

MSF Past Forums

2023 – San Antonio, TX

Theme: *Women Talking*: Exploring the Theo-ethical, Literary, and Cultural Dimensions of Miriam Toews's Novel and the 2022 Film Adaptation

- Kimberly L. Penner, St. Stephen's College, University of Alberta; Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church, presiding
- Grace Kehler, McMaster University, "Love & Anger: Toews and Polley on Pacificism"
- Maxwell Kennel, Centre for Social Accountability, NOSM University, "Transgression and Accountability: Boundaries and Violence in Miriam Toews' *Women Talking* and Jenny Hval's *Girls Against God*"
- Susanne Guenther Loewen, St. Thomas More College, University of Saskatchewan, "Breaking the Silences: A Theo-Ethics of Survival and Healing from Sexual Violence in the Novels of Rudy Wiebe and Miriam Toews"

2022 – Denver, CO

Theme: Interculturality

- Jamie Pitts, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, presiding
- Safwat Marzouk, Union Presbyterian Seminary, "Intercultural Worship and Decolonialization: Insights from the Book of Psalms"
- Sunder John Boopalan, Canadian Mennonite University, responding
- Rebecca Janzen, University of South Carolina, responding
- Hyung Jin (Pablo) Kim Sun, Christian Reformed Church in North America, responding
- Deanna Zantingh, University of St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, responding

2021 – Online/San Antonio

Theme: Women, Liberation, and the Bible

- Nancy Heisey, Eastern Mennonite University, presiding
- Benjamin Bixler, Drew Theological School, "Luke's Use of the Samuel Narrative: Disrupting Male Homosocial Spaces"
- Nathan Hershberger, Duke University, "Healing the Wounds of Scripture: Anna Jansz and Biblical Apocalypticism"
- Jackie Wyse-Rhodes, Bluffton University, "Eglon's Fatness: An Experiment in Ethical Interpretation"

- Noemi Vega Quiñones, Southern Methodist University, "Reclaiming Consent: A Latinx Ideological Hermeneutic on Rahab in the Wakes of #MeToo and #ChurchToo"

You can view the recording [here](#).

2020 – Online

Theme: Round table on *Recovering from the Anabaptist Vision*

- David Cramer, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, presiding
- Laura Schmidt Roberts, Fresno Pacific University, panelist
- Paul Martens, Baylor University, panelist
- Myron A. Penner, Trinity Western University, panelist
- Karl Koop, Canadian Mennonite University, panelist
- Carol Penner, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, panelist
- Stephanie Chandler Burns, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, panelist
- Melanie Kampen, Canadian Mennonite University, panelist
- Jeremy M. Bergen, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, panelist
- R. Bruce Yoder, Independent scholar, panelist
- Paul Doerksen, Canadian Mennonite University, panelist

You can view the recording [here](#).

2019 – San Diego

Theme: Migration, Borders, and Belonging

- Melanie Howard, Fresno Pacific University, presiding
- Jennifer Graber, University of Texas, "Missionary Encounters with Native Christian Epistemologies"
- Felipe Hinojosa, Texas A&M University, "Borderlands in the Mennonite Imagination"
- Joseph Wiebe, University of Alberta, Augustana, "Race, Religion, and Land in The Gods of Indian Country"
- Hyejung Jessie Yum, University of Toronto, "A Postcolonial Response to Felipe Hinojosa's Latino Mennonites"

Papers published in *Anabaptist Witness*, vol. 7, no. 22 (October 2020).

2018 – Denver

Theme: Mission

- Jamie Pitts, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, presiding
- Ryan R. Gladwin, Palm Beach Atlantic University, "Anabaptism as a Help and Hindrance to Latin American Protestant Theologies of Mission: Moving Towards a Trinitarian and Postcolonial Theology of Mission"
- Melanie A. Howard, Fresno Pacific University, "Peaceful Pedagogy: Paul's Areopagus Speech (Acts 17:16–34) as a Model for Education-Based Mennonite Missions"
- Joe Sawatsky, Mennonite Mission Network, "Translation, Contextualization, and North American Mennonite Mission with African Initiated Churches"
- R. Bruce Yoder, Mennonite Mission Network, "Mennonite Missionary Contributions to the Emergence of 'World Christianity' as a Field of Study"

2017 – Boston

Theme: Supersessionism

- Kimberly Penner, Emmanuel College, Toronto School of Theology, presiding
- John Kampen, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, "The Gospel of Matthew and Antisemitism"
- Maxwell Kenna, McMaster University, "Emancipatory History: Anabaptist Restitution and Jacob Taubes' Occidental Eschatology"
- Lois Barrett, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, responding

2016 – San Antonio

Theme: Responses to Willie James Jennings, *The Christian Imagination: Theology and the Origins of Race*

- Joseph R. Wiebe, University of Alberta, Augustana, presiding
- Drew Hart, Messiah College, "White Supremacy, Mennonite Ethnicity, and the Loss of Gentile Identity"
- Tobin Miller Shearer, University of Montana, "Dislocation, Relocation, Cultivation: Pedagogical Strategies for Reaching White Mennonites"
- Melanie Kampen, Emmanuel College, University of Toronto, "The Martyr's Mirror: A Mennonite Fantasy of Theocolonial Desire"
- Deanna Zantingh, Canadian Mennonite University, "Taashikaywin"
- Willie James Jennings, Yale University, responding

2015 – Atlanta

Theme: Human Being and/as Creation: Biblical, Theological, and Historical Perspectives

- Melanie Howard, Princeton Theological Seminary, presiding
- David Rensberger, independent scholar, Decatur, Georgia, “Being Human in Creation: Three Views from the Psalms”
- Justin Heinzekehr, Hesston College, “Shattering Hubmaier’s Human: Rethinking Anabaptist Freedom for an Ecological Context”
- Ry O. Siggenkow, Princeton Theological Seminary, “The Earth is a Battlefield and No One Can Remain Neutral: Theological Anthropology as Apocalyptic Cosmology”
- Laura Schmidt Roberts, Fresno Pacific University, “‘In the beginning is relation’: Re-Forming Understanding of Human Creatureliness”

2014 – San Diego

Theme: Human Sexuality and Theological Vocation in the Context of Personal, Institutional, and Ecclesial Practice

- Jamie Pitts, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, presiding
- Peter C. Blum, Hillsdale College, “Explicit Sex and Mennonite Scruples: On Normative and Descriptive Topographies of Sexuality”
- Kim Penner, Emmanuel College, Toronto School of Theology, “‘God with Skin on’: The Implications of an Embodied View of the Incarnation for Mennonite Ecclesiology and Ethics”
- Susanne Guenther Loewen, Emmanuel College, Toronto School of Theology, “Welcoming the Stranger: Toward a New Biblical-Theological Paradigm for Mennonite Dialogue on Same-Sex Marriage”
- Hilary Jerome Scarsella, Vanderbilt University, “The Lord’s Supper in Relation to Sexualized Violence: Harm and Healing throughout the Ecclesial Body”
- David C. Cramer, Baylor University, “Avoidance and Acknowledgement: Discipleship, Pain, and Healing in the Mennonite Church in the Wake of John Howard Yoder”

2013 – Baltimore

Theme: From ‘Creation Care’ to ‘Watershed Discipleship’: An Anabaptist Approach to Ecological Theology and Practice

- Laura Schmidt Roberts, Fresno Pacific University, presiding

- Ched Myers, Bartimaeus Cooperative Ministries, “From ‘Creation Care’ to ‘Watershed Discipleship’: An Anabaptist Approach to Ecological Theology and Practice
- Elaine Enns, Bartimaeus Cooperative Ministries, “The Relevance of Restorative Justice to Ecotheology”
- Jennifer Halteman Schrock, Merry Lea Center, Goshen College, “Perspectives on Mennonite Environmental Education”
- Sylvia Keesmaat, Russet House Farm and Toronto School of Theology, “The Biblical and Pedagogic Challenges of Paradigm Shifting”
- Chris Grataski, Ezekiel’s Guild, “Theological Permaculture—How the Biosphere Teaches Us”

Main paper by Ched Myers published in [*The Conrad Grebel Review 32/3 \(Fall 2014\)*](#)

2012 – Chicago

Theme: Judgment and Wrath of God

- Gordon Matties, Canadian Mennonite University, moderating
- W. Derek Suderman, Conrad Grebel University College, “Assyria the Ax, God the Lumberjack: Jeremiah 29, the Logic of the Prophet, and the Quest for a Nonviolent God”
- Mary K. Schmitt, Princeton Theological Seminary, “Peace and Wrath in Paul’s Epistle to the Romans”
- Grant Poettcker, McMaster University, “A ‘Fitting’ Sacrifice: Reassessing Divine Wrath with Girard and Anselm”
- Justin Heinzekehr, Claremont School of Theology, “When Mennonites Get Angry: The Wrath of God in a Process-Anabaptist Perspective”
- Mary Schertz, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, responding

Papers published in [*The Conrad Grebel Review 32/1 \(Winter 2014\)*](#)

2011 – San Francisco

Host: Fresno Pacific University/Fresno Pacific University Biblical Seminary

Theme: The Prophetic Role of Anabaptism in the Academy, the Church and the World

- Laura Schmidt Roberts, Fresno Pacific University, moderator
- Miguel A. de la Torre, Iliff School of Theology, panelist
- Greg A. Camp, Fresno Pacific University, panelist
- Valerie Rempel, Fresno Pacific University Biblical Seminary, panelist

2010 – Atlanta (AAR only)

Theme: Spiritual Formation and Ethics: Anabaptist Reflections

- Laura Schmidt Roberts, Fresno Pacific University, presiding
- Angela Reed, Baylor University, “Wholly Anabaptist? Uncovering Contemporary Spiritual Practices that Attend to Person, Community, and Mission”
- Paul Martens, Baylor University, “If Ethics is Not Spiritual Formation, What is it? Reflections in an Anabaptist Vein”
- Thomas Finger, independent scholar, responding

2010 – Atlanta (SBL only)

Topic: Book Panel Discussion of Eric A. Seibert, *Disturbing Divine Behavior: Troubling Old Testament Images of God*

- Thomas R. Yoder Neufeld, Conrad Grebel University College, presiding
- Wilma Bailey, Christian Theological Seminary, panelist
- Gordon Matties, Canadian Mennonite University, panelist
- Derek Suderman, Conrad Grebel University College, panelist
- Eric A. Seibert, Messiah College, responding

Papers published in [Direction 40/2 \(Fall 2011\)](#)

2009 – no forums

2008 – Chicago (AAR only)

Host: Goshen College

Theme: How Taking Vengeance Seriously Can Strengthen Peace Theology and Ethics

- Keith Graber Miller, Goshen College, presiding
- Joseph Liechty, Goshen College, panelist
- Paul Keim, Goshen College, panelist
- Ted Grimsrud, Eastern Mennonite University, responding

2008 – Boston (SBL only)

Host: Conrad Grebel University College

Theme: Teaching the Bible: Setting, Method, Agenda

- Tom Yoder Neufeld, Conrad Grebel University College, presiding
- Jo-Ann Brant, Goshen College
- Jon Isaak, Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary
- Wes Bergen, Wichita State University

Papers published in [*The Conrad Grebel Review 28/2 \(Spring 2010\)*](#)

2007 – San Diego

Host: Eastern Mennonite University

Theme: Reflections on J. Denny Weaver's *The Nonviolent Atonement*

- Ted Grimsrud, Eastern Mennonite University, presiding
- Sharon Baker, Messiah College
- Mark Thiessen Nation, Eastern Mennonite University
- Tom Yoder Neufeld, Conrad Grebel University College
- J. Denny Weaver, Bluffton University, responding

Papers published in [*The Conrad Grebel Review 27/2 \(Spring 2009\)*](#)

2006 – Washington D.C.

Host: Bluffton University

Theme: Boyarin on Yoder: Expanding the Conversation

- Trevor Bechtel, presiding, Bluffton University
- Daniel Boyarin, University of California Berkeley, “Judaism as a Free Church: Footnotes to John Howard Yoder’s “The Jewish-Christian Schism Revisited”
- Gerald Biesecker-Mast, Bluffton University, “Further Notes on Rhetoric”
- Laura Brenneman, Bluffton University, “Further Notes on Paul”
- Randi Rashkover, York College of Pennsylvania, “Further Notes on Judaism”
- Alain Epp Weaver, University of Chicago, “Further Notes on Zionism and Palestine”
- J. Denny Weaver, Bluffton University, “Further Notes on Jesus”

Papers published in *CrossCurrents 56/4 (Winter 2007)*

2005 – Philadelphia

Host: Canadian Mennonite University

Theme: Paul, Empire, and Political Philosophy

- Chris K. Huebner, Canadian Mennonite University, presiding
- P. Travis Kroeker, McMaster University
- Laura Brenneman, Bluffton University
- Alex Sider, Duke University
- Gordon Zerbe, Canadian Mennonite University

2004 – San Antonio

Theme: Responses to Ted Grimsrud, “Anabaptist Faith & American Democracy”

- Malinda Berry, Union Theological Seminary, presiding
- Jeremy Bergen, Toronto School of Theology
- Peter Blum, Hillsdale College
- Peter Dula, Duke University
- Matt Hamsher, Fuller Theological Seminary
- Scott Holland, Bethany Theological Seminary
- Ted Grimsrud, Eastern Mennonite University, responding

Papers published in *The Conrad Grebel Review 23/2 (Spring 2005)*

2003 – Atlanta

Host: Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Theme: (How) Should Christian Academics Serve the Church in their Scholarship?

- Loren Johns, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, presiding
- Gerald Gerbrandt, Canadian Mennonite University
- Brenda Martin Hurst, Eastern Mennonite University
- Ben Ollenburger, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary
- Elaine Swartzentruber, Wake Forest University
- Jo-Ann Brant, Goshen College
- J. Denny Weaver, Bluffton College

Papers published in *Direction 33/2 (Fall 2004)*

2002 – Toronto

Host: Conrad Grebel University College

Theme: Radical Orthodoxy and the Radical Reformation

- A. James Reimer, Conrad Grebel University College, presiding
- John Milbank, University of Virginia
- Travis Kroeker, McMaster University
- Laura Roberts, Fresno Pacific University
- Chris Huebner, Duke University
- Malinda Berry, Union Theological Seminary (NY)
- Gerald Schlabach, University of St. Thomas

Papers published in *The Conrad Grebel Review 23/2 (Spring 2005)*

2001 – Denver

Host: Eastern Mennonite University; Bethel College

Theme: Is God Violent?

- Ray Gingerich, Eastern Mennonite University, presiding
- Gordon Kaufman, Harvard Divinity School
- Mary Schertz, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary
- Paul Keim, Goshen College
- Ted Grimsrud, Eastern Mennonite University
- Duane Friesen, Bethel College

Papers published in *The Conrad Grebel Review 21/1 (Winter 2003)*

2000 – Nashville

Host: Eastern Mennonite University

Theme: Responses to Willard Swartley on Rene Girard

1999 – Boston

Host: Bluffton College

Theme: The Mennonite Challenge of Particularism and Universalism: A Liberation Perspective

- John Kampen, Bluffton College, “The Mennonite Challenge of Particularism and Universalism: A Liberation Perspective”
- Malinda Berry, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, responding
- Gilberto Flores, General Conference Mennonite Church, responding
- Nancy Heisey, Eastern Mennonite University, responding
- Tom Yoder Neufeld, Conrad Grebel College, responding

Papers published in *The Conrad Grebel Review 19/2 (Spring 2001)*

1998 – Orlando

Host: Goshen College

Theme: Aesthetics and Mennonite Theology

- Cheryl Nafziger-Leis, Wilfrid Laurier University
- Phil Stoltzfus, Harvard Divinity School

Papers published in *The Conrad Grebel Review 16/3 (Fall 1998)*

1997 – San Francisco

Host: Fresno Pacific University and Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary

Theme: Discussion with Nancy Murphy

1996 – New Orleans

Host: Eastern Mennonite University

Theme: Biblical scholars reflecting on experience of writing commentaries

1995 – Philadelphia

Host: Messiah College

Theme: Mennonite Minority Self-Identity and Multiculturalism

- Crystal Downing, Messiah College
- John Yeatts, Messiah College
- Ronald Burwell, Messiah College
- John Kampen, Payne Seminary

1994 – Chicago

Hosts: Canadian Mennonite Bible College/ TMTC

Theme: Following Jesus: Which One? The Relevance of the Historical Jesus for Mennonite Theology

- Lydia Harder, Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre, presiding
- Willi Braun, Bishop's University
- Mary Schertz, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary
- J. Lawrence Burkholder, Goshen College
- Tim Gaeddert, Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary

1993 – Washington D.C.

Host: Conrad Grebel College

Theme: Mennonites on Hauerwas: Hauerwas on Mennonites

- James Reimer, Conrad Grebel College/TMTC, presiding
- Stanley Hauerwas, Duke University
- Lydia Harder, Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre
- Travis Kroeker, McMaster University
- Scott Holland, Duquesne University
- Ben Ollenburger, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary
- Harry Huebner, Canadian Mennonite Bible College

Papers published in *The Conrad Grebel Review* 13/2 (Spring 1995)

1992 – San Francisco

Theme: The Future Direction of Mennonite Theology: A Look at the Theologies of Tom Finger and Daniel Liechty

1991 – Kansas City

Theme: Social Ethics and New Approaches to Biblical Studies

1990 – New Orleans

Theme: Religious Pluralism and Christian Understanding (Toward a Theological Understanding of Other Religions)

1989 – Los Angeles

Themes: “Christian Faith: Necessary or Problematical in Biblical Understanding” and “Christian Community: Necessary or Problematical in Theological Understanding”