the message of the Gospel is shared in a deep and meaningful way beyond empty platitudes? How does a holistic approach ensure long-lasting impact on people's lives?

**Presenter name:** Faith Woods

**Presenter organization:** Mission Partners International

**Presenter Biography:** Faith, the daughter of MPI founders Ron and Heather Garrison, has been a member of MPI's team since 1998. Faith gained extensive experience in Christian missions and international aid by traveling and ministering overseas, leading multiple Mission Teams. In 2016, Faith started working with MPI in an expanded role, working as Leader-in-Training. In June 2018, she was named Executive Director. Faith takes the role of Executive Director seriously, setting vision and direction, and managing all written and online communication. Faith also works hard to forge new relationships and partnerships all while caring for the supporters who are part of the MPI Connect family.

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**10. Session Title:** Strategies for Sharing the Gospel in a Country on Fire

**2:00 p.m. (30 minutes) – Youth Room**

**Session Description:** Hear firsthand from frontline workers in Cuba and Ukraine—places marked by war, communism, and persecution. This session shares real-time updates on what God is doing in these regions and offers powerful, practical principles for sharing the gospel in hard places. Whether you're called overseas or to your own backyard, you'll leave equipped and inspired to be bold, strategic, and effective wherever God has placed you.

**Presenter name:** Brian James

**Presenter organization:** CEO Ministries

**Presenter Biography:** Amilkar Hernandez is a Cuban pastor for 25 years who ministered under communist Cuba. Viktor Matveyev is a leader serving on the frontlines in war-torn Ukraine. They reveal practical, hard-earned strategies for proclaiming the gospel amid persecution, chaos, and crisis—and how the Church can shine brightest when the world is burning.

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**11. Session Title:** Not Beyond Reach  
**4:45 p.m. (60 minutes) – Chapel**

**Session Description:** How can I reach people in my life who will not walk into a church today?

The fastest-growing "religious group" in America is the religiously unaffiliated. This is most pronounced among the younger generations, many of whom are apathetic, cynical, or even hostile to the Church.

Even though this "Post-Christian" generation is overwhelmed with loneliness, anxiety, and depression, many are NOT looking to the Church for answers because they believe it to be irrelevant to their lives.

For most of us, this is not just a trend or statistics; these are our brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, friends, and co-workers.

As followers of Jesus, it's clear that we need to respond to this.

**Presenter name:** Aaron Pierce

**Presenter organization:** Steiger International

**Presenter Biography:** Aaron Pierce serves as the International Mission Director of Steiger International, a global mission organization dedicated to mobilizing followers of Jesus to reach young people who would not walk into a church. Aaron is deeply passionate about inspiring and equipping followers of Jesus to live lives of radical faith and to courageously share the message of Jesus in our increasingly secularized culture. His prayer is that God would raise up a radical missionary movement that will transform the Global Youth Culture for Jesus.

Aaron's most important role is his role as husband to Jennifer and dad to Asher, Selah, Hudson, and Wesley. Aaron and his family live in Minneapolis, MN (USA).

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**12. Session Title:** Helping our Neighbours Hear: Understanding Worldviews in a Diverse Society

**4:45 p.m. (60 minutes) – Theatre**

**Session Description:** Canada's cultural landscape is more diverse than ever—our neighbours increasingly come from a wide range of global backgrounds. In this context, how can we effectively share the gospel in ways that resonate across cultures? This session explores three primary global worldviews—Innocence/Guilt, Honour/Shame, and Power/Fear—as essential frameworks for communicating the good news in a way that can be clearly understood and meaningfully received.

**Presenter names:** David Fortune

**Presenter organization:** OMS

**Presenter Biography:** Dr. David Fortune is the Executive Director of One Mission Society Canada, a mission sending organization with 80 partners around the world. David pastored in Canada and spent twenty years overseas in Zambia, Azerbaijan and Switzerland. He pastored two international and intercultural churches in Central Asia and Europe and works to help local churches embrace missions around the world and at home.

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**13. Session Title:** Making and Releasing Disciple Makers  
**4:45 p.m. (60 minutes) – Room K1**

**Session Description:** Every culture has its own ethnically relevant approach as to how it equips and releases the next generation of Christian leaders, but the Biblical principles are the same across all cultures: mentoring, appointing and supporting. Native Evangelical Fellowship of Canada has been facilitating the equipping and release of Native pastors and missionaries for over 55 years. NEFC Executive Director, Kene Jackson sets out the basics of passing the Gospel torch.

**Presenter name:** Kene Jackson

**Presenter organization:** Native Evangelical Fellowship of Canada

**Presenter Biography:** Kene Jackson is the Executive Director for the Native Evangelical Fellowship of Canada. He brings a lot of experience with him, having worked extensively in Ministry Leadership, Administration, and Gospel Music. Kene and his wife Milly are Gospel Musicians and Recording Artists, with 16 recordings together. They are Plains Cree members from the Whitefish Lake Band #128 in Northern Alberta. They have 3 adult children and 3 grandchildren.

NEFC is active in Church Planting & Development, Gospel Radio (CJTL-30 stations), Counselling, Christian Publications, Marriage Retreats and other Christian outreaches

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**14. Session Title:** Ripple Effect of Christian Camping  
**4:45 p.m. (30 minutes) – Youth Room**

**Session Description:** Camping ministry creates an opportunity for children, youth and families to meet Jesus. Many who attend camps have no Gospel connection beyond camp, yet when they encounter the living God, lives are changed – often for generations, with some campers even called into full-time ministry! Come and hear about the impact camping ministry can have and how partnering with camping ministry can bring a ripple effect to your church.

**Presenter name:** Howard & Kathy Weir

**Presenter organization:** One Hope Canada

**Presenter Biography:** Howard and Kathy have been involved with One Hope Canada for over 40 years, serving at Galilean Bible Camp in ON in various roles and Turtle Mountain Bible Camp in MB as their first full-time Directors. They're excited about their new role with One Hope Canada, which involves recruiting, assisting with promotional events & coaching missionaries to help them develop their partnership teams. Their greatest encouragement is seeing the ripple effect of the Gospel.

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**15. Session Title:** The Mission of Prayer  
**5:30 p.m. (30 minutes) – Youth Room**

**Session Description:** The Great Commission can be greatly impacted by fervent prayer. In this session, we will cover the impact of prayer on families, workplaces, communities, our nation, and nations beyond our shores. Come and learn about how the Lord is moving through prayer today.

**Presenter name:** April Reimer

**Presenter organization:** Hope Mission

**Presenter Biography:** April has served in various church ministries over the years but has most recently started to write. Through her work in rural Manitoba, she has seen the need that people have for hope in Jesus. She believes that all ministry should begin with prayer, and that the Gospel can be shared by every Christian, both at home and across the world. The transforming power of the Gospel has impacted the lives of people around her, and she looks forward to seeing what the Lord will accomplish as Christians share about Jesus with those around them.

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