



AMBS

Report to Allegheny Mennonite Conference

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary; Sara Wenger Shenk, president

New degree program: AMBS launched a new Master of Divinity program last fall with a distance option and fewer credit hours. MDiv Connect allows students to study in their home context with only brief visits to campus two or three times a year.

Sara Wenger Shenk blog: Join Sara Wenger Shenk in asking questions and engaging issues in the church. In her blog, Sara will “pose questions, test assumptions, resist labels, play with possibilities, experiment with integration, practice wholeness”: www.ambs.edu/practicingreconciliation/

Faculty notes: Four AMBS faculty members completed advanced degrees last year: **Safwat Marzouk**, PhD, asst. professor of Old Testament; **Rachel Miller Jacobs**, DMin, asst. professor of congregational formation; **Andy Brubacher Kaethler**, PhD, asst. professor of Christian formation and culture; and **Allan Rudy-Froese**, PhD, asst. professor of Christian proclamation. **Malinda Berry**, Ph.D., will join the faculty in July as assistant professor of theology and ethics.

Students: Two students from the conference studied at AMBS this year and both were among the 35 2014 graduates: **Trina Mullet Siegrist** will enter a Clinical Pastoral Education Residency; **Naomi Tice** is pursuing a pastoral ministry assignment. Studying in the Pastoral Studies Distance Education undergraduate program is **Travis White**.

Discounts for seminary study: People exploring seminary study can receive a **50 percent discount on tuition when they take a first online course** if they are not enrolled in a graduate theological program. See www.ambs.edu/academics/Online-Courses.cfm.

Emphasis on creation care: AMBS was invited to become a member of the Seminary Stewardship Alliance, an organization dedicated to connecting Christians with the biblical call to care for God’s creation. AMBS was affirmed for efforts such as restoring native plants on campus, constructing and refurbishing buildings according to green building standards, gardening, recycling and more.

Resources for all in the church

Anabaptist Short Courses, online and non-credit, for people wanting to explore topics of Anabaptist faith and theology. Visit www.ambs.edu, select *Lifelong Learning*.

Webinars: www.ambs.edu/churchleadershipcenter/index.cfm Topics this year included preaching, Jubilee for today and understanding Anabaptist approaches to scripture.

Pastoral Studies Distance Education is for people without bachelor’s degrees who are exploring ministry and wish to study while in their own congregations.

Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology, copublished with Canadian Mennonite University. Spring 2014 focuses on economics, edited by Gordon Zerbe: www.mennovision.org.

Institute of Mennonite Studies (www.ambs.edu/IMS) new books:

- **The History of Mennonite Youth Ministry: 1885–2005**, edited by Bob Yoder;
- **History of the American Society of Missiology, 1973–2013**, by Wilbert Shenk;
- **Struggles for Shalom: Peace and Violence across the Testaments**, edited by Laura Brenneman and Brad Schantz

We thank God for your support and ask for your prayers as we continue to prepare leaders for mission, peacemaking and spiritual vitality in the church of Jesus Christ.