

2012 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Vince Antonucci grew up in a home with a Jewish mother and a father who was addicted to gambling. He became a Christian out of this completely non-Christian background while trying to prove the Bible false during his time in college. Ever since, his passion has been reaching the “lostest of the lost,” prompting him to give up a career in law to become a pastor. He was the founding Pastor of Forefront Church in Virginia Beach, Virginia, a church where 72% of the people who attend were previously unchurched unbelievers. In his eleven years of ministry there, the church saw about 1,000 people make first-time decisions for Christ and be baptized. In those years, Forefront planted seven churches and adopted an unreached people group in southeast Asia. In 2010, Vince moved to Las Vegas where he started a new church, *Verve*, in the heart of the city, just off the Vegas strip. *Verve* has a conference called “Vault” for pastors who want to reach truly unchurched non-Christians. (www.vaultconference.com). In addition, Vince is also part of a nonprofit that is doing humanitarian aid work in remote villages in Vietnam and is part of starting a new non-profit that will be doing community service to meet needs on and around the Vegas strip. He is also involved in a stand-up comedy show in Las Vegas.



Asmick Jean-Jacques is a pastor, father of four children, guardian of two nieces and one nephew, football coach and youth worker. He works in an under-privileged area of Montreal where delinquency and poverty are very prominent. Asmick comes from a very troubled background, being involved in gangs for 15 years. His anti-social ideologies, his delinquency and his violent behaviour brought him to the forefront of organized crime. His life as a “gangster”, which today seems to attract so many young people, resulted in nine years of incarceration at various institutions. “We are a product of our choices,” declares Asmick wherever he speaks. His life choices made him a hardened, active, well-known, dangerous, and violent criminal. His poor choices led him to foster homes, prison in isolation, the hospital and very close to death. But one day, Asmick made another choice. This choice changed his life completely and beat all statistics. There was ONE choice that changed everything— a living relationship with the person of Jesus Christ.



David Macfarlane is Director of National Initiatives for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association of Canada. Born in Uruguay, Latin America, David came to Canada as an executive with the American Express Corporation before spending over two decades on the front lines of ministry through local Canadian churches, which all grew significantly through prayerful strategic outreach. Today David travels extensively as a conference speaker and his practical, creative, and surprisingly humorous presentations have become popular with organizations who value revitalization, relevance and a desire to position themselves to “engage their world” in new ways. David says, “*In the cynical, post-modern and post-Christian culture of Canada today ‘breaking out of the church,’ so our neighbours can see our faith as well as hear about it, reminds us of Jesus’ Great Commission to ‘go into all the world.’ As my friend Michael Green said to me: ‘David, we must let our light shine as long as we also tell them Who lit the light.’ Good advice!*”



Maralee Dawn has been sharing the love of God with women and children for more than 25 years. Through her television shows, in person at churches and conferences, or on the mission field, Maralee portrays a passion for people; she has touched the lives of countless thousands around the world. An ordained minister, Maralee is also an author, recording artist, master ventriloquist and host of two television programs. *Passionate Women* features interviews with fascinating women from all walks of life. Her award-winning children’s program, *Maralee Dawn & Friends*, is loaded with Bible-based fun with Maralee and her cadre of lovable puppets. In addition to leading her own international ministry, Maralee’s ministry experience includes five years with Campus Crusade for Christ Canada (now called Power to Change), as well as seven years as a children’s pastor. She has ministered in more than 30 countries and has led youth and adults onto the mission field to join her in crusades, teaching, and missionary support.