

2024 COMMENCEMENT

April 27 • 3 p.m.

AMBS Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount
Elkhart, Indiana



Anabaptist Mennonite
Biblical Seminary

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

Prelude

Hymn Preludes arranged by Robert Hobby
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven (VT 75)
How Clear Is Our Vocation (VT 547)
Built on the Rock (HWB 309)
Holy God, We Praise Thy Name (VT 126)

Processional

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Paul Manz

» Call to Worship and Invocation

David Boshart, President

» Hymn

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"
verse 4 in unison

Voices Together 126

Scripture Reading

John 13:3-17

Introduction of Speaker

David Boshart

Address

"The Great Reversal: The Impact of Leadership on Culture"
Nelson Okanya

» Hymn

"Holy Presence, Holy Teacher"

Voices Together 531

Presentation of 2024 Candidates

Beverly Lapp, Vice President and Academic Dean

Conferring of Degrees

David Boshart

Distribution of Diplomas and Certificates

Beverly Lapp

Special Music: Faculty and Staff Ensemble

"Every Word and Every Breath"

Text: Adam M.L. Tice
Music: Mark A. Miller

Prayer of Blessing

Rachel Miller Jacobs, Associate Professor of Congregational Formation

» Hymn

"Renew Your Church"

Voices Together 717

» Benediction

David Boshart

» Recessional

Toccata on OLD HUNDREDTH

Robert Lau

Postlude

In Christ There Is No East or West

Dale Wood

» *Where indicated, please stand — in body or in spirit.*

We request that guests do not use flash photography before the distribution of diplomas and certificates.

A reception will follow the service in the Waltner Hall Lounge.

With appreciation

Organist: Shirley Sprunger King

Songleader: Talashia Keim Yoder, Class of 2024

Scripture readers: Billy Funk and Sue Short (English), Misgana Eshete and Betelehem Roba (Amharic), Class of 2024

Technical Team: Brent Graber, Christian Nawai

Caterer: Kaylena Chupp

Marketing and Communications Team: Melissa Troyer, Annette Brill Bergstresser, Rachel Fonseca, Morgan Koehler

Graduation Planning Committee: Beverly Lapp, Brent Graber, Scott Janzen, Janeen Bertsche Johnson, Karen Stoltzfus, Melissa Troyer

Graduates receive small brass bells that are replicas of the bell that rings on the seminary campus. That bell originally hung in the tower of the Wadsworth (Ohio) Institute, the first Mennonite institution of higher learning in North America, which prepared pastors and teachers for the church. AMBS inherited that bell in 2002. The bells were crafted by friends of the seminary, the late Ervin and Erma Steinmann, and Riverside Brass of New Hamburg, Ontario.

2024 CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies

Deborah J. Coates
Colleen Avilla Geier
Elia Gisselle Guity
Carrie Ann Mast

Graduate Certificate in Spiritual Direction

Christina Elizabeth Rhebergen

Master of Arts in Christian Formation

Misgana Alemayehu Eshete
Janeth Kabii Magiri
Talashia Keim Yoder
Jonathon Wesley Zirkle

Master of Arts: Theology and Global Anabaptism

Betelehem Zeleke Roba

Master of Arts: Theology and Global Anabaptism (Ethiopia)

Addiskidan Getachew Abreham
Endaweke Tsegaw Balkew
Israel Tesfaye Berhe
Aschalew Assefa Fikadu
Dirriba Amenu Sori

Master of Arts: Theology and Peace Studies

Ndunge A. Sefu

Master of Divinity

Alaina Marie Dobkowski
Isaiah Wanbli Friesen
William David Funk
Matthew Craig Peterson
Suzanne M. Short
Megan Wiebersch



**Anabaptist Mennonite
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A seminary of
Mennonite Church USA and
Mennonite Church Canada

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Ndunge A. Sefu



Suzanne M. Short

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Dirriba Amenu Sori



Megan Wiebersch



Talashia Keim Yoder



Jonathon Wesley Zirkle

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Nelson Okanya, DIS, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, is President of World Serving Leaders, the nonprofit division of the Center for Serving Leadership in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is also Chair of the Global Mission Fellowship, a 74-member global network facilitated by Mennonite World Conference. Previously, he served as a pastor and as President of Eastern Mennonite Missions. A trained executive and leadership coach, Dr. Okanya holds a Master of Divinity from Eastern Mennonite Seminary in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and a Doctorate in Intercultural Studies from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California.