

Harvey Amani Whitfield

Harvey Amani Whitfield is Professor of History at the University of Calgary. He attended Dalhousie University for his MA and PhD. Whitfield is the author of several books, including *Blacks on the Border: The Black Refugees in British North America, 1815-1860*, *North to Bondage: Loyalist Slavery in the Maritimes*, and *Black Slavery in the Maritimes: A History in Documents*. His book, *Biographical Dictionary of Enslaved Black People in the Maritimes*, was published in late March 2022 with the University of Toronto Press. The book has received very positive reviews and the *Hill Times* recently included it in their listing of the 100 best books. Whitfield's future research projects will illuminate how enslaved Black women and their experiences tell historians a great deal about slavery in Canada. He is an active member of the Canadian historical profession and serves on various editorial advisory boards including *Acadiensis* and the *Canadian Historical Review*. He is also a member of the Canadian Historical Association's Council and sits on the board of directors of Canada's History.

Brigid Maya's Biography

The Rev. Brigid Maya Douglas currently serves St. James United Church in Toronto, Ontario.

"Brigid Maya", as she prefers to be called, is of Taíno ('Arawak' Indigenous) & African-Jamaican ancestry who prefers "she/her", "they/them" pronouns. Before she became a pastor, she was a schoolteacher for 22 years covering Kindergarten to Grade 8 core subjects as well as Music, Dance and Dramatic Arts. Her formal education spans from McGill University for her B.Ed., graduating as a Scarlet Key (1994), to Emmanuel College of Victoria University with an M.R.E. (2008) and M.Div. (2016). Reflecting theologically on life's events and issues is what she has always done and continues to do as the resident womanist theologian at her church and in her community. For the National Church office, she was the first Chair of the Standards for Accreditation of Ministry Personnel Committee, and she chaired the Mental Health Working Group. Her community activism includes addressing food insecurity in Toronto by working with the 'Daily Bread Food Bank', 'Not Far from the Tree', as well as supporting her church's 'Food Basket.' In 2020, she spoke at the city's Canada Day rally against the nooses found at Toronto construction sites. She produced (initiated, scripted, and managed) the UCC Black Clergy video in response to the murder of George Floyd. Her anti-Racist work also includes writing for the UCC 40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism, as well as facilitating study groups on the resource. She has also facilitated study groups on the books *White Fragility* and *The Skin We're In*, engaging clergy and laypeople from diverse churches across Canada.

Brigid Maya recently spoke at the Annual Theology Conference for Queen's University on *Decolonizing the Beatitudes* in October 2022, and at Cambridge University's Barth-Cone Symposium on *The Sin of the Dehumanization of Racism within the Toronto Context* in December 2022. Her life's ministry includes storytelling, dancing, canoeing, and travelling.

