

# ANDREW BRUBACHER KAETHLER, PH.D.

*Assistant Professor of Faith Formation and Culture*  
Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

## CONTACT & PERSONAL INFORMATION

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Andrew Scott Brubacher Kaethler  
115 Myrtle St., Elkhart, IN 46514  
(574) 389-0810 (cell)  
(574) 296-6284 (office)  
andybk@ambs.edu

Birth: January 29, 1968, Kitchener, ON, Canada  
Marital Status: Married to Elise Brubacher Kaethler  
Church Member: Belmont Mennonite Church, Elkhart, IN  
Ordained: April 19, 1998

## EDUCATION

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Ph.D., Theology and Ethics, 2013  
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL  
Dissertation Title: The Unruliness of Language: Language, Methodology, and  
Epistemology in the Thought of John Howard Yoder

M.A., Theology, 1999  
University of St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada  
Thesis Title: Christology in African Independent Churches: Theological  
Reflections in Mennonite Missions Perspective

B.A., (Honours), Religious Studies Major, Peace and Conflict Studies Minor, 1993  
University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Canada

B.Th., 1990  
Canadian Mennonite Bible College, Winnipeg, MB, Canada

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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2003–present, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN  
Assistant Professor of Faith Formation and Culture (2012–present)  
Instructor, Faith Formation and Culture (2003–2012)  
Director, !Explore: A Theological Program for High School Youth (2003–present)  
Director, Center for Faith Formation and Culture (2012–present)

2000–2003, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, Kitchener, ON, Canada  
Conference Youth Minister

1993 –2000, Bethany Mennonite Church, Virgil, ON, Canada

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Associate Pastor

#### **ACADEMIC SERVICE (SELECTED)**

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Member, MA Program Review Committee, AMBS (2009)  
Member, *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* Editorial Committee, (2012–present)  
Participant, Lilly Youth and Theology Network, (2013–present)  
Coordinator, Church and Ministry Department, AMBS, (2014–present)  
Director, Center for Faith Formation and Culture, AMBS (2014–present)  
Member, Curriculum Committee, AMBS, (2014–present)  
Member, Institute of Mennonite Studies Executive Committee, (2014–present)  
Member, MACF Program Revision, (2014)  
Member, Intercultural Competence and Undoing Racism (ICUR) Committee, AMBS, (2015–present)  
Member, Spiritual Formation Goals and Assessment Revision, AMBS, (2015–2016)  
Member, Chaplaincy Program Development, (2016–2017)

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

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##### **Books:**

*Youth Ministry at a Crossroads: Tending to the Faith Formation of Mennonite Youth.*  
Edited with Bob Yoder. Harrisonburg, VA: Herald Press; co-published with  
Institute of Mennonite Studies, Elkhart, IN, 2011.

##### **Essays:**

“Daily Office as Peace Education” *Peace Education and Youth Ministry*, forthcoming.

“Getting All Turned Around: Truth, Disruption, and Reorientation in High School Theology Programs.” In *How Youth Ministry Can Change Theological Education—If We Let It: Reflections from the Lilly Endowment’s High School Theology Program Seminar*, edited by Dean, Kenda Creasy and Lilly Endowment’s High School Theology Program Seminar, 139–153. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2016.

Response in chapter, “Catechesis and Baptism.” In *Forming Christian Habits in Post-Christendom: The Legacy of Alan and Eleanor Kreider*, edited by James R. Krabill and Stuart Murray, 111–113. Harrisonburg, VA: Herald Press; co-published with Institute of Mennonite Studies, Elkhart, IN, 2011.

“The Practice of Reading the Other: John Howard Yoder’s Critical and Caricatured Portrayal of Scholasticism.” In *Power and Practices: Engaging the Work of John Howard Yoder*, edited by Jeremy M. Bergen and Anthony G. Siegrist, 47–64. Waterloo, ON: Herald Press, 2009.

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***Journal and Magazine Articles:***

- “Editorial.” *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* 16:2 (Fall 2015): 3–5.
- “The Good News is Embodied: A Sermon on Creation, Incarnation, and Technology.” *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* 16:2 (Fall 2015): 84–91.
- “Is Technology Enriching our Worship?” *Canadian Mennonite* (February 6, 2012): 4–7.
- “Becoming Adult, Being Sexual: Finding Intimacy on the Long Road to Adulthood.” *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* 9:2 (Fall 2009): 41–50.
- “The Millennial Pastors are Coming!” With Janeen Bertsche Johnson. *Canadian Mennonite* (March 30, 2009): 13.
- “Wired Youth: Helping Young People Use Technology Wisely.” *Leader: Equipping the Missional Congregation*. (Winter 2008–2009): 2–4.
- “Toward an Adolescent Hermeneutic.” *Journal of Youth and Theology* 5:1 (April 2006): 32–51.
- “Passionate Leadership.” *Leader: Equipping the Missional Congregation*. (Winter 2004–2005): 22.

***Reference Contributions:***

- “Spiritual Healing Church (Botswana).” *Religions of the World: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Beliefs and Practices*, Vol. 4, edited by J. Gordon Melton and Martin Baumann, 1211–1212. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC Clío, 2002.
- “Church of Moshoeshoe (Lesotho),” *Religions of the World*, Vol. 1. 325–326.

***Book Reviews:***

- Andrew Root, *Bonhoeffer as Youth Worker: A Theological Vision for Discipleship and Life Together* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014). Reviewed in *The Journal of Youth Ministry* 14:1 (Fall 2015): 131–133.
- Ted Grimsrud, *Theology as if Jesus Matters* (Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House, 2009). Reviewed in *Mennonite Quarterly Review* 85:3 (July 2011): 528–530.
- Brian Mahan, Michael Warren and David F. White, *Awakening Youth Discipleship: Christian Resistance in a Consumer Culture* (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2008). Reviewed in *Conrad Grebel Review* 28:1 (Winter 2010): 90–92.

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Peter Dula and Chris K. Huebner, eds., *The New Yoder* (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2010). Reviewed in *Conrad Grebel Review* 29:2 (Spring 2011): 102–104.

Gerke van Hiele et. al., *Encountering the Eternal One: A Guide for Mennonite Churches* (Kitchener, ON: Pandora Press, 2006). Reviewed in *Mennonite Quarterly Review* 82:2 (July 2011): 341–344.

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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##### **Current Classes:**

Faith Formation and Spirituality: Youth and Young Adults (biennial, 2005–present)  
Philosophical Theology (biennial, 2008–present)  
Cultural Hermeneutics (annual, 2009–present)  
Human Development and Christian Formation (annual, 2009–present)  
Spiritual Practices: Intentional Living in an Age of Diversions (biennial, 2013–present)  
Capstone Ministry Assessment Seminar (annual, 2014–present)  
Leadership and Education in Anabaptist Perspective (LEAP), group leader (2014–present)  
Faith Formation and Spirituality: Adults and Seniors (biennial, 2015–present)

##### **Occasional, Old, and non-AMBS Classes:**

Paradigms of Congregation Youth Ministry (June 2004)  
Principles of Youth Ministry (biennial, 2004–2010)  
Supervised Practicum in Youth Ministry (2004–2011)  
Christian Practices in a Technological Culture (2007, 2009 [at WCMS], 2014, 2015)  
Adolescence, Technology and Cultural Formation (January 2008 at Great Plains, March 2008 at Conrad Grebel University College)  
Christian Formation Seminar (2009)  
Ministry in Church and World (2009–2011)  
Missional Church in Global Context (2009)  
Faith Formation and Vocational Discernment with !Explore Youth (occasional, 2010–present)

##### **Colloquia:**

New Approaches and Resources (Spring 2004)  
Postmodern Youth Ministry (Spring 2006)  
Young Adults and New Monasticism (Fall 2008)

##### **Independent Studies (Directed) and Theses (Directed and Read):**

Phenomenology, Remythologization, Agrarian Politics, Mission and Atonement,  
Socio-economic of GMOs, Ministry and Mission Experience, Popular Culture and

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Youth, Risky Behaviors of Adolescents, Theology and Philosophy of Language,  
Faith Formation in Mennonite Secondary Schools, Identity Formation of Youth  
Pastors, Youth and Technology, Ministry with Youth with Disabilities

#### **CONSTITUENCY SERVICE (SELECTED)**

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##### **Sermons**

- “How Do I Become a Disciple?” Belmont Neighborhood Fellowship, Elkhart, IN, March 12, 2017.
- “Two-Eyed Prophets of Technology,” Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton, KS, June 14, 2015.
- “Is Technology Good News?” First Mennonite Church, Iowa City, IA, January 25, 2015.
- “Formation for Patience, Imagination and Worship,” Faith Mennonite Church, Leamington, ON, October 5, 2014.

##### **Addresses**

- “Claiming, Aiming and Framing: The Ecology of Faith Formation,” Keynote Address at Western District Conference’s Anabaptist Faith Formation Network Launch, North Newton, KS, June 12–13, 2015.
- “The Hermeneutics of Sight: Why seeing (with) Jesus requires reading culture.” Pastors Week, AMBS, January 28, 2014.
- “Managers or Meaning Makers? Two-Eyed Anabaptists in a Technological Culture,” Address, Anabaptist Communicators, Goshen, IN, October 22–23, 2010.
- “Theological Reflections on Technology,” Oaklawn Pastors Series, Goshen, IN, May 20, 2010.

##### **Teaching and Workshops**

- “Spiritual Formation of Young People,” Teaching Session, Transition into Ministry, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, March 27, 2017.
- “How Do You Meet God? Head, Heart, Hand, and Hemoglobin [what??!],” Three Resource Sessions for Mennonite Church Eastern Canada Youth Retreat, February 3–5, 2017.
- “I See You Are (ICUR): Building Intercultural Competence and Undoing Racism at AMBS,” Pastors Week workshop, AMBS, January 24, 25, 2017.
- “Bodies, Formation and Technology,” Workshop, Deep Faith Conference, October 7, 2016.
- “Children, Development and Spirituality,” with Michael Unruh, Staff Training, Camp Friedenswald, June 9, 2016.
- “What is Culture? What Culture(s) Are We In? How is Culture Changing?” (Session I), “Christ and Culture, Church and Culture, Walnut Hill and Goshen” (Session II), “Formed in Perichoretic Oneness” (Sermon), Walnut Hill Mennonite Church Annual Retreat, October 24, 25, 2015.

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- “Technology, Social Media, and Anabaptist Faith Formation,” Workshop at Western District Conference’s Anabaptist Faith Formation Network launch, June 12–13, 2015.
- “(What) Would Jesus Tweet?: Following Jesus in an Age of Digital Distractions,” three sessions and a sermon, Paoli Mennonite Church Annual Retreat, February 6, 7, 2015.
- “Ministering to Young People in a Technological Culture,” Webinar, Church Leadership Center, AMBS, March 8, 2011.
- “Faith Formation and the Millennial Generation,” Rockway Mennonite Collegiate Professional Development Day, February 27, 2009.
- “Seven Principles of Youth Ministry,” Canadian Mennonite University, November 4, 2007.
- Mennonite Church USA biennial convention workshops: Millennial Pastors (2011), Faith Formation in a Media Culture (2011), Readiness for Baptism (2007), Is God Calling Me to be a Pastor (2007), Pastors Week Workshops, AMBS: Rituals and Adolescent Formation (2009), Testimony in Postmodernity (2008), Youth, Media Culture and Anabaptist (Re)Scripting (2007), Growing Leaders (2004)

#### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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Anabaptist-Mennonite Scholars Network  
Association of Youth Ministry Educators  
Ellul Society

#### **COMMITTEES AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR (SELECTED)**

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International Trip Leader, Youth and Young Adults Attending Mennonite World Conference (India 1997, Zimbabwe 2003, Paraguay 2009)

Youth Ministry Council, Mennonite Church USA and Canada (irregular, 2000–present)

North American Representative, Global Youth Summit, Mennonite World Conference (2001–2003)

Lead It (Culture of Call Committee), Mennonite Church USA (2004–2006)

Teacher, Jr. Youth, Youth, and Adult Sunday School, Belmont Mennonite Church (2005–present)

Organizer (with Bob Yoder) and Host, Youth Ministry Symposium, AMBS, March 22–24, 2006

Christian Formation Commission, Belmont Mennonite Church (2009–2016)

Mennonite Co-Op Bookstore Committee (2013–2015)

Bethany Christian School Search Committee for Head of Schools (2014)

Rooted and Grounded Conference, Organizing Member, September 18–20, 2014

Rooted and Grounded Conference, Organizing Member, October 1–3, 2015

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Deep Faith Conference, Organizer and Host, October 6–8, 2016

#### **INTERESTS**

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##### ***Academic:***

Critical Theory (Adorno, Debord, Habermas)  
Early Modern theology, culture, economics, politics, science (Bacon, Descartes, Locke)  
Hermeneutics (Gadamer, Heidegger, Ricoeur, Levinas, Kristeva)  
Medieval history, theology, culture, economics, politics, (Aquinas, Ockham, Scotus)  
Narrative identity formation (Erikson, McAdams, Ricoeur)  
Philosophy of Technology (Borgman, Ellul, Grant, McLuhan, Postmann)  
Postcolonial Theology (Musimbi Kanyoro, Kwok Pui-Lan, Mercy Amba Oduyoye)  
Postmodern Philosophy (Badiou, Derrida, Foucault, Nietzsche)  
Psychoanalysis (Kristeva, Lacan, Žižek)  
Radical Orthodoxy (Cavanaugh, Long, Milbank, Pickstock, Ward)

##### ***Recreational:***

Camping, gardening, reading, canoeing, biking, hiking, traveling, cooking.

#### **OTHER EXPERIENCES**

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My identity as a Christian person has been profoundly shaped by experiences growing up in Bangladesh and Ghana, where my parents worked with Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), as well as when traveling as an adult in India, Israel/Palestine, Paraguay, Nepal and Zimbabwe. I have led groups of youth and young adults to Mennonite World Conference gatherings in India (1997), Zimbabwe (2003), and Paraguay (2009). These experiences have shaped my understanding of the connections between Creator, creation and creatures, my appreciation for the global nature and diversity of the church, and the role that culture plays in shaping personal and religious identity.