Introduction

Institute of Mennonite Studies is the research agency of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, founded in 1958 to promote and administer avenues for research, conversation, and publication on topics and issues vital to Mennonite congregations and the Anabaptist faith tradition.

IMS publications

A major focus of IMS is research and publication in Anabaptist history and theology; fostering dialogue in biblical, theological, and practical ministry areas; and inviting critical counsel from within the Mennonite theological community. In addition, IMS seeks to make available resources that have promise for seminary classroom use.

Information about IMS publications in this catalog falls into six categories:

- Occasional Papers
- Text Readers
- Classics of the Radical Reformation
- Studies in Peace and Scripture
- Other IMS books
- Intercultural Biblical Hermeneutics Series

More information

The institute maintains a list of subscribers to whom announcements of publications are sent. To be added to this list or for further information, contact the IMS managing editor: ims@ambs.edu or 574.296.6239.

To learn about the most recent IMS releases, visit the website: www.ambs.edu/ims.

The bookstore at AMBS sells IMS books online. To search the bookstore’s IMS offerings, go to https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/categories/8779/show.
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A Mennonite Life in the Twentieth Century

J. Lawrence Burkholder; Myrna Burkholder, ed.
ISBN: 0-936273-56-9
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
2017 • $22.45 • 272 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/151393/show

From a Mennonite upbringing in a small Pennsylvania town, through an upstate–New York pastorate, relief work in India and China, graduate study at Princeton, teaching at Goshen College and Harvard Divinity School, civil rights activism, and the presidency of Goshen College, J. Lawrence Burkholder sought to hold together the sectarian impulses of his denominational identity with a sense of social responsibility. This memoir traces the development of his thought as it intersected with the events of his life.

“Always more than a sectarian, J. Lawrence Burkholder enriched and extended Mennonite theological and ethical thinking, challenging the rigidity and self-satisfaction of some traditional thought and practices as well as the newer formulations of John H. Yoder. This volume, with its rich remembering and numerous insights, gives the church occasion to continue to wrestle with the insights he set before us.”—John A. Lapp, dean, provost, and professor of history at Goshen College when J. Lawrence Burkholder was president

“Recollections of a Sectarian Realist is a captivating narrative of a young man’s journey from a small town in Pennsylvania into the messy vortex of wartime relief in China, theological debates at Princeton and Harvard, the national struggle for racial justice, church politics at Goshen College, and virtually every significant global event of the late twentieth century. J. Lawrence Burkholder was anchored existentially in the idealism of Mennonite nonresistance as well as the complexities of a fallen world; inspired by the writings of Reinhold Niebuhr and Dietrich Bonhoeffer, he struggled to make sense of both realities. Along the way, he introduced Mennonites to words such as dialectic, tension, compromise, dilemma, responsibility, and paradox that are now an unavoidable part of our moral lexicon. This memoir is a worthy tribute to Burkholder’s courageous life and the profundity of his thought.”—John D. Roth, professor of history, Goshen College
This volume engages the Gospel of Matthew in full awareness of its inherently political character. Weaver situates Matthew’s version of the “good news of the kingdom” squarely within first-century Palestine and its occupying power. The essays focus on issues of power and violence that not only pervaded the occupied Jewish community of first-century Palestine but also are visible throughout Matthew’s account. A “lower-level” reading of the Matthean text offers a bleak portrait of the violence exerted by the Roman occupiers and their Jewish collaborators. But an “upper-level”/“God’s-eye” reading of Matthew’s narrative reveals the fundamental irony at the heart of the New Testament as a whole, of the Jesus story broadly conceived, and of Matthew’s narrative account in specific.

“For more than thirty years, Dorothy Jean Weaver has been prominent among a handful of scholars who read the Gospel of Matthew as a socially and politically engaged story about Jesus. Matthew’s narrative is first and foremost a story about power—who has it, what they do with it, and what happens as a result. Weaver was perhaps the first to recognize the extent to which this story turns on irony, revealing the ultimate futility of coercive power and the triumph of vulnerable powerlessness.”—Mark Allan Powell, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio

About the author

Dorothy Jean Weaver is Professor of New Testament at Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, VA. She holds a PhD in New Testament from Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, VA. Her publications include Matthew’s Missionary Discourse: A Literary Critical Analysis (1990, 2015); Bread for the Enemy: A Peace & Justice Lectionary (2001); and numerous academic essays. Weaver leads regular tours to Israel/Palestine and has taught and/or lectured in Beirut, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Cairo, and Debre Zeit, Ethiopia.
The story of Anabaptist origins in Switzerland is well known. By contrast, the life and thought of the Anabaptists who continued to live in Switzerland over the last two-thirds of the sixteenth century has remained in relative obscurity. One reason for this is that Swiss Anabaptists after 1530 communicated their ideas by circulating handwritten writings rather than by printing books. The primary historical sources relating to later Swiss Anabaptism are thus handwritten manuscripts that must be located and read in local archives. This present volume contains a selection of writings that were being copied and circulated among the later Anabaptists in Switzerland.

The text that dominates the present collection, both in terms of length and complexity, is the massive 466-page Codex 628, copied in 1590 and containing a wide sampling of material considered significant by the Swiss Anabaptists at the end of the century. Readers of this volume thus have the opportunity to peruse, in translation, significant archival holdings that document the development of Swiss Anabaptist thought over the length of the sixteenth century. These writings reveal a maturing religious and social movement, whose members continued to reflect biblically on their call to discipleship, all the while living in a world that designated all adult baptizers heretics and disobedient, dangerous citizens.
In An Increase in Time: Story Lines of Germantown Mennonite Church and Its Historic Trust, 1683–2005, Richard J. Lichty recounts the history of the oldest Mennonite church in North America. From within the congregation, he tracks its story through periods of slow growth and spiritual stagnation and renewal and vitality, through affiliation with other Mennonite bodies and through conflict and separation from them.


“We commend to the reader the story lines here that describe one congregation’s capacity to survive against great odds. Our prayer is that this book will stimulate honest dialogue and fresh reflections on the scriptures, and that it will foster greater mutual understanding about how God’s people live together with highly charged differences.”—from the Foreword, by Donella M. Clemens and James M. Lapp

About the author:

Richard Lichty, a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, is a graduate of Eastern Mennonite College (now Eastern Mennonite University) in Harrisonburg, Virginia, with a major in history. Richard has served much of his adult life in Mennonite institutions as a teacher and pastor. He has taught church history, religion, and social studies at Iowa Mennonite School, Kalona, Iowa, and Christopher Dock High School, Lansdale, Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, with a Master of Arts in Religion.
Church planting, sheltered workshops, African student ministry, an Anabaptist research center—what do these initiatives have in common? They are the result of two Mennonite bodies, French and North American, putting their modest resources together for the purpose of common witness in postwar France. Allen Koop, in his study of late twentieth-century mission in the country, claims that “no other missionary project . . . fostered cooperation as close and as productive as that carried out by French and North American Mennonites. No other mission succeeded in combining evangelism and church planting with significant social work to the same degree.” The story recounted here celebrates this history and challenges God’s people to increased faithfulness in the future.

Contents: Introduction • (1) Preconditions for Partnership: European and North American Mennonites Reconnect, 1917–52 • (2) “It Was Natural That We Made Contact”: Partnership Begins, 1953–65 • (3) “To Serve in the Name of Christ”: Partnership Strengthens and Matures, 1966–84 • (4) “We Do Not Do the Same Things”: Partnership Comes to an End, 1984–2003 • (5) Conclusion: An Intercultural Partnership’s Legacy and Lessons • Index

About the author

David Y. Neufeld studies early Anabaptist history as a PhD candidate in The Division for Late Medieval and Reformation Studies at the University of Arizona. He and his wife, Gina Martinez, currently attend Shalom Mennonite Fellowship in Tucson.
Intercultural Reading of John 10:1–21: The Shepherd-Sheep Metaphor as a Leadership-Followership Model

Eric Nii Bortey Anum and Ebenezer Quaye
Intercultural Biblical Hermeneutics
Series 4
ISBN: 0-936273-83-6
Foundation Dom Hélder Câmara Chair, VU University Amsterdam; published in collaboration with IMS
2016 • $15.00 • 82 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/155161/show

This monograph documents the life-changing impact of intercultural Bible study on two Ghanaian groups who exchange their understandings, observations, questions, and learnings about Jesus’s leadership-followership model in the John 10:1–21 shepherd-sheep text. One group is from a small, rural town (members of an African Instituted Church), and the other is from a large university setting (members of a Seventh-day Adventist church). They find themselves so challenged and inspired by each other’s readings that they elect to continue studying Scripture together after the project’s end. The authors also find themselves being transformed through the process, with hope that this Bible study exchange and others like it will help develop Ghanaian leaders who focus on humility, selfless service, and sacrificial leadership rather than status and personal power.

About the author

Eric Anum is a pastor in the Presbyterian Church and a lecturer at the University of Cape Coast (Ghana). He received an MA and PhD from the University of Glasgow, where he focused on the place of culture in biblical interpretation in Africa. Ebenezer Quaye is a pastor in the Seventh-day Adventist church and a lecturer at Valley View University in Oyibi, Ghana. In his MA studies at the University of Cape Coast, he focused on leadership in the Gospels.
Take Our Moments and Our Days: 
An Anabaptist Prayer Book

Ordinary Time/Advent through Pentecost
Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press
2007 • $22.99/$34.99 • 432/912 pages
store.mennomedia.org/Take-Our-Moments-and-Our-Days-P1328.aspx • store.mennomedia.org/Take-Our-Moments-and-Our-Days-Volume-2-P493.aspx

The first volume of Take Our Moments and Our Days: An Anabaptist Prayer Book is a four-week cycle of morning and evening prayer services prepared for ordinary time. A second volume includes morning and evening prayer services for the seasons of the Christian year, Advent through Pentecost.

The pattern of these prayers provides opportunities for silence, song, and short reflections on scripture. It is a flexible form, designed for use by groups, including families, or for personal prayer. Individual services may be used independently to lead worship at retreats, conferences, or special times of worship. These services have several distinct characteristics:

- Scripture-saturated prayer. The words in these prayers are adapted or taken directly from the Bible.
- The voice of Jesus. The words of Jesus are strikingly prominent in these services.
- Anabaptist coloration. Lying behind the prayers is a pattern of themes that are especially important in the Anabaptist tradition.

The editors
Arthur Paul Boers, Eleanor Kreider, John D. Rempel, Mary H. Schertz, Barbara Nelson Gingerich

2011 Worship Leader Editor’s Pick
In October 2011, Take Our Moments and Our Days was included in the list of notable resources “that have affected worship leaders and their teams in the past year” in Worship Leader magazine.

Anabaptist Prayer App
A new free Anabaptist Prayer mobile app makes Take Our Moments and Our Days prayers for Ordinary Time and Advent through Pentecost available to users of Apple and Android devices, in an easy-to-navigate format. Features include navigation to a recommended service for the date and time of day, tracking to keep one’s place in the sequence of services, an ability to call up particular services, introductory materials and extensive indices that enable searches for particular texts.

Links:

For more information, visit https://www.ambs.edu/publishing/anabaptist-prayer-book.
Occasional Papers

In the Occasional Papers series, Institute of Mennonite Studies—sometimes in collaboration with other Mennonite publishers—publishes essays in the fields of Bible, history, theology, ethics, and pastoral ministry. The intent of the series is to foster discussion and to seek counsel, particularly from within the Mennonite theological community. Many essays are in finished form; some may be in a more germinal stage, released for purposes of testing and inviting critical response.

The Bible and Law
Willard M. Swartley, ed.
Occasional Papers no. 3
ISBN: 0-936273-02-X
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
1982 • $5.00 • 138 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161293/show

Contents: Law in the Old Testament (Millard C. Lind) • Some Theses toward a Theology of Law in the New Testament (John E. Toews) • The Problem of Law during the Protestant Reformation (Thomas N. Finger) • The History of Law and Its Influence on Western Society (William J. Hawk) • Law and Morality: Tensions and Perspectives (Conrad G. Brunk)

Following Jesus Christ in the World Today
Jürgen Moltmann; Willard Swartley and Leland Harder, eds.
Occasional Papers no. 4
ISBN: 0-936273-03-8
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies; Winnipeg, MB: CMBC Publications
1983 • 108 pages
Online at https://archive.org/details/followingjesusch04molt

These lectures by Jürgen Moltmann, originally titled “Responsibility for the World and Christian Discipleship,” articulate a theological ethics that challenges mainstream Protestant churches to accept the way of Christian discipleship, while also challenging the Historic Peace Churches to act responsibly in a world threatened with nuclear disaster.

Contents: Editor’s Preface • Introduction (Marlin E. Miller and Helmut Harder) • My Spiritual Pilgrimage (Jürgen Moltmann) • Lectures (Jürgen Moltmann) on (1) Luther’s Doctrine of the Two Kingdoms and Its Use Today; (2) Barth’s Doctrine of the Lordship of Christ and the Experience of the Confessing Church; (3) Political Theology and Political Hermeneutics of the Gospel; (4) Following Christ in an Age of Nuclear War
The Pastor-People Partnership: The Call and Recall of Pastors from a Believers’ Church Perspective
Leland Harder
Occasional Papers no. 5
ISBN: 0-936273-04-6
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1983 • $5.00 • 180 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161287/show

Contents: The Purpose and Scope of the Study • The Profile of Pastors and Congregational Respondents • Changing Patterns of the Pastoral Ministry • Reinterpretations of the Pastoral Ministry • Findings from the CDC Study • Toward a Model for the Pastor-Congregational Partnership • Appendix A: Resources for Calling a Pastor • Appendix B: Resources for Pastoral Review

Perspectives on the Nurturing of Faith
Leland Harder, ed.
Occasional Papers no. 6
ISBN: 0-936273-05-4
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1983 • $5.00 • 189 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161281/show

Contents: Introduction (Ross T. Bender) • Old Testament and Early Judaistic Perspectives (Waldemar Janzen) • New Testament and Early Church Perspectives (George R. Brunk III) • A Patristic and Medieval Perspective (Peter C. Erb) • Anabaptist-Mennonite Perspectives (C. J. Dyck) • A Hispanic Perspective (Rafael Falcón) • Perspectives on the Christian Nurture of the Powerless-Oppressed (John A. Rogers) • Findings Report: Basic Understandings of Congregational Nurture (Members of the Task Force) • Responses (Congregational Listening Team) • Plenary Discussion

Dialog Sequel to Moltmann’s Following Jesus Christ in the World Today
Willard M. Swartley, ed.
Occasional Papers no. 8
ISBN: 0-936273-11-9
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1984 • $5.00 • 67 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161275/show

Contents: Introduction (Marlin E. Miller); Moltmann’s Theology of the Cross (Thomas Finger); Responses to Moltmann’s Lectures: “Luther’s Doctrine of the Two Kingdoms and Its Use Today” (Clarence Bauman) • “Barth’s Doctrine of the Lordship of Christ and the Experience of the Confessing Church” (John Howard Yoder) • “Political Theology and Political Hermeneutics” (Helmut Harder) • “Political Theology and Political Hermeneutics” (LeRoy Friesen) • “Following Christ in an Age of Nuclear War” (Ted Koontz, Tom Finger); Response to the Responses (Jürgen Moltmann); Review of Following Jesus in the World Today (Perry Yoder)
Essays on War and Peace: Bible and Early Church
Willard M. Swartley, ed.
Occasional Papers no. 9
ISBN: 0-936273-09-7
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1986 • $6.50 • 154 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161269/show


Perspectives on Feminist Hermeneutics
Gayle Gerber Koontz and Willard M. Swartley, eds.
Occasional Papers no. 10
ISBN: 0-936273-10-0
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1987 • $6.50 • 128 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161263/show


Essays on Spiritual Bondage and Deliverance
Willard M. Swartley, ed.
Occasional Papers no. 11
ISBN: 0-936273-12-7
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1988 • $8.00 • 222 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu

Contents examine bondage and deliverance • in biblical/theological perspective (Thomas N. Finger, Willard M. Swartley) • in Patristic, Medieval, and Reformation history (Dennis D. Martin) • from an evangelical (Timothy M. Warner) and a Catholic (Robert T. Sears) perspective • in Africa and North America (Jacob A. Loewen) • from a psychiatric perspective (Gerald Kauffman) • through a first-person account (Jane Miller) • and in pastoral care (Mark H. Winslow). Responses by Josephine Massyngbaerde Ford, Thomas N. Finger, Gayle Gerber Koontz, Harold E. Bauman, Robert L. Ramseyer, Ruth Detweiler Lesher, Mervin R. Smucker and John A. Hostetler, Marcus G. Smucker
Essays on Peace Theology and Witness
Willard M. Swartley, ed.
Occasional Papers no. 12
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1988 • $8.00 • 123 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161257/show

Contents: Introduction (Edgar Metzler) • How Do We Do Peace Theology? (J. Lawrence Burkholder) • Mennonites and the State (Ted Koontz) • A Reassessment of Some Traditional Anabaptist Church-State Perspectives (John H. Redekop) • Power (Duane Friesen) • Proposal for an Anabaptist Peace Guard (Ron Sider) • Peace Theology and the Concept of Warrior God (Ben C. Ollenburger) • Peace Theology and the Justice of God in the Book of Revelation (Ted Grimsrud) • Peace Theology and Patriarchy (Gayle Gerber Koontz) • An Ethic of Character (Harry Huebner) • On God (Stanley Hauerwas) • Issues and Questions Raised

A Disciple’s Christology: Appraisals of Kraus’s Jesus Christ Our Lord
Richard A. Kauffman, ed.
Occasional Papers no. 13
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1989 • $7.00 • 111 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161251/show

Contents: A Brief Autobiographical Account (C. Norman Kraus) • Biblical Considerations (Dorothy Jean Weaver) • Christology and Contextualization (Grant R. Osborne) • Jesus Christ Our Lord from a Missiological Perspective (Fumitaka Matsuoka) • Pastoral Issues in Jesus Christ Our Lord (Melvin D. Schmidt) • Jesus Christ Our Lord in Historical Anabaptist Perspective (Cornelius J. Dyck) • Theological Reflections on Jesus Christ Our Lord (I. John Hesselink) • Reply to Interpretations and Criticisms (C. Norman Kraus) • Appendix: Book Reviews

Anabaptist-Mennonite Identities in Ferment
Leo Driedger and Leland Harder, eds.
Occasional Papers no. 14
ISBN: 0-936273-17-8
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1990 • $8.00 • 190 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161245/show

Contents: Introduction–PolyMennos: Identities in Ferment (editors) • Part I—Sorting Theological Pluralism: The Quest for Anabaptist Identity (Walter Klaassen), Shifting Mennonite Theological Orientations (C. Norman Kraus) • Part II—Finding Sociological Essentials: Sectarianism and the Sect Cycle (Calvin Redekop), Modernity and Modernization (Donald Kraybill) • Part III—Discussing Dialectical Renewal: The Sacred and Secularization (Peter M. Hamm), Communal Commitment and Individualism (Stephen C. Ainlay) • Identity and Assimilation (Leo Driedger) • Responses (J. Denny Weaver, Paul Toews, Thomas J. Meyers, Beulah Hostetler, Lawrence M. Yoder, Robert Enns)
Alternative Models of Mennonite Pastoral Formation
Paul M. Zehr and Jim Egli, eds.
Occasional Papers no. 15
ISBN: 0-936273-19-4
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1992 • $10.00 • 133 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161239/show

This volume offers two presentations, one innovative and the other iconoclastic. Paul Zehr writes about the search for new forms of church life in response to the disaffection of youth, and he proposes reforms in curriculum for theological studies. Jim Egli goes further in critique of Mennonite seminary education, suggesting that Jesus and Paul rejected a residential, academic model for equipping disciples for ministry, in favor of emphasizing learning in the midst of supervised engagement in ministry.

Contents: Foreword (Ross T. Bender) • A Curriculum Guide for Mennonite Conference-Based Pastoral Education (Paul M. Zehr) • Leadership Training for the Church of the Future (Jim Egli) • Responses (Lois Barrett, Harold E. Bauman, Richard C. Detweiler, Ralph A. Lebold, Erick Sawatzky) • The Last Word (Paul M. Zehr, Jim Egli)

Peace Theology and Violence against Women
Elizabeth G. Yoder, ed.
Occasional Papers no. 16
0-936273-20-8
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1992 • $10.00 • 123 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161233/show

Contents: Introduction (Gayle Gerber Koontz) • Creating Justice in the Space around Us (Mary H. Schertz) • Redemptive Resistance to Violation of Women (Gerber Koontz) • Domestic Abuse (Isaac I. Block) • Christian Ideology, Rape and Women’s Postrape Journeys to Healing (Ruth E. Krall) • Content to Suffer (Carol Penner) • Listeners Report from the Consultation • Bibliography • Responses (Lydia Neufeld Harder, Lois J. Edmund, Carolyn Holderread Heggen, Miriam E. Martin)

Making Disciples in the Congregation: A Guide to Christian Formation through the Process of Mentoring and the Experience of Congregational Worship
Paul Versluis III
Occasional Papers no. 17
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1995 • $10.00 • 98 pages
Online at https://archive.org/details/makingdisciples17vers

Contents: Acknowledgments • Foreword (Ross T. Bender) • The Call for Making Disciples • Discipleship as Mentoring • A Congregational Worship and Mentoring Plan for the Initiation of New Christians • A Practical Guide to Mentoring in the Congregation • Conclusion and Evaluation • Appendix • Notes • Bibliography
Discipleship in Context: Papers Read at the Menno Simons 500 International Symposium, Elspeet, Netherlands, 1996

Alle Hoekema and Roelf Kuitse, eds.
Occasional Papers no. 18
ISBN: 0-936273-26-7
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1997 • $15.00 • 173 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu

Contents: Part I—General Introductions: Mennonite Discipleship for the Twenty-First Century (Graham Cyster), Discipleship in the Life and Times of Menno Simons (Gerke J. J. van Hiele) • Part II—Christ in Different Contexts: Ethiopian Mennonite (Shamsudin Abdo), African-American (Wilma Ann Bailey), Indonesian (Aristarchus Sukarto), in Menno (Lydia Neufeld Harder) • Part III—Keywords in Discipleship: Indian-Hindu (Shant S. Kunjam), Latin American (Daniel Schipani), Russian-German Anabaptist (Heinrich Loewen, Jr.), in Menno (C. Arnold Snyder) • Part IV—The Cost of Discipleship: in Menno (Neal Blough) • Part V—Worship (Milka Rindzinski, Herutomo), One Greater than Menno (Gerhard Ratzlaff) • Part VI—Conclusions

Theological Education on Five Continents: Anabaptist Perspectives

Nancy R. Heisey and Daniel S. Schipani, eds.
Occasional Papers no. 19
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1997 • $15.00 • 137 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161227/show

Contents: Presentation (Larry Miller), Introduction • Part I—Foundations and Framework: The Church and Its Theological Education (Daniel S. Schipani—Argentina/USA) • Part II—The Task and the Challenges of Theological Education: Congregational Theological Education (Leonor de Méndez—Guatemala) • Responses (Cathy Mputo—Congo, Mikha Joedhiswara—Indonesia, Ineke Reinhold-Scheuermann—Netherlands, Heidi Regier Kreider—USA) • Non-Formal Theological Education (Bedru Hussein—Ethiopia) • Responses (Wendy Binks—India, José Gallardo—Spain, John Powell—USA, Helen Dueck—Canada/Bolivia) • Formal Theological Education (Lydia Harder—Canada) • Responses (Bruce Khumalo—Zimbabwe, Jaime Prieto—Costa Rica, V. K. Rufus—India, Bernhard Ott—Switzerland) • Conclusion

By Faith They Went Out: Mennonite Missions, 1850–1999

Wilbert R. Shenk
Occasional Papers no. 20
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
2000 • $15.00 • 133 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161221/show

Wilbert Shenk surveys and synthesizes aspects of the Mennonite experience in mission. He traces the mission impulse of early Anabaptism and documents the impact of subsequent historical developments, from persecution and withdrawal through Pietist and evangelical revival to the globalization of the church in the twentieth century. Shenk identifies North American Mennonite/Brethren in Christ ambivalence toward mission, and reminds readers that mission has the potential to provide focus and relevance to a church struggling for identity and meaning. Finally, Shenk lays a foundation for a Mennonite theology of mission that is both biblical and consonant with Anabaptist tradition.


Wilbert Shenk served with Mennonite Central Committee in Indonesia (1955–59), in administration for MCC (1963–65), and with Mennonite Board of Missions (1965–90). He taught at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary from 1990 to 1995, and then as professor of mission history and contemporary culture at Fuller Theological Seminary. From 1990 to 1993 he worked with The Gospel and Our Culture Project in Birmingham, England.
Without Spot or Wrinkle: Reflecting Theologically on the Nature of the Church

Karl Koop and Mary H. Schertz, eds.
Occasional Papers no. 21
ISBN: 0-936273-29-1
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
2000 • $15.00 • 136 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • http://wipfandstock.com/without-spot-or-wrinkle.html; online at http://palni.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p15705coll31/id/23/rec/1

Anabaptists, and Mennonites who came after them, have often maintained that the true church is a gathering of reborn and spiritually regenerated Christians called to be a community free from moral failure. At present, however, some Mennonites are questioning elements of this conceptual legacy, and in light of personal failings and hurtful church schisms, are expressing doubts about its practical adequacy and theological tenability. The essays in this book do not provide a unified argument. What the authors have in common is concern for the church and commitment to faithfulness. Readers are invited to reflect on the issues and make their own assessments.

Contents: Foreword (J. Nelson Kraybill) • Introduction (editors) • The Church “Without Spot or Wrinkle” in Anabaptist Experience (John D. Roth) • Historical Contexts for MC-GC Integration: Franconia Conference Split (1847) and Russian Migration (1874) (James Juhnke) • Marks of the Church in Galatians (Jo-Ann Brant) • Faithfulness and Unity in Romans (Jacob W. Elias) • Sola Scriptura/No Other Foundation and Other Authoritative Sources? (Ben C. Ollenburger) • Mennonites and the Church Universal: A Critical Engagement with Miroslav Volf (A. James Reimer) • Polities That Unite and Divide (Lois Barrett) • The Church: Missional Community of the Kingdom (John Driver)

Dutch Mennonite Mission in Indonesia: Historical Essays

Alle Hoekema
Occasional Papers no. 22
ISBN: 0-936273-31-3
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
2001 • $15.00 • 148 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populibweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161215/show

This work gives attention to the role of renewal movements and lay activity in creating conditions for a church to become a sending church; the intimate link between missionary action and ecumenical relations; the meager role of Anabaptist or Mennonite theological ideas in the way missionaries carried on their work, and the consequences for the identity of the churches that came into existence; the importance of local detail in illuminating the general; the significant role of Bible translation in missionary history; and the problem of methods and institutions that fail to respond to new circumstances.

Contents: Foreword (Wilbert R. Shenk) • Introduction • Why the Dutch Were the First Mennonites to Send Missionaries Overseas • Pieter Jansz (1820–1904): First Missionary to Java • H. C. Klinkert (1829–1913): Missionary, Journalist, Bible Translator, Linguist • The German-Russian Connection • The Education of Evangelists and Preachers on the Mission Field • Dutch Mennonite Mission and Ecumenical Relations

Alle Hoekema teaches missiology and practical theology at the Mennonite seminary in Amsterdam and at the University of Amsterdam.

“These essays are rich with insight. Hoekema’s intention to present an honest picture is clear, but his sympathy for the people studied results in balanced and sensitive evaluation. He succeeds in bringing us into close contact with significant leaders of previous generations from whom we can learn valuable lessons.”—Wilbert R. Shenk

Take this Word to Heart: The Shema in Torah and Gospel

Perry B. Yoder, ed.
Occasional Papers no. 23
ISBN: 0-936273-38-0
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
2005 • $15.00 • 133 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • online at http://palni.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p15705coll31/id/23/rec/1

“In Take this Word to Heart, Perry Yoder and his former students make important contributions to our understanding of the two great commandments in the Gospels—Jesus’ command to love God and to love our neighbor. Yoder’s introductory chapter and the excellent studies of Deuteronomy and the Synoptics that follow shed fresh light on the Shema (Deuteronomy 6:4–5) and the New Testament’s use of it. Preachers, scholars, and other students of scripture will be grateful for this unique resource.”

—Ben C. Ollenburger

Contents: Foreword (Paul Keim) • Introduction (Perry B. Yoder) • Loving God as an Act of Obedience: The Shema in Context (Jackie A. Wyse) • The Shema in Mark: For a Gentile or a Jewish Audience? (James W. Carlson) • The Significance of Love of God and Neighbor (Jeff T. Williams) • The Double Love Command: Matthew’s Hermeneutical Key (Amy Barker)

“The master teacher entangles the students in a web of compulsion and enticement. New material must be mastered, assignments completed, tests taken, and papers written. But there is also the promise of buried treasure. ‘Here is a word that has spoken to me,’ says the teacher. ‘It is my hope that it will also speak to you. And if you take this word to heart, it will speak to me anew through your discoveries.’ These essays by Perry Yoder and four students in his biblical studies seminar give voice to a deeply shared journey of discovery.”

—Paul Keim
Using Scripture in a Global Age: Framing Biblical Issues
C. Norman Kraus
Occasional Papers no. 24
Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House
2006 • $19.95 • 198 pages
http://www.cascadiapublishinghouse.com/usg/usg.htm

How should we read that ancient book called the Bible? How can its instructions to civilizations of three and four thousand years ago be relevant to our technical age? This book wrestles with such questions. Each chapter addresses some aspect of how the Bible may speak today as Kraus engages a variety of major issues, including Christology, hermeneutics, peace, sexuality, creationism, miracles, social justice, and spiritual reality.

Contents: Foreword (John A. Lapp) • Introduction: Reading the Bible as Scripture • Now that the “Restrictions” Are Gone • Interpreting the Bible: Anabaptist or Mennonite? • The Role of Mennonite Theological Inquiry in the Coming Decades • Pacifism and Nonviolence: Reassessing the Paradigms • Jesus and the Politics of Peace • From Cultic Taboo to Ethical Norm • An Anabaptist Spirituality for the Twenty-First Century • Spirit and Spirituality: Reclaiming Biblical Transcendence • The Primal Temptation: A Technological Fix • The Beginning of the Assembly Congregation: A Theological Reflection • How My Mind Has Changed • From Mennonite Fundamentalism to Critical Anabaptism: My Story

“Kraus, drawing on his decades as teacher, missionary, scholar, and churchman, challenges Anabaptists with the necessity of contextualization in the multiple cultures of the twenty-first-century church. He then models contextualization of the Bible and Anabaptist theology.”—Mark D. Baker

Even the Demons Submit: Continuing Jesus’ Ministry of Deliverance
Loren L. Johns, and James R. Krabill, eds.
Occasional Papers no. 25
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
2006 • $15.95 • 214 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161209/show

What would it look like if deliverance ministers, psychologists, pastors, biblical scholars, missiologists, anthropologists, and people who have experienced deliverance and healing were to compare notes, tell their stories, and try to learn from one another? This book aims to reflect that conversation and promote further conversation.

Contents: Part 1—Understanding the Challenge (Paul Hiebert) • Biblical Faith Confronts Evil Spiritual Realities (Willard Swartley) • Generational Sin and Demonic Oppression (Lawrence Burkholder) • The Systemic Spirit of the Family (Ronald Hammer); Part 2—The Challenge: Case Studies; Part 3—Responding to the Challenge (Duane Beck) • Congregation-Based Deliverance Ministry (Wesley Bontreger) • In Pursuit of Truth and the Healing Touch of Jesus (Dean Hochstetler, Harold Bauman) • Reflections on Deliverance Ministry (Swartley) • The Daughters of Zion (Sheiler Stokes) • Demonization and the Therapeutic Community (Paul J. Yoder); Part 4—Preparing for the Challenge: Preparing Pastors to Face the Challenge (Loren Johns, Arthur McPhee) • Where from Here? (J. Nelson Kraybill)

“The Christian community has needed a book on spiritual warfare like this for a long time. The combination of case studies, multidisciplinary analysis of the topic, and warm-spirited dialogue makes this an exceptionally helpful resource.”—Clinton E. Arnold

In Celebration of Wisdom: Life and Meaning in Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes
Steven Schweitzer, ed.
Occasional Papers no. 26
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
2009 • $15.00 • 83 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • online at http://palni.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p15705coll31/id/259

These essays engage biblical texts from the wisdom tradition in ancient Israel that reflect deeply on everyday life and practical ethics. The essays affirm the value of these books, not just for understanding Israel’s ideas about wisdom and faith, but also for the continuing theological witness and development of the church.

Contents: Metaphors and Meaning (Jesse Smith) • Reader-Response Assessment (V. EuGene Kennard) • Reclaiming the Woman of Substance (Jenifer Eriksen-Morales) • Who Is this Wisdom? (Samuel Voth Schrag) • Job’s Legal Defense (Renee Kanagy) • Laying the Foundations (Tommy Boutell) • Animals and Humanity (Brianne Donaldson) • Flinging Ourselves upon the Impossible (Elizabeth Miller) • Relinquishing Illusions (Gloria Beck) • Because God Is Your Share in Life (Suelia Gerber) • Paradoxes and Contradictions (Sylvie Gudin) • Living Life in the Present (Jill Schreiber) • An Easter Message? (Rachel Siemens)

“This collection takes up a neglected part of scripture and opens large theological affirmations and demanding ethical summonses. In a society that has majored in foolishness, the book is a reminder that wisdom that can generate life is rooted elsewhere in a hidden governance that is non-negotiable and cannot be outflanked. These studies are grounded good scholarship addressed to a church audience that seeks practical guidance for faith.”—Walter Brueggemann
Satyagraha and Nonresistance: A Comparative Study of Gandhian and Mennonite Nonviolence

Weyburn W. Groff
Occasional Papers no. 27
ISBN: 0-936273-43-7
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
2009 • $15.00 • 186 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161203/show

Weyburn Groff’s 1963 study examines and compares the Mennonite Church’s beliefs about and practice of nonresistance, and the Gandhian movement’s exercise of the effective nonviolent resistance of satyagraha.

Contents: Foreword (John Paul Lederach) • Abstract • Preface to the 2009 Edition • Preface to the 1963 Edition • (1) The Problem and Its Scope • (2) The Literature of Pacifism • (3) Gandhian Nonviolence: Satyagraha • (4) Mennonite Nonviolence: Nonresistance • (5) Satyagraha and Nonresistance Compared • Selected Bibliography • Appendix A: Peace, War, and Military Service

Weyburn W. Groff is an ordained minister of the Mennonite Church and a retired educator who taught at Union Biblical Seminary, Yavatmal, India, and Associated (now Anabaptist) Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana. His articles on Hinduism and Mahatma Gandhi appear in The Mennonite Encyclopedia, vol. 5.

“Groff’s comparative study of Gandhi and Mennonites is both a historical document and a contemporary challenge well worth turning to in our continued discernment, for nuclear issues remain at the top of our global challenges, our neighbors are global no matter where we live, and the world continues to need prophetic and pastoral expressions of agape-love.”—John Paul Lederach

Text Readers

One Lord, One Church, One Hope, and One God: Mennonite Confessions of Faith in North America: An Introduction

Howard John Loewen
Text Reader 2
ISBN: 0-936273-08-9
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1985 • $12.00 • 369 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161173/show

Contents: Foreword (C. J. Dyck) • Author’s Preface. Section One—An Orientation: I. Historical Introduction • II. Toward a Theological Interpretation • III. Some Ecumenical Implications. Section Two—The Confessions: I. The Dordrecht-MC Confessional Tradition • II. The Ris-GC Confessional Tradition • III. The Russian-MB Confessional Tradition • IV. The Smaller Mennonite and Related Confessional Traditions. Section Three—Documentation: I. Tables (Data Collection) • II. Bibliographies (Works Consulted) • III. Appendices (Additional Confessions) • IV. Scriptures (Individual Confessions)
So Wide a Sea: Essays on Biblical and Systematic Theology

Ben C. Ollenburger, ed.
Text Reader 4
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1991 • $10.00 • 145 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161179/show

The relation between biblical and systematic theology is once again the subject of vigorous debate. In this book biblical scholars and systematic theologians enter into this debate, which has significant consequences for theological education and the church. The book's title derives from Gabriel Biel's observation five hundred years ago, that scripture is "so wide a sea." Since then, this sea has sometimes divided biblical and systematic theologians. The authors of So Wide a Sea make a significant contribution to understanding and bridging this division.

Contents:
Preface (Ben C. Ollenburger)
• Biblical and Systematic Theology in Interaction: A Case Study on Atonement (Thomas Finger) • Biblical Theology and Normativity (Elmer A. Martens) • Biblical and Systematic Theology as Functional Specialties: Their Distinction and Relation (A. James Reimer) • Critical Theology and the Bible: A Response to A. James Reimer (Gordon D. Kaufman) • Biblical Theology and Feminist Interpretation: A Dinosaur at the Freedom March? (Mary H. Schertz) • Theology in Transition: Toward a Confessional Paradigm for Theology (Howard John Loewen) • Biblical and Systematic Theology: Constructing a Relation (Ben C. Ollenburger)

Understanding Ministerial Leadership: Essays Contributing to a Developing Theology of Ministry

John A. Esau, ed.
Text Reader 6
ISBN: 0-936273-22-4
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1995 • $15.00 • 123 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161185/show

http://wipfandstock.com/understanding-ministerial-leadership.html

These essays are intended as a corrective to an earlier emphasis on the ministry of the whole people, and instead emphasize the ministry of those who are called out, set apart, trained, and ordained.

Contents:
Preface (John A. Esau) • Recovering, Rethinking, and Re-imagining ... Mennonite Theology for Christian Ministry (Esau) • Helping Dreams Come True: Towards Wholeness—Articulating the Vision (Erick Sawatzky) • Ministerial Status and the Theology of Ministry (Rodney J. Sawatsky) • Inner Call/Inner Ambivalence (Renee Sauder) • Reflections on Pastoral Ministry and Pastoral Education (Marlin E. Miller) • The Mutuality of Ministry (Lydia Neufeld Harder) • Clarifying the Pastoral Role “On the Fly” (Duane Beck) • Re-institutionalizing the Pastorate: A Proposal for Attracting More Able Candidates … (Ardean L. Goertzen) • Some Reflections on Pastoral Ministry and Pastoral Education • The Seminary in a Believers Church • America’s Anabaptists • The Mennonite Practice of Baptism • baptism in the Mennonite Tradition • Is the Bible a Relevant Resource? • Criticism and Analogy in Historical-Critical Interpretation • Theology • Christology

Theology for the Church: Writings by Marlin E. Miller

Richard A. Kaufman and Gayle Gerber Koontz, eds.
Text Reader 7
ISBN: 0-936273-24-0
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
1997 • $15.00 • 235 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161191/show

This volume brings together writings of Marlin E. Miller, president of Goshen Biblical Seminary and Associated (now Anabaptist) Mennonite Biblical Seminary from 1974 to 1994. These writings focus on areas of Miller’s theological interest.

Contents:
Preaching the Gospel of Peace • The Word of the Cross • The Missionary Method of Jesus • The Church in the World • The Non-violent Witness for Justice and Peace • The Church in the World as the Community of the Kingdom • Toward Acknowledging Together the Apostolic Character of the Church’s Peace Witness • The Recasting of Authority • Priesthood of All Believers • Some Reflections on Pastoral Ministry and Pastoral Education • The Seminary in a Believers Church • America’s Anabaptists • The Mennonite Practice of Baptism • Baptism in the Mennonite Tradition • Is the Bible a Relevant Resource? • Criticism and Analogy in Historical-Critical Interpretation • Theology • Christology
Mennonite Perspectives on Pastoral Counseling

Daniel S. Schipani, ed.
Text Reader 9
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
2007 • $18.00 • 258 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu

Contents:
The Pastoral-Theological Nature of Pastoral Counseling (Daniel Schipani)
• Anabaptism and Psychology (Alvin Dueck)
• Counseling Connectedness and Community (David Augsburger)
• Communal Pilgrimage (Lonnie Yoder)
• Pastoral Counseling in a Congregational Setting (Nancy Kauffmann)
• Spiritual Direction and Pastoral Counseling in Mennonite Perspective (Marcus Smucker)
• Pastoral Counseling as a Form of Pastoral Care (Marianne Mellinger)
• Mutual Address and Accountability in Couples Therapy (Delores Friesen)
• Pastoral Counseling in a Community Health Care Center (Daniel Schipani)
• Glimpses of the Heart of Caring (Leah Dawn Bueckert)
• Pastoral Care and Counseling … in Java (Mesach Krisetya)
• … in the Netherlands (Lies Brussee-van der Zee)

“This clear look at pastoral counseling from an Anabaptist-Mennonite perspective focuses on the congregation as the locus for pastoral counseling. The writers make a convincing case for pastoral counseling as a ministry of the church. Yet their examination of pastoral counseling in other settings and in various cultural contexts broadens the discussion of where and how pastoral counseling can be practiced.”—Homer U. Ashby, Jr.
Michael Sattler has been called by his admirers and critics the most significant of the first-generation leaders of Anabaptism. This is a collection of documents by and about Sattler, edited by John Howard Yoder with introductions and extensive notes.

“Reading these works with Yoder’s notes acquaints one with the distinctive concerns of the early Anabaptists and the issues in the formative period of Reformation dissent.”—Everett Ferguson

During the sixteenth century’s years of religious reformation and revolution, Pilgram Marpeck called for freedom of religion and separation of church and state. Coming from a background of wealth and education, he engaged in the major theological struggles of the Anabaptists for an identity that was built on the Bible and had meaning for the world. This book includes Marpeck’s Confession of 1532 and The Admonition of 1542, the longest and most detailed statement of the Anabaptists on baptism and the Lord’s Supper. Also included are sixteen of his letters and the preface to his Explanations of the Testaments.

“The book is a useful tool for pastors, for teachers, and for individuals who have a special interest in getting more closely in touch with the primary experiences and thinking of the sixteenth-century Anabaptists.”—James C. Juhnke
The Sources of Swiss Anabaptism
Leland Harder, ed.
Classics of the Radical Reformation 4
Scottdale, PA: Herald Press
1985 • $74.99 • 814 pages
store.mennomedia.org/Sources-Of-Swiss-Anabaptism-P1304.aspx

The 170 letters and documents in this volume portray how Conrad Grebel, a bright young Swiss patriot, became a fervent, influential leader of the sixteenth-century Anabaptist movement. The editor calls the book “a drama with five acts, prologue, and epilogue,” with a cast of 107 characters. The main characters are Grebel himself and Huldrych Zwingli, vicar at the Grossmünster in Zurich. The climax of the drama comes in January 1525 when Grebel performs the first rebaptisms, founding a new church and leading to rejection of the Anabaptists by Zwingli. This volume is for scholars and for all seekers and believers.

Balthasar Hubmaier: Theologian of Anabaptism
H. Wayne Pipkin and John H. Yoder, trans. and eds.
Classics of the Radical Reformation 5
ISBN: 0-8361-3103-7
Scottdale, PA: Herald Press
1989 • $54.99 • 608 pages

Balthasar Hubmaier’s place in the first generation of Anabaptist history is unique. He is the only figure of this generation with university credentials, the only one with extensive public activity before joining the Reformation, the most skilled in popular expository writing. This collection of Hubmaier’s complete writings includes the three marks of the True Church—water baptism of adults, the Lord’s Supper, and fraternal admonition.

“The fulfills all expectations, providing an English-speaking audience access to the thought of Anabaptism’s only doctor of theology.” —C. Arnold Snyder

The Writings of Dirk Philips, 1504–1568
Cornelius J. Dyck, William E. Keeney, and Alvin J. Beachy, trans. and eds.
Classics of the Radical Reformation 6
ISBN: 0-8361-3111-8
Scottdale, PA: Herald Press
1992 • $44.99 • 699 pages
store.mennomedia.org/The-Writings-Of-Dirk-Philips-P264.aspx

This volume contains all the known writings of key Anabaptist leader Dirk Philips (1504–68) translated into English from the Dutch of Philips’ original 1564 volume. It includes annotations and introductions making it useful both to general readers and to scholars. Philips’s treatises make important contributions to the literature of early Anabaptism. He writes about the incarnation, baptism and the Lord’s Supper, the sending of preachers, the tabernacle, the new birth, the ban and avoidance, and marriage.
David Joris (c. 1501–56) is one of the least understood leaders in the sixteenth-century Anabaptist movement. Yet during his era he was one of the most important Anabaptist leaders in the Low Countries of Europe. Even before the fall of Münster in June 1535, Joris was a consistent advocate of Anabaptist nonviolence, and well into the 1540s he competed successfully with Menno Simons for followers.

Although he was not an Anabaptist, radical reformer Andreas Bodenstein (Carlstadt), 1486-1541, had a strong influence on the Anabaptist movement through his life and thought. In 1534 he joined the faculty at the University of Basel. Earlier, as a professor of biblical studies at Wittenberg, Carlstadt became involved in radical changes that brought him into conflict with Luther. The fifteen tracts translated and edited here by E. J. Furcha represent the first major collection of Carlstadt’s writings in one volume. They give excellent insight into his sound Christian faith and exemplary zeal as a reformer of the church from below.

Peter Riedemann’s Hutterite Confession of Faith

John J. Friesen, trans. and ed.
Classics of the Radical Reformation 9
ISBN: 0-8316-3122-3
Scottdale, PA: Herald Press
1999 • $18.99 • 264 pages
store.mennomedia.org/Peter-Riedemanns-Hutterite-Confession-of-Faith-P268.aspx

This volume includes John J. Friesen’s translation of the 1565 German edition of Confession of Our Religion, Teaching, and Faith, by the Brothers Who Are Known as the Hutterites, along with a new history of Riedemann. While in prison during 1540–42, Peter Riedemann wrote for the Lutheran ruler Philip of Hesse, explaining the Hutterite goal of a renewed community and dispelling popular misconceptions. Riedemann wove together a fresh reading of the Bible and the classical creeds, producing a powerful synthesis of scripture and tradition. His dynamic vision of communal discipleship, embraced by the Hutterites, still challenges believers toward greater faithfulness.

“This volume is a comprehensive guide to daily life in the Hutterite community and is the basic charter for Hutterites even today.”—John A. Hostetler
Confessions of Faith in the Anabaptist Tradition, 1527–1660

Karl Koop, ed.
Classics of the Radical Reformation 11
Kitchener, ON: Pandora Press 2006 • $36.50 (Cdn) • 366 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • http://bookshop.pandorapress.com/book.php?id=4855

This volume seeks to bring together for the first time a representative collection of confessions produced by Anabaptist groups from 1527 to 1660. Included are confessions from the Swiss Brethren, the Marpeck circle, the Rhinelanders, and various Mennonite communities in the north. This collection attends to the earliest phase of Anabaptist and Mennonite confessional writing in Europe, laying bare the foundations that set the stage for later confessional developments. An introduction to each confession provides context for its emergence.

“The Classics of the Radical Reformation series was inaugurated to make available major seminal texts from the Radical Reformation. This volume breaks new ground both in its subject matter and the span of time it documents. Perplexingly little attention has been paid by twentieth-century academics or church leaders to the Mennonite confessional tradition. Koop’s masterful study documents this communal form of theologizing at an opportune time, when interest is rising in the development of Anabaptist thought beyond its first, formative generations.”—John D. Rempel

Joerg Maler’s Kunstbuch: Writings of the Pilgrim Marpeck Circle

John D. Rempel, ed.
Classics of the Radical Reformation 12
ISBN: 978-1-926599-10-6
Kitchener, ON: Pandora Press 2010 • $45.00 (Cdn) • 753 pages
online at http://cdm15705.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p15705coll31/id/290

Scholars have been fascinated by Pilgrim Marpeck and his circle since the rediscovery of their long-lost writings. This volume offers another part of that legacy to English-speaking readers. Scholars and general readers will find theological insight and spiritual depth in the conviction of the authors of this anthology. The Kunstbuch’s didactic poems, passionate meditations, pastoral letters, and searing confessions open a door into the intimate life of a now lost community. Joerg Maler’s collection records the existence of one kind of Anabaptism, preserving for posterity the personalities and issues, the brilliance and tragedy that made it what it was.

“The efforts of Marpeck and his colleagues to offer a mediating, nuanced and balanced alternative to the legalistic and spiritualistic ends of the Anabaptist movement did not enable those who followed their counsel to persist. But the rediscovery of Marpeck, his colleagues, and their extensive literary and theological legacy offers a glimpse of another kind of Anabaptism that many today find appealing. This huge volume fills out for an English readership what is already available of that legacy. We owe to the editor and his team of translators a debt of gratitude.”—Stuart Murray Williams
For communities reading the Bible as scripture, it becomes crucial to understand what the Bible says about peace—and about war. These matters have often divided Christians from each other, and the way Christians have understood them has had terrible consequences for Jews and, indeed, for the world. A series of scholarly investigations cannot hope to resolve these issues, but it can hope, as the Studies in Peace and Scripture series does, to aid our understanding of them.

The writings collected here circulated among the later Anabaptists in Switzerland. The text that dominates the collection is the 466-page Codex 628, copied in 1590 and containing a sampling of material considered significant by the Swiss Anabaptists at the end of the century. Here, in translation, are archival holdings documenting the development of Swiss Anabaptist thought over the length of the sixteenth century. They reveal a maturing religious and social movement, whose members—living in a world that designated adult baptizers dangerous heretics—continued to reflect biblically on their call to discipleship.
Violence Renounced: Rene Girard, Biblical Studies and Peacemaking

Willard M. Swartley, ed.  
Studies in Peace and Scripture 4  
ISBN: 0-9665021-5-9  
Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House  
2000 • $23.95 • 344 pages  
www.cascadiapublishinghouse.com/vr/vr.htm

Do René Girard’s theories on imitation, rivalry, violence, sacrifice, and religion find support in scripture? These scholarly essays critically examine Girard’s theories on sacrifice and imitation, and Girard himself responds. Addressed as well in Violence Renounced are kingship and servanthood, the relation between the Testaments on sacrifice and atonement, and such basic themes as the human primal nature, the shape of new creation in Jewish and Christian reality, and feminist perspectives on Girardian theory. Also seen in new light are standard beliefs and doctrines on atonement, who/what killed Jesus, and how peace is to be rightly achieved.


“In reading this rich collection of essays we are privileged to witness a vigorous exchange between spirited scribes and Rene Girard. His work has challenged them to grapple in a most fundamental way with the relationship between violence, religion, the God of the Bible, and the death of his Christ.” —Tom Yoder Neufeld


Christopher D. Marshall  
Studies in Peace and Scripture 5  
ISBN: 0-8028-4797-8  
Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans  
2001 • $30.00 • 362 pages  
www.eerdmans.com/Products/4797/beyond-retribution.aspx

Is the concept and practice of restorative justice consistent with the teaching of scripture? Christopher Marshall first explores the problems involved in applying ethical teachings from the New Testament to mainstream society. He then surveys the extent to which the New Testament addresses criminal justice issues, looking in particular at the concept of the justice of God in the teachings of Paul and Jesus. He also examines the topic of punishment, reviewing the debate in social thinking over the ethics and purpose of punishment—including capital punishment—and he advocates a new concept of “restorative punishment.”

“Marshall’s book is admirable for at least the following: his penetrating textual analysis, the maturity of his theological reflection, and the solidness of the foundation that he lays upon which a distinctively Christian program of criminal justice reform may be built … An essential contribution to the debate over the ethics of criminal justice systems in societies whose values are defined by the Judeo-Christian tradition.” —Journal of Church and State

Crowned with Glory and Honor: Human Rights in the Biblical Tradition

Christopher D. Marshall  
Studies in Peace and Scripture 6  
Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House  
2002 • $13.95 • 160 pages

This book argues that Christian faith has something distinctive to say about human rights and that biblical values make important contributions to contemporary understandings of human rights. “Provides a compelling case for the relevance of Christian faith for enriching a human rights culture. It is also a reminder to secularized people that there is a need for a deeper motivation to protect human rights than merely individual or group interests. A timely contribution to sustain the ongoing struggle for a humane society!” —Gerald J. Pillay
Beautiful upon the Mountains: Biblical Essays on Mission, Peace, and the Reign of God

Mary H. Schertz and Ivan Friesen, eds. Studies in Peace and Scripture 7
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies 2003 (reissued by Wipf and Stock, 2008) • $24.80 • 268 pages
https://wipfandstock.com/beautiful-upon-the-mountains.html

These essays by biblical scholars show that friction in the church between evangelism and peace activism is neither helpful nor biblical: mission and peace are inseparable throughout the biblical canon. Those who seek God’s reign are called to proclaim the gospel of peace.


“The Peace Church tradition … has for a long time presented an alternative, subversive reading of scripture that has served an alternative, subversive way in the world. The present volume continues that alternative reading with force and imagination in a most remarkable way. The contextual point for readers is the imperial militarism of the US, especially in its ‘crusade’ against Muslims. The book … offers superb biblical interpretation of specific texts, interpretation … designed to feed and nurture a peaceable imagination. I learned in important ways from these fresh readings of the text.”
—Walter Brueggemann

The Sound of Sheer Silence and the Killing State: The Death Penalty and the Bible

Millard C. Lind
Studies in Peace and Scripture 8
Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House 2004 • $18.95 • 188 pages
www.cascadiapublishinghouse.com/sss/sss.htm

This book unambiguously opposes capital punishment as the immoral act of “the killing state.” Lind traces Yahweh’s saving action and steadfast love for Israel and the world from Moses to Elijah to Jesus, and shows how they are to be emulated on the societal level by obedience to covenant law. This leads to his conclusion that capital punishment is to be opposed because from the perspective of the God revealed in the Bible—determined in Lind’s view by the careful reading of the text he has attempted here—capital punishment is simply wrong.

Millard Lind is a professor emeritus of Old Testament at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (Elkhart, IN). A widely traveled and published scholar, Lind is author of such books as Yahweh Is a Warrior (Herald Press, 1980); and Ezekiel (Herald Press, 1996), in the Believers Church Commentary series.

“In his vigorous attack on the killing state, Millard Lind moves away from rationalistic arguments against capital punishment, however useful they may be, toward a radically biblical approach that does not look for single texts but identifies a large movement of covenant law that sets forgiveness and love of neighbor over against all statist claims on human life. This may be the only ‘weapon’ that Christians have. Lind suggests it is the one that matters.”
—Patrick D. Miller

Covenant of Peace: The Missing Peace in New Testament Theology and Ethics

Willard M. Swartley
Studies in Peace and Scripture 9
Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans 2006 • $38.00 • 560 pages
https://www.eerdmans.com/Products/2937/covenant-of-peace.aspx

Although the term peace occurs as many as 100 times in the New Testament, it is surprisingly absent in theology and ethics textbooks. In this comprehensive yet accessible book Willard Swartley explicates the New Testament, relating peace—and the associated emphases of love for enemies and reconciliation—to core theological themes such as salvation, Christology, and the reign of God. No other work in English makes such a contribution.

Swartley concludes by considering specific practices that lead to peacemaking and their place in our contemporary world. Covenant of Peace confronts readers anew with the compelling New Testament witness to peace.

Willard M. Swartley is professor emeritus of New Testament at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (Elkhart, IN). His other books include Slavery, Sabbath, War, and Women: Case Issues in Biblical Interpretation.

“Willard Swartley here undertakes what few New Testament ethicists of pacifist commitment have set out to do—develop a thorough, and thoroughly theological, analysis of the theme of peace as it is interwoven into the New Testament account of the work of Jesus Christ and the proclamation of the reign of God. This is the fully fleshed out articulation of what many have claimed, but no one has done so much to demonstrate—that peace is near to the heart of the gospel.”—Sondra Ely Wheeler
Darrin Snyder Belousek offers a comprehensive examination of penal substitution, the most widely accepted evangelical Protestant theory of atonement, and presents a biblically grounded, theologically orthodox alternative. Attending to the relevant biblical texts and engaging with the full spectrum of scholarship, Belousek develops a biblical theory of atonement that centers on restorative—rather than retributive—justice. He shows how Christian thinking on atonement correlates with global concerns such as economic justice, capital punishment, “the war on terror,” and ethnic and religious conflicts. This book demonstrates how a return to biblical cruciformity can radically transform Christian mission, social justice, and peacemaking.

Darrin W. Snyder Belousek is lecturer in philosophy and religion at Ohio Northern University (Ada, OH).

“Belousek analyzes in detail virtually every nut and bolt in the edifice of penal atonement theology as it is presented in current mainstream evangelism and does so with the kind of exegetical precision and theological commitment necessary to command a hearing from those he critiques. This is exactly the kind of book I would like to have on my shelves so that when someone asks me, ‘What about Isaiah 53?’ or ‘What about God’s wrath?’ or ‘What about no forgiveness without the shedding of blood?’, I would know where to turn for a carefully reasoned answer.” —Christopher D. Marshall

This diverse and ambitious collection of essays about peace, justice, and violence in ancient Jewish and Christian texts honors the life work of Perry Yoder and Willard Swartley. Topics include Eccl 3:1–9 and time for war, Ezek 14:12–23 and God’s retribution, Luke 22:31–61 and Peter’s sword, the temple cleansing episodes in John 2 and Mark 11, sectarianism and violence in manuscripts from the Dead Sea, violence in creation in the Hebrew Bible, Chronicles as utopian literature, peace and violence in Paul’s writings, and globalization in biblical studies. This book delivers focused study of peace and violence across the Testaments.


“All Struggles for Shalom authors extend biblical, theological, and ethical conversations about violence and peace to new generations of global citizens. This collection is ideal for use in churches, classrooms, and anywhere else justice is sought.” —Davina C. Lopez, Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL
The connection between the ecological crisis and humanity’s detachment from the land is becoming increasingly clear. In biblical terms, \textit{adam} (humanity) has severed itself from the \textit{adamah} (soil), and we (creation) are reaping the consequences. These essays call the church to root itself more deeply in the agrarian biblical text and ecclesial tradition in order to remember and freshly imagine ways of living on and with the land that are restorative, reconciling, and faithful to the triune God’s invitation to new life in Christ. When we listen attentively to and patiently learn from the biblical text, church history, and theology, the land itself can become a conversation partner, and we are summoned to recognize that the gospel is reserved not simply for humanity but for the whole of creation.


“Nowhere have I read a more substantive collection of essays, all written for this volume, that drives home the importance of the land in theological reflection and ethical practice. \textit{Rooted and Grounded} inspires us to reconnect with the land from which we came and to which we shall return.” —William P. Brown

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Other IMS Books

\textbf{The Irony of Power: The Politics of God within Matthew’s Narrative}
Dorothy Jean Weaver
Studies in Peace and Scripture 14
978-1-62564-886-0
Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications
2017 • $33.60 (retail) • 360 pages

This volume engages the Gospel of Matthew in full awareness of its inherently political character. Weaver situates Matthew’s version of the “good news of the kingdom” squarely within first-century Palestine and its occupying power. The essays focus on issues of power and violence that pervaded the occupied Jewish community of first-century Palestine, that are also visible throughout Matthew’s account. A “lower-level” reading of the Matthean text offers a bleak portrait of the violence exerted by the Roman occupiers and their Jewish collaborators. But an “upper-level”/“God’s-eye” reading of Matthew’s narrative reveals the fundamental irony at the heart of the New Testament as a whole, of the Jesus story broadly conceived, and of Matthew’s narrative account in specific.

Dorothy Jean Weaver is Professor of New Testament at Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, VA.

“For more than thirty years, Dorothy Jean Weaver has been prominent among a handful of scholars who read the Gospel of Matthew as a socially and politically engaged story about Jesus. Matthew’s narrative is first and foremost a story about power—who has it, what they do with it, and what happens as a result. Weaver was perhaps the first to recognize the extent to which this story turns on irony, revealing the ultimate futility of coercive power and the triumph of vulnerable powerlessness.”
—Mark Allan Powell, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio
Annotated Bibliography of Mennonite Writings on War and Peace, 1930–1980

Willard M. Swartley and Cornelius J. Dyck, eds.
ISBN: 0-8361-1292-X
Scottdale, PA: Herald Press
1987 • $20.00 • 740 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu

A comprehensive annotated bibliography of Mennonite writings on war and peace, listed under these broad categories: Alternative Service, Arms and Disarmament, Attitudes and Education, The Bible, Peace and War, Church and State, Civil Disobedience, Conscientious Objection, International Relations, Justice (including abortion, labor unions, litigation, corrections, conciliation), Mennonite Central Committee, Military Service, Nationalism, Peace (including peace movements, nonresistance, nonviolence, pacifism, social action, peace stories, Christian-Marxist dialogue), Race Relations, Refugees, War (including atomic war, nuclear war, postwar, communism), Specific Wars.

The Promise of Hope: A Tribute to Dom Hélder

Daniel S. Schipani and Anton Wessels, eds.
ISBN: 0-936273-32-1
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
2002 • $10.00 • 138 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161119/show

The Promise of Hope is a tribute to Dom Hélder written by scholars who have participated in the Dom Hélder Câmara Chair at the Free University in Amsterdam. This Festschrift reflects the international, ecumenical, and multidisciplinary import of Dom Hélder’s contribution and the nature of the chair established in his honor. Readers are encouraged to ponder afresh Dom Hélder Câmara’s vision and legacy in light of the realities of today’s world and our human longing to realize the promise of hope for a better tomorrow.

The Work Is Thine, O Christ: In Honor of Erland Waltner

June Alliman Yoder, ed.
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
2002 • $12.00 • 148 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu

This book reflects the work and influence of Erland Waltner, leader in the Mennonite Church for 60 years. He was a pastor, preacher, teacher, and administrator, serving congregations in Freeman, South Dakota, and Mountain Lake, Minnesota; teaching at Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas, and Mennonite Biblical Seminary; and serving as administrator for Mennonite World Conference and Mennonite Medical Association.

The Heart of the Matter: Pastoral Ministry in Anabaptist Perspective

Erick Sawatzky, ed.
Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House
2004 • $22.95 • 275 pages
www.cascadiapublishinghouse.com/hom/hom.htm

Faculty colleagues at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary reflect on what can be learned from viewing ministry in Anabaptist perspective. Pondering understandings of the pastor—as shepherd, teacher, healer, prophet—and examining issues of leadership, authority, ecclesiology, improvisation, the authors both affirm the resources for pastoral ministry found in the Anabaptist tradition and suggest areas for growth. This volume will be useful to those with Anabaptist roots interested in rigorous reflection on ministry as understood within their tradition—and also to those rooted in other traditions intrigued by what can be learned from Anabaptism.

“I learned much from these reflections on ministry. The peculiar vibrancy of the Anabaptist vision of the church provides a wonderfully invigorating perspective on the pastoral tasks. Contemporary pastoral ministry can be critically assessed and renewed through such astute reflection.”—William H. Willimon

The Way of Wisdom in Pastoral Counseling

Daniel S. Schipani
ISBN: 0-936273-34-8
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
2003 • $12.00 • 120 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu

This volume explores the thesis that pastoral counseling must be reconsidered from a practical theological perspective; it must be reframed—viewed, practiced, and taught—by reclaiming wisdom in the light of God as its master metaphor. This guiding principle can strengthen the theological and epistemological foundations of pastoral counseling as a ministry of the church.

Contents: Introduction • (1) Reflecting on the Practice • (2) Reclaiming Wisdom as the Heart • (3) Reframing Pastoral Counseling • (4) Reenvisioning Pastoral Counseling • Bibliography

Daniel S. Schipani is professor of pastoral care and counseling at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN. He lectures widely and is the author or editor of more than 20 books on pastoral and practical theology and on education.

“The Way of Wisdom in Pastoral Counseling is a significant contribution to the pastoral counseling literature, a creative trajectory for future work in the field. Daniel Schipani argues persuasively that pastoral counseling is problematic when separated from the norms and context of the church and that it is best understood as part of the wisdom tradition of the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures.”—James N. Poling

Opening the Bible: Essays by Howard H. Charles

J. Robert Charles, ed.
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies; co-published with Herald Press
2005 • $18.00 • 289 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu

In these fifty essays, Howard Charles brings his gifts as a scholar, teacher, and expositor of the Bible to themes arising from the scriptures. Originally written as lesson helps for teachers of adult Sunday school classes, these essays will inform, inspire, and give insight to anyone seeking a better understanding of the form and content of the Bible. From the creation story in Genesis to the prophetic concern for justice, from the parables of Jesus to his crucifixion, from the Gospel of Luke to the book of Revelation, Charles opens the Bible in clear, simple language.

“For more than thirty years, Howard Charles’s Builder essays were a monthly gift to the Mennonite church, nurturing Sunday school teachers and equipping them for their labor of love. These essays reveal Howard’s depth of insight, clarity, and seasoned perspective. As professor of New Testament at Goshen Biblical Seminary (1947–89), he patiently led his students to grasp the biblical text’s distinctive structure and literary features, its historical significance and its enduring meaning for Christian faith. This pedagogical style shows in these pieces, which combine solid academic scholarship with spiritual formation, to nurture heart and head.”—Willard M. Swartley

Arthur Paul Boers, Barbara Nelson Gingerich, Eleanor Kreider, John D. Rempel, Mary H. Schertz
Scootdade, PA: Herald Press
2007 • $22.99 • 432 pages
store.mennomedia.org/Take-Our-Moments-and-Our-Days-P1328.aspx

This first volume of Take Our Moments and Our Days: An Anabaptist Prayer Book contains a four-week cycle of morning and evening prayer services for Ordinary Time. The services are designed for use by groups or individuals. Virtually all the prayers are taken directly or minimally adapted from the Bible, and traditional Anabaptist themes are strikingly prominent.

Contents: Week 1 • The Lord’s Prayer; Week 2 • Beatitudes; Week 3 • Parables; Week 4 • Signs and Wonders. The prayers follow a familiar threelfold pattern of praising (honoring God and giving thanks), listening for God’s voice through scripture readings and reflection, and responding (with renewed dedication of our lives, interceding for others, receiving a blessing).

“A superb prayer book! The editors have done an outstanding job choosing texts and hymns and writing prayers and forms to establish substantial patterns of prayer. Their language is that of the universal church, so this publication knits its users to Christians throughout time and space. I pray that this volume will be used widely and well.”—Marva J. Dawn

Anabaptist Prayer App
A new free Anabaptist Prayer App makes Take Our Moments and Our Days prayers for Ordinary Time and Advent through Pentecost available to Apple and Android users in an easy-to-navigate format. See page 10 for more information.

Take Our Moments and Our Days: An Anabaptist Prayer Book, Vol. 2: Advent through Pentecost

Arthur Paul Boers, Barbara Nelson Gingerich, Eleanor Kreider, John D. Rempel, Mary H. Schertz
ISBN: 978-0-8361-9449-4
SCOotdade, PA: Herald Press
2007 • $34.99 • 912 pages
store.mennomedia.org/Take-Our-Moments-and-Our-Days-Volume-2-P493.aspx

Volume 2 of Take Our Moments and Our Days: An Anabaptist Prayer Book contains morning and evening prayers for the Advent season, the twelve days of Christmas, the seasons of Epiphany and Lent, Holy Week, and the season of Easter. Also included are a two-week cycle of Pentecost prayers. Virtually all the prayers are taken directly or minimally adapted from the Bible, and traditional Anabaptist themes are strikingly prominent. The distinctive Anabaptist flavor of this collection of daily prayers is evident in the predominance of Jesus’ voice, the space for communal reflection on scripture, and the choices of Bible readings.

“This second volume of Take Our Moments and Our Days covers the liturgical year from Advent through Pentecost. While these morning and evening prayers are designed for group use, allowing space for communal reflection on scripture and singing, they can be adapted for individual use as well. In keeping with the Radical Reformation tradition, the scripture texts give prominence to Jesus’ own words, and the note of discipleship is sounded throughout. The prayers have a threelfold form: praise, listen, respond. Opportunities for intercessory prayer are given—for … those dear to us, our community, the church, the world.”—Christian Century

Prophetic Peacemaking: Selected Writings of J. R. Burkholder

Keith Graber Miller, ed.
ISBN: 0-8361-9523-1
Scootdade, PA: Herald Press
2010 • $27.99
store.mennomedia.org/Prophetic-Peacemaking-P1126.aspx

J. R. Burkholder’s life and work as ethicist, churchman, and social change agent spanned and influenced dramatic changes in twentieth-century Mennonite peace theology and ecumenical engagements. Prophetic Peacemaking is a collection of thirty of Burkholder’s most prescient essays on pacifism, patriotism, public witness, Mennonite ethics, health care, stewardship, vocation, service, and other issues of authentic discipleship. These essays are not so much period pieces as reflections on faithful living relevant for future generations of peacemakers. A former Burkholder student, ethicist Keith Graber Miller edited the volume, providing an introduction “on being Burkholderian” and sketching the historical context for each chapter.

“J. R. Burkholder has the intellect of an academic, the passion of an activist, and the heart of a pastor. Prophetic Peacemaking brings the three together, combining his autobiographical reflections with a selection of lectures and writings that show the breadth of his thought. If you are seeking to better integrate faithful living with a commitment to peacemaking, I commend this book to you.”—Jim Wallis
Mission from the Margins:
Selected Writings from the Life and Ministry of David A. Shank

James R. Krabill, ed.
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
2010 • $18.00
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/routing/bookstore/items/161125/show • online at http://palni.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p15705coll31/id/257/rec/1

David A. Shank reflected on the mission of the church from an Anabaptist perspective for more than half a century. His writings represent among the best biblical, theological, and missiological study on the matter, shaped by two primary contexts—Europe and Africa—where his ministry took place. This collection will be of particular interest to global church leaders wanting to know more about how to contextualize the gospel message, to mission and church historians interested in examining how missiological thought and practice evolves over time, and to pastors, students, and mission workers seeking insights from a wise elder.

David A. Shank served as a Mennonite mission worker in Europe (1950–73) and West Africa (1979–89). His many missiological writings include a study of the Liberian Christian prophet William Wadé Harris, The Prophet Harris: ‘Black Elijah’ of West Africa (Brill, 1994).

James R. Krabill served as a Bible and church history teacher among African-Initiated Churches. He currently serves as senior executive for global ministries at Mennonite Mission Network.

“David Shank’s writings are right and original, always stimulating and sometimes prophetic, but far too little known. This splendid collection, beautifully presented and interpreted, thus comes as a boon and a blessing.” —Andrew F. Walls

Engaging Pastors:
Papers and Reflections from the Summative Conference, December 1–3, 2009

Jewel Gingerich Longenecker, ed.
ISBN: 0-936273-45-7
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
2010 • $8.00 • 146 pages
churchleadership@ambs.edu

The Engaging Pastors project of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary was an effort to transform seminary-church connections through sustained interaction between professors and pastors. Key learnings emerged:
(1) The practice and teaching of ministry are strengthened when pastors and professors regularly engage each other in ways that honor the knowledge and expertise of each.
(2) The Mennonite Church urgently needs to strengthen pastoral, biblical, and teaching authority.
(3) The church and the seminary need to equip pastors and professors to engage their missional contexts with joy. This volume contains papers presented at a conference to test these learnings with Mennonite leaders.

“[In light of the Summative Conference] it is my prayer that none of us will go about our work without considering what we might have to learn from other colleagues serving congregations, those working in regional or conference leadership, and those teaching in our schools or leading our denominations. None of us alone has the best answer for how to sustain effective and joy-filled missional leadership. We need one another in order to discern the future that God has for Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada.”
—Rebecca Slough, Academic Dean, AMBS

Youth Ministry at a Crossroads:
Tending to the Faith Formation of Mennonite Youth

Andy Brubacher Kaetler and Bob Yoder, eds.
ISBN: 9780-836195-63-7
Harrisonburg, VA: Herald Press; co-published with Institute of Mennonite Studies
2011 • $15.99 • 154 pages
store.mennomedia.org/Youth-Ministry-at-a-Crossroads-P1062.aspx

Youth work isn’t for the faint-hearted—it’s tender and tough, requiring savvy to withstand the assault of erotic, self-centered, consume-at-any-cost allurements facing youth today. What you will find here is wisdom and encouragement from those who have dedicated themselves to Jesus-centered youth faith formation that encompasses biblical and Anabaptist-Mennonite ways of knowing, being, and doing, all while following the One who offers abundant life. The writers explore the context in which such formation happens best—the congregation that worships, serves, witnesses, and fellowships together.

“Youth Ministry at a Crossroads is an excellent and timely resource, one that will become indispensable for youth leaders, pastors, and parents—anyone wanting to understand holistic faith formation in youth in twenty-first-century culture. It draws on deep wells of Anabaptist-Mennonite understandings of Jesus, the Bible, and faithful Christian living in the context of the community of faith.”—Dave Bergen
Alan and Eleanor Kreider have been teaching and writing about mission, community, and worship from an Anabaptist perspective for almost four decades. The contributors to this volume are a global multivoiced choir. They are younger and older, academics and community workers, new believers and veterans of the faith. They have come together to celebrate the lifelong contribution the Kreiders have made to forming in so many people the Christian habits necessary for living faithfully in a world where the unraveling of Christendom has never been more apparent. This book is a significant practical resource for anyone passionate about church renewal.

“This volume gives beautiful testament to the witness of Eleanor and Alan Kreider as Christian disciples in a post-Christendom world. The narrative of their shared ministry unfolds rhythmically and holistically, just as their life’s journey together has incarnated the intimate, essential relationship between worship and mission, the ‘breathing in and out’ of Christian community.”

—Margaret Pfeil

Abraham Friesen is one of the foremost scholars of Erasmus’s influence on the Swiss Brethren and Menno Simons. In Reformers, Radicals, and Revolutionaries, he distills the debate about “penance” and “repentance” with clarity and insight, demonstrating its seminal significance for Anabaptist ecclesiology. With meticulous reference to the sources, he dissects Augustine’s interpretation of the parable of the wheat and tares as defended by both Luther and Müntzer. His argument sheds new light not only on the emerging ecclesiological difference between the magisterial and radical reformers but also on the conflict between peaceful and revolutionary Anabaptists.

Abraham Friesen is Professor of Renaissance and Reformation History, Emeritus, at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

“Friesen plunges into the well-worn debates surrounding the Anabaptist movement and emerges with a host of fresh insights. Here you will find an ardent defense of Anabaptist convictions presented not as a subset of “distinctives” within a larger framework of universal Christian principles, but as an effort to live in purity according to the model of Christ and the apostles. Friesen’s wide-ranging engagement with the primary sources, his capacious understanding of Reformation scholarship, and his confident argumentative style make this book a delightful and provocative read!”

—John D. Roth
Mediation in Pastoral Care

Lies Brussee-van der Zee and Annelies Klinefelter-Koopmans
ISBN: 0-936273-46-1
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
2012 • $16.45 • 137 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/161137/show

“Readers will find here a helpful integration of theory and practice; biblical-theological foundations, normative claims, and social science perspectives and tools and guidelines; and academic-professional views and grassroots experience and concerns. And of course, the authors’ main contribution is the very reason for this book’s being; they demonstrate that the distinct fields of pastoral care and mediation can be brought closer together in order to enhance the overall competence of pastoral caregivers as they encounter conflict situations.”—from the Foreword, by Daniel Schipani

Lies Brussee-van der Zee was minister in several Mennonite and Dutch Protestant Union congregations. From 1998 to 2008 she worked as instructor of pastoral care at Amsterdam Mennonite Theological Seminary. She is a registered mediator and has led trainings on mediation skills in pastoral care. Annelies Klinefelter-Koopmans completed her mediation training in 2003. Since 2003 she has been a certified mediator specializing in working in the church.

“An excellent overview with practical guideposts for pastors and caregivers who constantly face situations of family, congregational, and wider social conflicts as part of their daily ministry. With easy to absorb ideas and case studies, yet comprehensive and up to date, this book should be in every pastor’s office.”
—John Paul Lederach

100 Ans de Mission Mennonite en République Démocratique du Congo: Témoignages des Apports Locaux 1912–2012

Vincent Mulebo Ndandula,
Jean-Félix Cimbalanga wa Mpoyi,
Beleji Mwatha Jackson
ISBN: 0-936273-48-8
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
2012 • $15.00 • 332 pages
aimm@aimmintl.org

Le résultat d’un projet initié par Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission pour marquer le centenaire du témoignage mennonite en République Démocratique du Congo, cette collection comprend 100 vignettes historiques rédigées par trois auteurs congolais. Les sujets de ces récits sont des chrétiens mennonites congolais qui ont été transformés en rencontrant Jésus Christ, et qui ont devenus des témoins de la grâce de Dieu. Les vignettes s’étendent depuis les premiers jours jusqu’au présent, illustrant le courage et la foi des croyants congolais au sein des pressions culturelles énormes, et reflétant des interprétations africaines des principes anabaptistes de la non-violence et du pardon.

Le résumé du livre: “How, within a single century, did the number of Christians in Africa swell from a few million in Egypt and Ethiopia to become the continent’s majority faith, some 487 million strong, today? The stories, written by both Africans and foreign missionaries, hint at the deep reason. They will rekindle hope, inspire faith, deepen humility, and offer encouragement. They should be read, contemplated, and preached.”
—Jonathan J. Bonk

The Jesus Tribe: Grace Stories from Congo’s Mennonites 1912–2012

A Project of Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission
ISBN: 0-936273-49-6
Elkhart, IN:
Institute of Mennonite Studies
2012 • $15.00 • 273 pages
aimm@aimmintl.org

The culmination of a project sponsored by Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission and marking the centennial of Mennonite witness in the Democratic Republic of Congo, this collection consists of brief stories of Congolese Mennonite Christians who had life-changing encounters with Jesus and became witnesses to God’s grace in their lives. The stories reach from the earliest days to the present, illustrating courage, struggle, and faith amid enormous cultural pressures, and reflecting African interpretations of Anabaptist beliefs in nonviolence and forgiveness.

“Readers will find here a helpful integration of theory and practice; biblical-theological foundations, normative claims, and social science perspectives and tools and guidelines; and academic-professional views and grassroots experience and concerns. And of course, the authors’ main contribution is the very reason for this book’s being; they demonstrate that the distinct fields of pastoral care and mediation can be brought closer together in order to enhance the overall competence of pastoral caregivers as they encounter conflict situations.”—from the Foreword, by Daniel Schipani

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—John Paul Lederach
The 1973 ordination of Emma Sommers Richards marked a breakthrough in North American Mennonites’ understanding that the Holy Spirit calls both women and men to pastoral ministry. These essays document how that change in understanding came about and describe its fruitfulness in Emma’s ministry.

**Contents:**
- The Setting for the Call of Women to Ministry in the Mennonite Church (Miriam Book)
- Nurtured for the Call to Ministry (Elaine Sommers Rich)
- Seedbed for a Life of Service (Arlene Mark)
- In Japan (Nancy Lee)
- Called by Lombard Mennonite Church (Earl Sutter)
- Ordained by Illinois Mennonite Conference, Ivan Kauffmann
- It’s Very Lonely out Here (Rachel Fisher)
- Partners in Ministry (Joe Richards)
- Business as Usual (Naomi Woods)
- Divine Call, Reluctant Blessing (Gayle Gerber Koontz)
- timeline (Emma Sommers Richards)
- testimonials (John Gray, Dan Schrock, Mark King, Ryan Ahlgrim, Richard Blackburn, David Sutter, Janice Yordy Sutter, Paul King, Lois Meyer King)
- appendices

“Gender, politics, and church power are skillfully but pastorally woven together in this volume. The Mennonite Church is forever altered by Emma Sommers Richards’ persistent voice—speaking, preaching, parenting, co-pastoring, and sharing with the world an invitation to faithful Christian living.”—Dorothy Nickel Friesen

**A History of Mennonite Youth Ministry, 1885–2005**

Bob Yoder, ed.
ISBN: 0-936273-51-8
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
2013 • $26.45 • 337 pages

*A History of Mennonite Youth Ministry, 1885–2005* gives attention to efforts to nurture faith in young people of a particular faith group, Mennonites in North America. Sometimes those efforts were led by a denomination or its agencies and sometimes by a grassroots contingent of faithful people within the church, or by people clamoring for a voice.

**Contents:**
- Part 1—Overview: Nurturing the faith of Mennonite youth (Bob Yoder)
- Part 2—Congregational Efforts: Mennonite involvement in Christian Endeavor and Youth for Christ (Randy Keeler), Mennonite Youth Fellowship, 1948–68 (Jonny Gerig Meyer), Bible quizzing (Barb Draper), Called to Youth Ministry (Susan Allison-Jones)
- Part 3—Efforts from Outside the Congregation: Mennonite camping (Josh Hertzler), SWAP, DOOR, Group Venture (Matt Harms), Mennonite Young People’s Conference movement (Anna Showalter), Outtatown (Dana Penner)
- Conclusions (Anna Rehan, Kent Miller)
- Appendices

“A History of Mennonite Youth Ministry, 1885–2005 documents the complexities of youth ministry in one community of faith. It describes tensions between people committed to retaining a strong community characterized by long-standing traditions, and people concerned with responding to the distinctive needs of the community’s young people amid societal change.”—Mark H. Senter III, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, IL

**History of the American Society of Missiology, 1973–2013**

Wilbert R. Shenk
ISBN: 0-936273-52-6
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies
2014 • $7.50 • 97 pages

This study of the first forty years of the American Society of Missiology is at once a history of that society and an admirably nuanced account of how mission studies have flourished in the United States, despite the secularization of the academy and epic changes in the scope, agents, and locus of mission.”—William R. Burrows

**Contents:**
- The roots and emergence of mission studies
- Founding the American Society of Missiology
- First decade: 1973–82
- Second decade: 1983–92
- Fourth decade: 2003–12
- The unfinished task
- Appendices
An Increase in Time: Story Lines of Germantown Mennonite Church and Its Historic Trust, 1683–2005

Richard J. Lichty
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies 2016 • $24.00 • 416 pages

bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populieweb.com/router/bookstore/items/155209/show

Richard J. Lichty recounts the history of the oldest Mennonite church in North America. From within the congregation, he tracks its story through periods of slow growth and spiritual stagnation and renewal and vitality, through affiliation with other Mennonite bodies and in conflict with and separation from them.


“Our prayer is that this book will stimulate honest dialogue and fresh reflections on the scriptures, and that it will foster greater mutual understanding about how God’s people live together with highly charged differences.”—Donella M. Clemens and James M. Lapp


David Yoder Neufeld
ISBN: 978-0-936273-55-6
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies 2016 • $17.50 • 167 pages

bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populieweb.com/router/bookstore/items/160213/show

Church planting, sheltered workshops, African student ministry, an Anabaptist research center—what do these initiatives have in common? They are the result of two Mennonite bodies, French and North American, putting their modest resources together for the purpose of common witness in postwar France. Allen Koop, in his study of late twentieth-century mission in that country, claims that “no other missionary project... fostered cooperation as close and as productive as that carried out by French and North American Mennonites. No other mission succeeded in combining evangelism and church planting with significant social work to the same degree.” The story recounted here celebrates this history and challenges God’s people to increased faithfulness in the future.

Contents: Introduction • (1) Preconditions for Partnership: European and North American Mennonites Reconnect, 1917–52 • (2) “It Was Natural That We Made Contact”: Partnership Begins, 1953–65 • (3) “To Serve in the Name of Christ”: Partnership Strengthens and Matures, 1966–84 • (4) “We Do Not Do the Same Things”: Partnership Comes to an End, 1984–2003 • (5) Conclusion: An Intercultural Partnership’s Legacy and Lessons • Index

Recollections of a Sectarian Realist: A Mennonite Life in the Twentieth Century

J. Lawrence Burkholder; Myrna Burkholder, ed.
Elkhart, IN: Institute of Mennonite Studies 2017 • $22.45 • 272 pages

bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populieweb.com/router/bookstore/items/151393/show

From a Mennonite upbringing in a small Pennsylvania town, through an upstate–New York pastorate, relief work in India and China, graduate study at Princeton, teaching at Goshen College and Harvard Divinity School, civil rights activism, and the presidency of Goshen College, J. Lawrence Burkholder sought to hold together the sectarian impulses of his denominational identity with a sense of social responsibility. This memoir traces the development of his thought as it intersected with the events of his life.

“Always more than a sectarian, J. Lawrence Burkholder enriched and extended Mennonite theological and ethical thinking, challenging the rigidity and self-satisfaction of some traditional thought and practices as well as the newer formulations of John H. Yoder. This volume, with its rich remembering and numerous insights, gives the church occasion to continue to wrestle with the insights he set before us.”—John A. Lapp, dean, provost, and professor of history at Goshen College when J. Lawrence Burkholder was president.
Intercultural Biblical Hermeneutics Series

This series of monographs, initiated by the Foundation Dom Hélder Câmara Chair, VU University Amsterdam, is offered to Bible scholars and interested practitioners with a twofold purpose: to present the fruits of ongoing research in the new field of empirical intercultural hermeneutics, and to foster further conversation and collaboration. This research tests the hypothesis that the intercultural reading of narratives from sacred texts—in our case, the Bible—can have a beneficial effect, helping readers to greater understanding for one another, leading to reconciliation and more justice.

Empirical Hermeneutics, Interculturality, and Holy Scripture

Hans de Wit
Intercultural Biblical Hermeneutics Series 1
ISBN: 0-936273-80-1
Foundation Dom Hélder Câmara Chair, VU University Amsterdam; published in collaboration with Institute of Mennonite Studies
2012 • $15.00 • 96 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu

The focus of this monograph series—empirical hermeneutics in intercultural perspective—has to do with the question whether reading Bible stories jointly by groups from different cultural contexts can contribute to transformation. The practice at the heart of this research is bringing together small groups from all continents who read the same Bible story and discuss the meaning of the story with each other. The central questions of this field of research are: Can the Bible be a positive factor in processes of development and reconciliation? Can Bible stories be places for conversations on peace?

“The launching of this series in intercultural biblical hermeneutics is to be warmly welcomed. This critical project, documented in Through the Eyes of Another, has yielded impressive results. It has established itself as an innovative and sophisticated approach in biblical criticism by its focus on real readers in small communities reading the same text and exchanging readings with other readers around the world. There is no doubt that empirical-intercultural biblical hermeneutics now stands as a solid, ground-breaking exercise in academic-scholarly as well as religious-theological interpretation of the Bible, and this volume provides the perfect introduction.”—Fernando F. Segovia

This project was first given expression in Through the Eyes of Another: Intercultural Reading of the Bible, listed on page 41.

Toward a Communal Reading of 2 Samuel 13: Ideology and Power within the Intercultural Bible Reading Process

Charlene van der Walt
Intercultural Biblical Hermeneutics Series 2
ISBN: 0-936273-81-X
Foundation Dom Hélder Câmara Chair, VU University Amsterdam; published in collaboration with Institute of Mennonite Studies
2014 • $15.00 • 168 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu

In the pages of this monograph, the reader witnesses women on a journey with the “other” unlocking new interpretive realities, finding new paths through old biblical landscapes, and uncovering new perspectives on their own experience. Toward a Communal Reading of 2 Samuel 13: Ideology and Power within the Intercultural Bible Reading Process recounts Charlene van der Walt’s use of a shared reading of the biblical story of Tamar’s silencing to facilitate intercultural conversation on difficult subject matter—rape and violence against women. Participants in the intercultural Bible reading project, all of them residents of Stellenbosch, South Africa, speak from a diversity of cultural backgrounds. The intercultural Bible reading process allows for a creative interaction among these differing perspectives, and van der Walt documents ways it issues in greater social awareness, particularly among those occupying more privileged positions in society.
From Adequate Biblical Interpretation to Transformative Intercultural Hermeneutics: Chronicling a Personal Journey

Louis C. Jonker
Intercultural Biblical Hermeneutics
Series 3
ISBN: 0-936273-82-8
Foundation Dom Hélder Câmara Chair, VU University Amsterdam; published in collaboration with Institute of Mennonite Studies
2015 • $15.00 • 313 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu

This collection of essays chronicles nearly two decades of Louis C. Jonker’s journey with transformative intercultural biblical research in a post-apartheid South African context. Jonker uses his experiences as biblical scholar and former full-time minister of a congregation to shape his research, exploring questions from the pew such as: “Why does the church tell us now on account of the Bible that apartheid was a sin, when the church formerly—on account of the same Bible—justified the political system of apartheid theologically?” Passionate about both academic rigor and building bridges, Jonker helps bridge the gap between academic and lay interpretations of the Bible, grapples with the effects of sociopolitical change on congregations, and offers hope for transformation through intercultural Bible study and research.

Intercultural Reading of John 10:1–21: The Shepherd–Sheep Metaphor as a Leadership–Followership Model

Eric Nii Bortey Anum and Ebenezer Quaye
Intercultural Biblical Hermeneutics
Series 4
ISBN: 0-936273-83-6
Foundation Dom Hélder Câmara Chair, VU University Amsterdam; published in collaboration with Institute of Mennonite Studies
2016 • $15.00 • 82 pages
bookstore@ambs.edu • https://ambs.populiweb.com/router/bookstore/items/155161/show

This monograph documents the life-changing impact of intercultural Bible study on two Ghanaian groups who exchange their understandings, observations, questions, and learnings about Jesus’s leadership–followership model in the John 10:1–21 shepherd–sheep text. One group is from a small, rural town (members of an African Instituted Church), and the other is from a large university setting (members of a Seventh-day Adventist church). They find themselves so challenged and inspired by each other’s readings that they elect to continue studying Scripture together after the project’s end. The authors also find themselves being transformed through the process, with hope that this Bible study exchange and others like it will help develop Ghanaian leaders who focus on humility, selfless service, and sacrificial leadership rather than status and personal power.

Eric Anum is a pastor in the Presbyterian Church and a lecturer at the University of Cape Coast (Ghana). He received an MA and PhD from the University of Glasgow, where he focused on the place of culture in biblical interpretation in Africa. Ebenezer Quaye is a pastor in the Seventh-day Adventist church and a lecturer at Valley View University in Oyibi, Ghana. In his MA studies at the University of Cape Coast, he focused on leadership in the Gospels.
This book documents an unprecedented study centered on the story of the encounter of Jesus with a Samaritan woman. The study involved a unique partnership of committed ordinary readers, teachers and other pastoral leaders, and Bible and theology scholars, representing many countries in five continents. Readers will find in this volume a testimony to the fascinating nature of intercultural Bible reading and its potential contribution to the life of faith communities and to the work of church agencies and scholars. The editors present this effort as an invitation to further reflection, dialogue, and collaboration.

“Quietly, almost imperceptibly, biblical study has been undergoing a Copernican revolution. Much of the impetus comes from the Southern hemisphere, but Eurocentric methods are also undergoing change. People are recovering the Bible’s capacity to act as a catalyst for self-criticism and transformation. They are learning to read scripture from multicultural perspectives, and have their own preconceptions challenged by the authenticity of the experience of others’ encounters with the text. Brilliantly conceived and painstakingly presented, this tour de force might just save biblical study from its Babylonian captivity to dogmatism and cultural isolation.”

—Walter Wink
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Institute of Mennonite Studies at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary foments scholarship for the church: research and writing that serve the church’s perennial need for bold and rigorous reflection scripture, theology, history, and mission. Our publications and events help orient Christian leaders to God’s reconciling mission in the world. — Jamie Pitts, Director of Institute of Mennonite Studies