

Curriculum Vitae

Drew J. Strait

Associate Professor of New Testament and Public Faith

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

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1. Education

Ph.D. University of Pretoria, South Africa, 2015

A.M.R.S. University of Chicago Divinity School, 2013

M. Arts Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, 2009

B. Arts Whitworth University, 2004

Field of Study: Religion, minors in Philosophy, Greek, and Hebrew

2. Awards and Honors

Dunning Distinguished Faculty Lecturer for Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship, St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute (2017–18)

Full-Tuition Doctoral Bursary, University of Pretoria (2012–2014)

Theologian in Residence Fellowship, University of Chicago Divinity School (2009–2010)

Congregational Fellowship, The Fund for Theological Education (grant matched by the Mennonite Church USA), University of Chicago Divinity School (2009–2010)

Shepherd Scholarship, ESTARL, University of Chicago Divinity School (2009–2010)

Norman Perrin Travel Award, University of Chicago (2010)

Dean's Scholarship, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (2007–2008)

Leadership Scholarship, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (2007–2008)

Zondervan Greek Scholar's Award for "Recognition of Outstanding Achievement in the Area of Greek Studies," Whitworth University (2004)

3. Academic Appointments

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, IN

Associate Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins, (2018–present; tenured, 2023)

St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute, Baltimore, MD

Professor of Biblical Studies (part-time), 2013–2018

Northern Seminary, Chicago, IL

Adjunct Lecturer in New Testament, 2013–2015

North Park Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL

Adjunct Lecturer in New Testament, 2011–2017

North Park University, Chicago, IL

Adjunct Lecturer in Biblical & Theological Studies, Fall 2011 to Spring 2013

Vocational School – Niños de las Naciones, Dominican Republic

Instructor of New Testament, 2004–2006

4. Scholarly and Professional Activities

Conference co-organizer “Signs of the Times: Interdisciplinary Responses to Religious Nationalism” (with Margaret Pheil, David Clairmont, and Janna Hunter-Bowman), The University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN (March 20–22, 2025). For conference summaries, see the reporting in [“Word and Way”](#) and [“Anabaptist World.”](#)

Editor for New Testament (with Jackie Wyse Rhodes and Laura Brenneman-Fullwood), *Studies in Peace and Scripture*, Institute of Mennonite Studies (2023–present)

Steering Committee, Society of Biblical Literature (SBL), “Book of Acts” (2019–present)

Co-Chair (with Brittany Wilson), SBL, “Book of Acts” (2023–present)

Steering Committee, SBL “Jesus, the Gospels, and Negotiating the Roman Imperial World” (2022–present)

Editor for New Testament, *Currents in Biblical Research* (2015–2022)

Theologian in Residence, University of Chicago’s “Border Crossing Project” (2009–2010)

Project Title: “Empowering the Weak: Christian Navigation of Urban Violence”

5. Supervisorships

MA Thesis Supervisor:

Brian Gorman, *Hosting the Host: The Guest-Host Paradigm as a Framework for Participatory Soteriology in Luke*, St. Mary’s Ecumenical Institute, 2020.

Luke Eshelman, *Divine Power and the Essence-Energies Distinction: ΔΥΝΑΜΙΣ, Participation, and Theosis in Luke-Acts and St. Gregory Palamas*, St. Mary’s Ecumenical Institute, 2024.

6. Academic Memberships

Society of Biblical Literature

Political Theology Network

Anabaptist-Mennonite Scholars Network

New Testament Society of Southern Africa

7. Books Published

Hidden Criticism of the Angry Tyrant in Early Judaism and the Acts of the Apostles. Lexington/Fortress Press Academic, 2019.

Reviews: Journal for the Study of the New Testament, Review of Biblical Literature, Catholic Biblical Quarterly, The Journal of Theological Studies

Strange Worship: Six Steps for Challenging Christian Nationalism. Cascade Books, 2024.

Reviews: [A Church Called Tov](#), [Mennonite Life](#), [Anabaptist World](#)

Podcasts: [Kingdom Roots](#), [The Indoubt Show](#), [Disarming Leviathan](#), [Dangerous Dogma](#)

Spanish Translation: *Adoración ajena: Seis pasos para enfrentar al nacionalismo cristiano*. Cascade Books, forthcoming 2026.

8. Edited Volumes

- Cruciform Scripture: Cross, Participation, and Mission* (A *Festschrift* for Prof. Michael J. Gorman), edited by Christopher W. Skinner, Nijay K. Gupta, Andy Johnson, and Drew J. Strait. Eerdmans, 2020.
- Living the King Jesus Gospel: Discipleship and Ministry Then and Now* (A *Festschrift* for Prof. Scot McKnight), edited by Nijay K. Gupta, Tara Beth Leach, Matthew W. Bates, and Drew J. Strait. Wipf and Stock, 2021.

9. Peer-Reviewed Articles

- "MAGA Hermeneutics: How Christian Dominionism Radicalizes Ordinary Americans." *Journal for Peace and Justice Studies*. In production, 2026.
- "Resisting Trump's Fascist Politics of Human Animalization: The Canaanite Woman, Jesus, and Gentile 'Dogs' as a Paradigm." *Biblical Theology Bulletin*. In production, 2025.
- "What is Christian Nationalism and Why is It a Problem?" *Brethren in Christ History and Life* 46, no. 1 (2023): 37–56.
- "A Pastoral Approach to Resisting Christian Nationalism's Influence in the Local Congregation." *Brethren in Christ History and Life* 46, no. 1 (2023): 57–81.
- "Political Idolatry and White Christian Nationalism: Toward a Pastoral Hermeneutic of Resistance." *Mennonite Quarterly Review* 96 (2022): 1–27.
- "The Wisdom of Solomon, Ruler Cults, and Paul's Polemic against Idols in the Areopagus Speech." *Journal of Biblical Literature* 136, no. 3 (2017): 609–32.

10. Chapters/Entries in Edited Volumes

- "Dominionism in the Trumpocene: Toward a Biblical Hermeneutic of Resistance." In *On Christian Nationalism: Critical and Theological Perspectives*, edited by Joan Braune and David M. Gides. Routledge Studies in Fascism and the Far Right, projected 2025.
- "The Acts of the Apostles." In *The Anabaptist Community Bible*. MennoMedia, 2025.
- "Peace, Reconciliation." In *The Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*, 2nd Edition. IVP Academic, 2023.
- "Idols, Idolatry." In *The Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*, 2nd Edition. IVP Academic, 2023.
- "From Salvation Culture to Peace Culture: Luke's Gospeling of Christ's Peace." In *Living the King Jesus Gospel: Discipleship and Ministry Then and Now*, edited by Nijay K. Gupta, Tara Beth Leach, Matthew W. Bates, and Drew J. Strait. Wipf and Stock, 2021.
- "An Alternative Global Imaginary: Imperial Rome's *Pax Romana* and Luke's 'Counter-Violent' *Missio Dei*." In *Cruciform Scripture: Cross, Participation, and Mission*, edited by Christopher W. Skinner, Nijay K. Gupta, Andy Johnson, and Drew J. Strait. Eerdmans, 2020.
- "The Gospel of Luke." In *The Face of New Testament Studies: Revised Edition*, edited by Scot McKnight and Nijay Gupta. Baker Academic, 2018.
- "Proclaiming Another King Named Jesus? The Acts of the Apostles and the Roman Imperial Cult(s)." In *Jesus Is Lord, Caesar Is Not*, edited by Scot McKnight and Joseph B. Modica. IVP Academic, 2013.
- "Parable of the Rich Fool." In *The Dictionary of the Bible and Western Culture*, edited by M. Gilmour and M.A. Beavis. Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2012.
- "Trials and Tribulations." In *The Dictionary of the Bible and Western Culture*, edited by M. Gilmour and M.A. Beavis. Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2012.

11. Book Reviews

- Review of Greg Carey, *Death, The End of History, and Beyond: Eschatology in the Bible*. Westminster John Knox Press, 2023. In *Review of Biblical Literature*. June, 2025.
- Review of D. Clint Burnett, *Christ's Enthronement at God's Right Hand and Its Greco-Roman Cultural Context*. Walter de Gruyter, 2021. In *Bulletin for Biblical Research*, 33, no. 3 (2023): 242–46.
- Review of Eric C. Moore, *Claiming Places: Readings Acts through the Lens of Ancient Colonization*. Mohr Siebeck, 2020. In *Review of Biblical Literature*. October, 2022.
- Review of N. T. Wright and Michael F. Bird, *The New Testament In Its World: An Introduction to the History, Literature, and Theology of the First Christians*. Zondervan, 2019. In *Interpretation: A Journal of Bible and Theology*, 76, no. 1 (2022): 78–79.
- Review of Christopher Stroup, *The Christians Who Became Jews: Acts of the Apostles and Ethnicity in the Roman City*. Yale University Press, 2020. In *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations*, 16, no. 1 (2021): 1–4.
- Review of Matthew Thiessen, *Jesus and the Forces of Death: The Gospels' Portrayal of Ritual Impurity within First-Century Judaism*. Baker Academic, 2020. In *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* 22, no. 1 (2021): 92–94.
- Review of Joshua W. Jipp, *Christ is King: Paul's Royal Ideology*. Fortress, 2015. In Scot McKnight's [Jesus Creed blog](#), 2016.
- Review of Anthea Portier-Young, *Apocalypse Against Empire: Theologies of Resistance in Early Judaism*. Eerdmans, 2011. In Scot McKnight's [Jesus Creed blog](#), 2012.
- Review of Michael Bird, *Are You the One Who is To Come? The Historical Jesus and the Messianic Question*. Baker, 2009. In *Stone Campbell Journal* 14, no. 1 (2011): 133–35.
- Review of Graham H. Twelftree, *People of the Spirit: Exploring Luke's View of the Church*. Baker, 2009. In *Stone Campbell Journal* 14, no. 1 (2011): 142–44.

12. Popular Level Writing

- (with Jonathan Brenneman) *Institute for the Study of Christian Zionism*. "Israel Ally Mike Huckabee Reveals Christian Supremacism." Last modified July, 2025. (link [here](#))
- A Public Witness, Word&Way*. "How to Challenge MAGA's Biblical Authoritarianism." Last modified June 2, 2025. (link [here](#))
- Political Theology Network. "The Woman Who Changed Jesus' Mind About Dehumanizing Immigrants." February, 2025. (link [here](#))
- Anabaptist World*. "False Power Gospel" (An interview about *Strange Worship: Six Steps for Challenging Christian Nationalism*). Last modified October 4, 2024. (link [here](#))
- Political Theology Network. "Christian Nationalism's Superstition Problem." Last modified October 16, 2023. (link [here](#))
- Mennonite Church USA. "#NeverForget: Christian Nationalism, 9/11 and the War on Terror." Cost of War: Learn, Pray, Join Initiative. Last modified September 9, 2022. (link [here](#))
- Sojourners*. "Our Moral Pandemic: Christian Nationalism and Political Idolatry." Last modified May 9, 2022. (link [here](#))
- Mennonite Church USA. "The Bible and Christian Nationalism." *#BringthePeace* Blog Series. June 30, 2021. (link [here](#))
- Made for Pax*. "The Myth of Redemptive Violence." 2021. (link [here](#))

Review of *Taking America Back for God: Christian Nationalism in the United States*, by Andrew L. Whitehead and Samuel L. Perry. Oxford University Press, 2020. Scot McKnight's Jesus Creed blog hosted by Christianity Today, 2020.

(with David C. Cramer) "A Total Way of Life: Our Journeys from Evangelicalism to Anabaptism." *The Mennonite*, August 2020. (link [here](#))

"(Dis)arming the Disciples: Jesus's View on Sword Control in Luke 22." Scot McKnight's Jesus Creed blog, 2012. (link [here](#))

13. Public Facing Presentations on Christian Nationalism (see updated speaking schedule [here](#))

Summit on Challenging Christian Nationalism, Boise, ID | "How to Challenge Christian Nationalism: Building Peace in an Age of Christian Extremism" | November 7–9

Lombard Mennonite Church, Chicago, IL | Anabaptism at 500: Why the Church Matters for Challenging Christian Nationalism | October 11, 2025

New Community Church, Spokane, WA | Resisting Christian Power Worship with the God Who Serves | October 5, 2025

MC USA Annual Convention, Greensboro, NC | "What Does White Christian Nationalism Have to Do with Christian Zionism? It Turns Out, A Lot" (with Jonathan Brenneman) and "Why the Bible Matters for Challenging Christian Nationalism" | July 9–12, 2025

Lifelong Learning Institute of Elkhart County | Lectures Series on Christian Nationalism | May 5, 7, 12, 14, 2025

Mountain Lake Congregations' Retreat on Christian Nationalism, Mountain Lake, MN | January 31 - February 2, 2025

American Mexican Association | "Christian Nationalism: A Threat to the Latino community?" (with Dr. Crystal Silva-McCormick) | November 19, 2024

North Park Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL | Public Theology Webinar, "Political *and* Hospitable: Engaging Neighbors" (with Dr. Sophia Magallenes) | October 23, 2024

Kern Road Mennonite Church, South Bend, IN | "How to Challenge Christian Nationalism." A [public lecture](#) at Kern Road Mennonite Church | October, 2024

Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community, Harrisonburg, VA | "What is White Christian Nationalism?" | September 9–11, 2024

University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN | "What is White Christian Nationalism?" Invited lecture in Prof. Lisa Schirch's seminar on violent extremism | April 12, 2023

Messiah University, Mechanicsburg, PA | "Confronting Christian Nationalism in Our Churches" | Keynote Speaker, Brethren in Christ Study Conference, sponsored by the Sider Institute | November 2022

Goshen College, Goshen, IN | "Disputing Christian Nationalism with the God Who Serves." | Sermon + Lecture | October, 2022

Meserete Kristos Church Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | "Political Idolatry and Power Worship: Ethnic Reasoning and the Gospel of Peace in Luke-Acts" | July, 2022

Church Leadership Center, AMBS | "Political Idolatry: Countering Christian Nationalism" | May 4 and June 5, 2022. Recording [here](#)

Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA | "The Bible and Christian Nationalism," | March, 2022

Atlantic Coast Conference Fall Assembly, Mennonite Church USA, Lancaster, PA | “The Bible and Christian Nationalism: Faithful Leadership in a World of Political Idolatry” | October, 2021

14. Academic Presentations

“Homiletic Innuendo: How to Challenge White Christian Nationalism from the Pulpit.” Homiletics and Biblical Studies Group, National Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, MA (2025).

“The Bible and Human Security: Why Biblical Interpretation Matters for Challenging Christian Nationalism” (Keynote talk—with responses from Kristin Kobes Du Mez and Matthew Taylor). [Signs of the Times: Interdisciplinary Responses to Religious Nationalism](#), The University of Notre Dame, March 21, 2025.

“Dominionism in the Trumpocene: Toward a Hermeneutic of Resistance.” Reading the Bible Contextually, National Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, TX (2023).

“The Centurion's Confession in a Neglected Key: Luke 23:47 and Hellenistic Kingship Discourse.” Gospel of Luke, National Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, TX, 2021 (Cancelled due to COVID and paternity leave).

“An Alternative Global Imaginary: Imperial Rome’s *Pax Romana* and Luke’s ‘Counter-Violent’ *Missio Dei*.” A public lecture at St. Mary’s Ecumenical Institute to honor the life and scholarship of Dr. Michael J. Gorman (2020).

“Hidden What? The Arts of Discursive Resistance in Hellenistic Judaism and the Acts of the Apostles.” Christianity and Judaism in Antiquity Colloquium. University of Notre Dame Theology Department, South Bend, IN (2019).

“An Introduction to Codex Sinaiticus.” Lunch and Learn Lecture Series. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (2019).

“Countering the Cosmology of Empire: The Law of the King, Imperial Apotheosis and the Ascension of Jesus in Acts 1:9–11.” Book of Acts, National Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, TX (2016).

“The Critique of Iconic Spectacle in Hellenistic Judaism and Paul's Speech on the Areopagus.” Acts 17 and Contextual Issues Conference, University of Pretoria, South Africa (2015).

“Of Gods and Kings: Early Judaism, Ruler Cults and Paul's Polemic Against Sebasmata in Acts 17:23.” Emerging Scholarship on the New Testament Group, Institute of Biblical Research, National Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, California (2014).

“Gold, Silver and Stone What? Hellenistic Aniconicism and the Idolatry of Ruler Cult(s) in the Wisdom of Solomon and Acts 17:29.” Formation of Luke-Acts Group, National Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Baltimore, Maryland (2013).

“Pseudo-Solomon's Polemic Against Imperial Cult Media and Paul's Speech on the Areopagus.” Early Christian Studies Workshop, University of Chicago Divinity School, Chicago, IL (2013).

“What Does Africa Have To Do With Athens? The Rosetta Stone and the Roman Imperial Cult(s) in the Greek East.” New Testament and Early Christianity Colloquium, University of Pretoria, South Africa (2013).

“Lady Wisdom's Advice to Ruler Cult: An Evaluation of Pseudo-Solomon's Literary Paragon of the Ideal Ruler.” Apocrypha and Cognate Literature Group, Midwest Region of the Society of Biblical Literature, Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, Illinois (2013).

“The Rhetoric of Empire in the Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha.” New Testament and Early Christianity Colloquium, University of Pretoria, South Africa (2011).

"Luke's Sermon on the Plain and the Restoration of Israel: Luke 6:12-20 as Prolegomenon." Midwest Region of the Society of Biblical Literature, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso IN (2010).

15. Ministry Experience

Board Member, Peace Catalyst International (2024–present)

Jr. High Sunday School teacher, Kern Road Mennonite Church, South Bend, IN (2024-present)

Ministerial Committee, Central District Conference. Mennonite Church USA (2022)

Elder, Peace Fellowship Church, Washington D.C. (2015–2018)

Interim Pastor of Community Formation, Living Water Community Church, Chicago, IL. Mennonite Church USA (2009–2012)

Board Member, Krochet Kids International, (2008–2015)

Exodus World Service, Refugee Resettlement, Chicago, IL (volunteer, 2006–2012)

Full-Time Relief Worker, Children of the Nations (COTN), Dominican Republic (2004–2006)

Young Life, Student Staff, Whitworth University (2001–2004)

Lily Grant Summer Assistant Pastor, Lidgerwood Presbyterian Church, (2003)

Volunteer Youth Leader, Covenant United Methodist Church (1997–1999)

16. Courses Taught

Biblical Foundations for Peace and Justice

Public Faith and Christian Nationalism

Challenging Christian Nationalism (a six week online short course)

MATGA Capstone: What is the Gospel of Peace in An Age of Polarization and Violent Extremism?

Anabaptist Approaches to Reading Scripture

The Gospel of Mark

Luke-Acts: Gospeling Peace Amid Empire

Apocalypse Against Empire: The Book of Revelation

The Epistle to the Romans

From Daniel to Jesus: Early Judaism in the Second Temple Period

Introduction to the Bible (undergraduate)

Introduction to Bible Study Tools

Orientation to Biblical Studies

The New Testament and Its Contexts

Jesus and the Gospels

Paul's Letters and Acts

Letters to the Early Churches

Introduction to Greek

Seminar in Biblical Studies: Luke-Acts and the Roman Imperial Order (Greek based)

Greek Exegesis: Philippians

Greek Exegesis: Sermon on the Mount

17. References

Dr. Greg Carey, Professor of New Testament, Lancaster Theological Seminary.

Email: careyg02@moravian.edu

Dr. Beverly Lapp, Vice President and Academic Dean, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary.

Email: bklapp@ambs.edu

Dr. Michael Gorman, Raymond E. Brown Prof. of Biblical Studies, St. Mary's Seminary and University.

Email: MGorman@stmarys.edu

Rev. Kristin Jackson, Pastor of Living Water Community Church, Chicago, IL.

Email: kristinloeksjackson@gmail.com

Dr. Scot McKnight, Professor of New Testament.

Email: scotandkris@gmail.com

Dr. David Moessner, A.A. Bradford Chair in the Religion Department, Texas Christian University.

Email: d.moessner@tcu.edu