



# COMING TOGETHER: THE JOURNEY OF FAITH AND PEACE

Eastern Mennonite University  
June 2023

## GLOBAL MENNONITE PEACEBUILDING CONFERENCE III

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### FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

All meals will be served in Northlawn, lower level, building #2 on the campus map. You must have your scan code to be served a meal, it is located on your name tag. Remember to wear your name tag to all meals.

All coffee breaks will be held in University Commons, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, building #3 on the campus map. Display tables will also be available here.

Each evening, you can relax and socialize with others at the old Common Grounds site, lower level of the University Commons (bldg. #3) and outside these entrance doors on the campus lawn. Drinks must be kept inside the cordoned area.

For on campus accommodations:

Check out time: Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 10:30-11:30 am

Check out process: Go to check out table in Northlawn Dining hall to return keys

Note: those leaving before 10:30 am can return their keys to a drop box at EMU's box office on the lower level of University Commons

*For housing emergencies contact Talibah Aquil at 646-675-2539 or [talibah.aquil@emu.edu](mailto:talibah.aquil@emu.edu)*



# 2023 GMP III SCHEDULE

All meals in Dining Hall

Thursday 15-Jun	Friday 16-Jun
<b>Arrivals</b>	<i>Breakfast: (7:00-8:30am)</i> <i>Registration: (8-8:45 am)</i>
<b>Optional Activities</b>	<b>Open Plenary/Worship:</b> 9:00-10:30am
<b>Requires Pre-registration</b>	<b>Joerg Rieger</b>
<b>Local Tour:</b> Journeying with Local History: Race, Resilience, and Faith Thurs 9a-12p  <b>Local Tour:</b> Focus on sustainable agricultural practices Thurs 12:30pm-3pm	<i>Coffee/Tea Break: 10:30-11:00am</i>
	<b>Panels and Workshops - Concurrent Sessions: 11am-12:30pm</b>
	<b>Paper Presentations:</b> Peace Through Interfaith Dialogue
	<b>Paper Presentations:</b> Embodying Peace: Exploring the Ethics of Peace
	<b>Workshop:</b> Peace's Place in Hot Cold Wars
	<b>Workshop:</b> Animating Our Peace Witness
	<b>Workshop:</b> Remembering the Forgotten War: 70 years Under the Armistice
<b>Registration/Lunch</b> 12:00-3:00pm University Commons 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor	<i>Lunch: (12:30-1:30pm)</i>
	<b>Panels and Workshops - Concurrent Sessions: 2:00-3:30pm</b>
	<b>Paper Presentations:</b> Environment and Peace
	<b>Workshop:</b> Mennonite Peacebuilding in Majority Muslim Contexts
	<b>Workshop:</b> The Clash of the Strong and the Vulnerable Human: Creating Safe Spaces for Peacemaking
	<b>Workshop:</b> Playing for Peace
	<b>Workshop:</b> An Intercontextual Bible Reading
	<i>Coffee/Tea Break: 3:30-4:00pm</i>
<b>Welcome and Opening</b>	<b>Panels and Workshops - Concurrent Sessions: 4:00-5:30pm</b>
<b>Plenary: 4:00-5:30pm</b>	<b>Paper Presentations:</b> Identity and Difference
<b>César García</b>	<b>Paper Panel:</b> Exploring the Intersection between Liberation Theology and Anabaptism
	<b>Workshop:</b> Awkward Conversations in Mennonite Peacebuilding
	<b>Art:</b> Mennonites in the GDR
	<i>Visual Arts Café: 4:00-5:30pm</i>
<b>Dinner (5:30-6:30pm)</b>	<b>Dinner (5:30-6:30pm)</b>
<b>Show: 7:00pm</b>	<b>Show: 7:00pm</b>
<b>Theatre of the Beat:</b> Selah's Song	<b>Elsewhere Ensemble</b>
<b>Opening Concert: 9:30pm</b> LaRepblica	<b>Concert: 9:30pm</b> The Rain Pickers

Menno House: DRINKS AND SOCIAL TIME 6-11:00

Located in old Common Grounds and on the campus lawn (find the red star on your campus map)

# 2023 GMP III SCHEDULE

3<sup>rd</sup> GLOBAL  
MENNONITE  
PEACEBUILDING  
CONFERENCE & FESTIVAL  
June 15 – 18, 2023



All meals in Dining Hall

**Saturday  
17-Jun**

**Sunday  
18-Jun**

*Breakfast: (7:00-8:30am)  
Registration: (8-8:45am)*

*Breakfast: (8:30-9:30am)*

**Open Plenary/Worship:**  
9:00-10:30am  
Tigist Tesfaye Gelagle

**Worship Together:**  
10:00-11:30am

**Shannon Dycus**

*Coffee/Tea Break: 10:30-11:00am*

Bach Festival and GMP III  
combined event

**Panels and Workshops - Concurrent Sessions: 11am-12:30pm**

**Paper Presentations:** Peace in Context: Contextualizing Peace

**Paper Presentations:** Personal Transformation

**Workshop:** Integrating Music into Peacebuilding

**Workshop:** Decolonizing Peace Theology

*Lunch: (12:30-1:30pm)*

*Lunch: (11:30-12:30pm)*

**Panels and Workshops - Concurrent Sessions: 2:00-3:30pm**

**Paper Presentations:** Peace in Relation to War

**Paper Presentations:** Theological Journey towards Peace and Justice

**Workshop:** Global Flourishing

**Workshop:** Formation for Moral Agency and Leadership

**Workshop:** Serving Leadership Workshop

*Coffee/Tea Break: 3:30-4:00pm*

**Departures**

**Panels and Workshops - Concurrent Sessions: 4:00-5:30pm**

**Paper Presentations:** Peace and Decolonization

**Paper Presentations:** Gender, Justice, and Transformation

**Workshop:** Privilege and Providence: An Intercultural Bible Reading

**Workshop:** Seeking Peace and Pursuing It

*Performance Arts Café: 4:00-5:30pm*

*Dinner (5:30-6:30pm)*

*Show: 7:00pm*

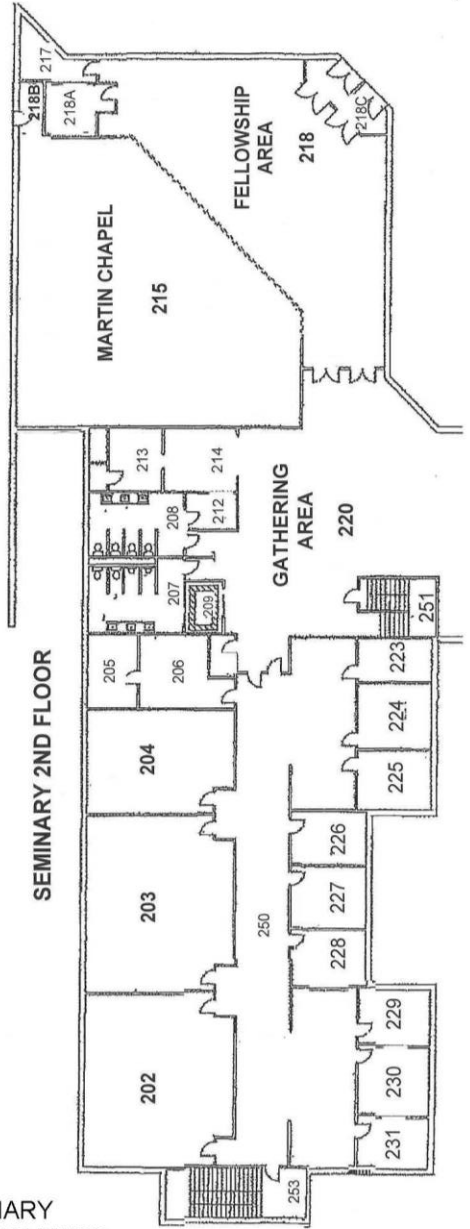
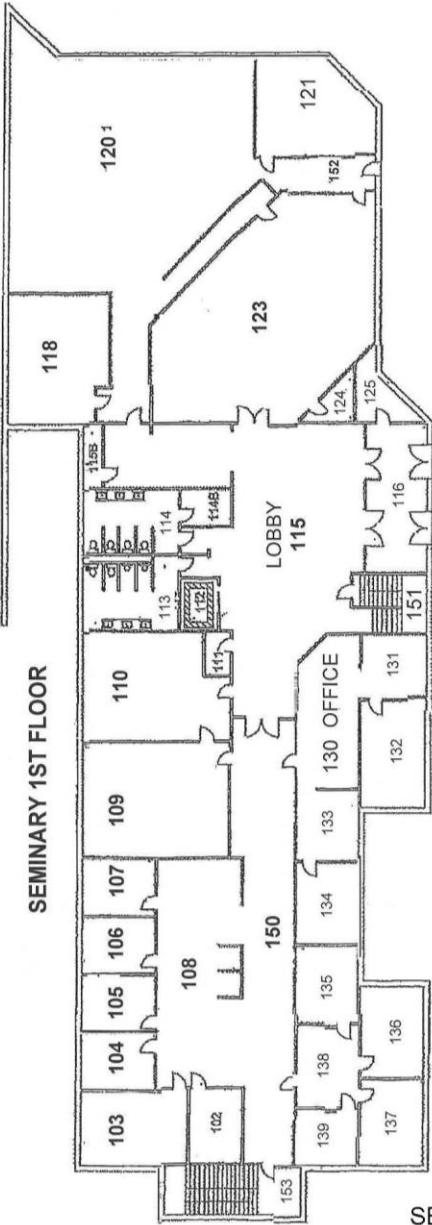
**Theatre of the Beat: Selah's Song**

**Concert: 9:30pm**

**LaRepblica and The Rain Pickers**

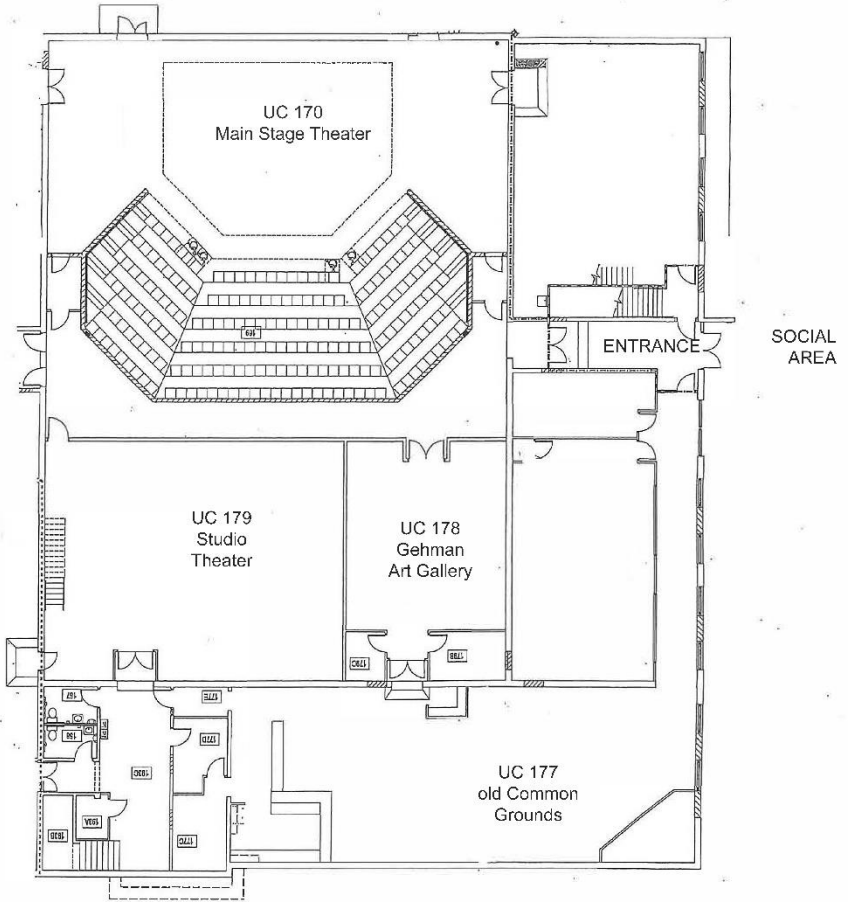
**Menno House: DRINKS AND SOCIAL TIME 6-11:00**

**Old Common Grounds / campus lawn (find the red star on your map)**



SEMINARY  
CLASSROOM MAPS

# MAP OF 1<sup>st</sup> FLOOR UNIVERSITY COMMONS



# KEYNOTE / PLENARY SCHEDULE INFORMATION

THURSDAY 4:00-5:30P

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Opening Plenary

MARTIN CHAPEL, SB215

## “FACING DOMINATION FROM BELOW”



**César García** is General Secretary of Mennonite World Conference (MWC), an global communion comprised of 1.5 million members around the world in the Anabaptist Tradition. García is from Bogotá, Colombia, and his appointment in 2012 marked the first time a leader from the Global South has served in this leadership role. He has been a church planter, pastor and professor of Bible and Theology. Prior to his appointment, García was chair of the Iglesias Hermanos Menonitas de Colombia (Mennonite Brethren Churches of Colombia) and Secretary of the MWC Mission Commission.

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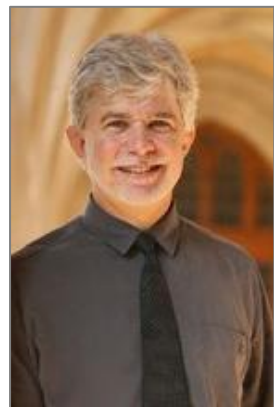
FRIDAY 9:00-10:30A

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Plenary / Worship

MARTIN CHAPEL, SB215

## “Peacebuilding in the Capitalocene”



**Joerg Rieger** is Distinguished Professor of Theology, the Cal Turner Chancellor’s Chair of Wesleyan Studies, and the Founding Director of the Wendland-Cook Program in Religion and Justice at Vanderbilt University. Previously he was the Wendland-Cook Endowed Professor of Constructive Theology at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. He received an M.Div. from the Theologische Hochschule Reutlingen, Germany, a Th.M. from Duke Divinity School, and a Ph.D. in religion and ethics from Duke University.

**SATURDAY 9:00-10:30A**

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Open Plenary / Worship

**Mainstage Theater, UC 170**

**“DE-SECULARIZE AND RECLAIM OUR EDUCATION TO BE A PEACEMAKER IN THIS WORLD”**



**Tigist Tesfaye Gelagle** holds a Masters of Art in Human and Economic Development and studied Biblical Studies and Theology; a Bachelor of Arts in Global Studies and International Relations; and a Diploma in Accounting. She joined the World Vision Ethiopia Advisory Council in 2020. She has served in many roles, including Senior Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, Livelihoods Expert, and Deputy Program Associate in various local and international NGOs. She is the founder and director for the spark valley- an organization that works with teens and youth- and serves as a Deacons Commission Secretary for MWC. Gelagle enjoys volunteering and is a member of the Rotary International which performs voluntary activities helping the community develop professional and leadership skills.

**SUNDAY 10:00-11:30P**

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WORSHIP TOGETHER

**LEHMAN AUDITORIUM, LAO11**

**“REACHING ACROSS THE TABLE”**



**Shannon Dycus**, Vice President and Dean of Students, leads the Student Life division at Eastern Mennonite University. She holds a degree in Secondary Education from Butler University (IN) and received her Master of Divinity from Christian Theological Seminary (IN). With passion for holistically journeying with people, Shannon is also a trained spiritual director through San Francisco Theological Seminary. Shannon is active in writing and worship development roles with Mennonite Church USA, publishing the 2019 Women's Bible Study *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* with Herald Press.

## **“FACING DOMINATION FROM BELOW”**

CÉSAR GARCÍA – SESSION 1

In this presentation, César reflects on how the programmatic speech of Jesus at the beginning of his ministry, according to the Gospel of Luke, invites victims of domination to respond to their circumstances in the context of oppression. In so doing César uses insights from his Colombian experience and the Anabaptist Tradition to propose critical topics in the peacebuilding ministry of the church.

## **“PEACEBUILDING IN THE CAPITALOCENE”**

JOERG RIEGER – SESSION 2

They have treated the wound of my people carelessly, saying, ‘Peace, peace,’ when there is no peace.” (Jeremiah 6:14). Peacebuilding encounters new challenges at a time when the power of money has come to determine the lives of people and the planet, shaping not just economics and politics but also our relationships, values, faith, and theology. What new inspirations for peacebuilding might we draw from the Hebrew prophets, the Jesus movement, our faith traditions, as well as from cooperative economic efforts, and what might this mean for the future of the church?



## **“DE-SECULARIZE AND RECLAIM OUR EDUCATION TO BE A PEACEMAKER IN THIS WORLD”**

Tigist Tesfaye Gelagle – SESSION 3

This talk concerns the philosophy of education framed in the Christian tradition which now faces challenges due to the diversity of culture, ideas and identity.

Peacemaking traditions are also facing a challenge as well. We are now reconsidering our philosophy of education, based in the foundation of restoration of the image of God in every human being, through de-secularizing the education system and reclaim our Christocentric education which prioritizes reconciliation and restoration of our identity as peacemakers to bring peace, justice, and development to society.

## **“REACHING ACROSS THE TABLE”**

SHANNON DYCUS – SESSION 4

Sunday morning worship will celebrate the gatherings of Global Mennonite Peacebuilding and the Shenandoah Valley Bach Festival bringing together unique hopes and experiences in sacred music and peacebuilding. In the story of Jesus, he also gathers with people holding different and shared hopes, brought forward in varied elements and languages. They sit together and call it communion. Hear this invitation in her sermon, "Reaching Across the Table" from Matthew 26.

# PAPER PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 11:00A-12:30P

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PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

SSC 001

## PEACE THROUGH INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

- Lindy Backues and Achmad Munjid- *Deep Listening, Deep Respect: Authentic Friendship as the Basis for Interfaith Understanding – A Case Study Involving a Friendship between Lindy Backues (Christian) and Achmad Munjid (Muslim)*.  
We take a deep and abiding humble relationship to be the bedrock of all promising interfaith dialogue. With this seminar, Backues will put forward the necessary contours of his now 15-year friendship with Dr. Munjid, a relationship that has spanned experience both in Indonesia as well as in the United States (mainly in Philadelphia).
- Paulus S. Widjaja - *Peace Spirituality in the Public Sphere: The Manifestation of Peace Virtues in the Encounter between Christians and Muslims in the Special Region of Yogyakarta*  
This presentation explores how Christians and Muslims living in Yogyakarta, Indonesia encounter each other in the public sphere. It explores whether their behavior in public spheres correlates with peace spirituality represented by peace virtues.
- Danang Kristiawan - *From Colonialism and Trauma to Friendship: Historical Evaluation and Future Prospects in Theological Discourses and Relationships Between Mennonites and Islam in Java*  
This presentation examines the history of Mennonites in Indonesia including its historical connections with colonialism and trauma and current interfaith relationships.
- George Lakshmall - *Ecumenical and Interfaith Approaches to Peace in India: Mennonite Perspective*  
This paper explores the Mennonites' ecumenical and interfaith approaches to peace in India, highlighting conditions for ecumenical and interfaith approaches to be effective and also exploring their limitations.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

SSC 106

## EMBODYING PEACE: EXPLORING THE ETHICS OF PEACE

- Schulyer Pals - *How to Build more Equitable Cities*  
Equitable cities allow anyone to participate in the life of the city accessing all the benefits it provides. Increasingly, however, cities are barring individuals from participating in their benefits simply by the price of admission. Costs for housing and transportation force people out of cities or entirely bar them from ever living there. This paper addresses two culprits one creating the global affordable housing crisis,

zoning and transportation. Combined these primary drivers force people from cities; often marginalizing them and exposing them to the most predatory aspects of our societies. Creating equitable cities requires addressing these two issues as quickly as possible.

- Wendy Kroeker - *Anabaptist Peacebuilding Education: Navigating Nonviolence Creatively*

This paper will examine the Anabaptist theology of nonviolence from the perspective of the teaching task within the Anabaptist Mennonite educational contexts. Can we strengthen the resistance to violence via the pedagogies we utilize? When we eliminate violence as an option for resolving conflicts, we make room for creative alternatives.

- James Jakob Fehr - *Nonviolence and Pacifism: Conversations and Controversies in Germany*

This paper discusses the current crisis of pacifism in the European public discourse and searches for a way to analyze and reinterpret this discussion in a way that makes it more practical and less theoretical.

WORKSHOP: Caleb Schrock-Hurst

SB 109

### **PEACE'S PLACE IN HOT COLD WARS: PEACE WITNESS IN THE SINO-AMERICAN AND RUSSO-AMERICAN GLOBAL CONFLICTS FROM KOREA AND VIETNAM TO TAIWAN AND UKRAINE**

- Includes a panel discussion about Mennonite engagement in wars, part of great power conflicts and a second part consisting of a group brainstorming session on possible peaceable witness in global conflict.

WORKSHOP: Andres Pacheco and Andrew Suderman

SB 123

### **ANIMATING OUR PEACE WITNESS: HIGHLIGHTING AND FURTHERING THE WORK OF THE MWC PEACE COMMISSION**

- We will share resources of Mennonite World Conference's Peace Commission and explore ideas about the future of the Peace Commission.

WORKSHOP: Sue Park-Hur and Austin Headrick

SB 203

### **REMEMBERING THE FORGOTTEN WAR: 70 YEARS UNDER THE ARMISTICE**

- Through this workshop, participants will dig deeper into understanding how memory and remembering are essential to healing and restoring across entrenched divides in the Korean context. Presenters will guide participants as they explore the legacy of more than 70 years of war and its impact on inter-Korean relations, North Korea-U.S. relations, global arms race and great power competition, sanctions, and the continued militarization of the Korean peninsula.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

SB 123

### **ENVIRONMENT AND PEACE: TOWARDS AN UNDERSTANDING OF ECOJUSTICE**

- Doug Kauffman - *Pastoring for Climate and Peace Activism*

There are numerous intersections and overlaps between climate activism and peace activism. This paper explores the similarities and contrasts of engagement and disengagement on peace and climate change and pastoring related to these issues.

- Christiane Karrer - *Biblical Inspiration for a Sustainable Worldview: The Meaning of Justice in the Bible*

This paper explores biblical texts and concepts that support environmental justice. The paper asks how the Biblical view on justice can inspire us to develop a more integrated, sustainable worldview.

- Steve Pardini - *Climate and Environmental Justice*

The poor and marginalized who contribute the least to ecological destruction are often the ones most affected by it and have the fewest resources to deal with the consequences of climate change. This presentation explores climate injustice from an ethical and economic perspective.

WORKSHOP: Peter Sensenig

SSC 106

### **MENNONITE PEACEBUILDING IN MAJORITY MUSLIM CONTEXTS**

- The interaction between Christians and Muslims is a global issue that demands intentionality and sensitivity from followers of Jesus. Building relationships across these religious and cultural divides is an important task for Anabaptists worldwide. Peacebuilding with Muslims will vary depending on the context. This workshop will consider the various contexts where Christians, particularly Anabaptist Christians, are in a minority and Muslims make up the majority.

WORKSHOP: Maria Leon-Olarte and Kirsten van der Ham

SB 109

### **INTERCULTURAL AND INTERSECTIONAL BIBLE READING**

- Intersectionality allows space for multiple oppressive systems and realities to be challenged. In this workshop, we explore this topic through a Contextual (intercultural) Bible Study (CBS). The aim of this workshop is to increase people's awareness on the importance of an intersectional approach to justice and peacebuilding. CBS is used as a tool to challenge participants' own positionality and bring forward new perspectives. Furthermore, we aim to explore how to challenge patriarchy, white supremacy, and other oppressive systems.

WORKSHOP: Jan Willem Stenvers and Daniel Serrano Bernal

SSC 001

### **THE CLASH OF THE STRONG AND THE VULNERABLE HUMAN: CREATING SAFE SPACES FOR PEACEMAKING**

- Through two images of La Crista and a naked Christ in the cross accompanied with Biblical texts this workshop will challenge participants to engage in a conversation about their own vulnerability and 'inner-peace.' Explores how vulnerability and inner-

peace are reflected in their faith communities, context, and theologies in order to find out how it can be 'used' as a tool to shape (youth)-communities to work for peace.

WORKSHOP: Elizabeth Snyder

UC 178

### **PLAYING FOR PEACE: DIGNITY CONSCIOUSNESS EMBODIED CREATIVITY, AND COMMUNAL CONNECTION**

- This interactive "playshop" will use the improvisational method InterPlay – movement, storytelling, stillness, and song – to explore the vital role of dignity in our work as peacebuilders. Participants will engage the conference theme of "coming together" via artistic expression that creates awareness, builds trust, offers opportunities for sharing, and promotes pathways for individual and collective peace.

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### **FRIDAY 4:00-5:30PM**

PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

SSC 001

### **IDENTITY AND DIFFERENCE**

- Scott Holland - *Democratizing Humanity and Divinity as the Path to Just Peace*  
With Christian Nationalism and other expressions of autocratic religion and politics dominating much global God-talk in the 21st century, a deep democracy will require moving beyond political strong men as well as moving beyond strong theological gods. This paper will contend that the fertile seeds of both peacebuilding and democracy are present in Anabaptism as well as a "weak theology" strong enough to counter the taste for theological tyranny.
- Elizabeth Eby - *Beyond Cancel Culture: Uniting around Different in the Book of Acts*  
This paper examines how current political discourses and polarization can foster the breaking of relationships. It then uses the book of Acts as a case study to how and why we can remain in relationships amid difference.
- Marie Anne Subklew - *"We Were Prepared for Everything but not for Candles and Prayers": Transformative Spirituality on the Example of Peace Circle in the GDR*  
This presentation looks at the transformative example of peace circles in Germany. It describes how spirituality can become a catalyst of change for a whole community.
- Jacob Alan Cook - *An Intentional Counter-Witness to Reactionary Authoritarianism*  
With current conversations around Christian nationalism in the background, this paper will explore how a practical, relational theology centered on Jesus cuts against the reactionary authoritarian posture of all too many people who identify as Christian in the world and contributes to a genuine sense of freedom and agency within church-communities.

PAPER PRESENTATION:

SB 123

### **EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN LIBERATION THEOLOGY AND ANABAPTISM**

- Joerg Rieger, Drew Hart, Sarah Bixler, Ryan Gladwin, Cesar Moya -This panel session explicitly invites reflection on the intersection between Liberation Theology and Anabaptism. Each of the panelists have, in some way, been engaging with this intersection in their work.

WORKSHOP: Issa Ebombolo, Ndagire Brendah, Reina Neufeldt **SSC 106**

### **AWKWARD CONVERSATIONS IN MENNONITE PEACEBUILDING**

- The focus will be grappling with big questions and creating space for deep conversation around addressing significant challenges with respect to power and privilege as well as colonial and imperial legacies in peacebuilding and sustainable development today.

### **VISUAL ARTS CAFÉ**

**UC 177**

Featuring projects by Nina Schroeder-van 't Schip "Momento Mori: A fusion of contemporary fine art and historical Dutch Mennonite heritage motifs", Karen Leonard selections of poetry, and Nick Scurman "Romans 12", Nathanael Eby "Mystical Mammals", Nicole Litwiller and Luke Litwiller "[lost] potential", Cyndi Gusler "National Seashore"

**UC 178**

Bernhard Thiessen's project "Bridge Building Across the Iron Curtain and the Problem of Helping" Mennonites in the G

- This is an opportunity to gather around art pieces relating to themes of justice and peace, including conversation with some of the artists.

# PAPER PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS SCHEDULE

**SATURDAY 11:00A-12:30P**

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PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

SB 123

## CONTEXTUALIZING PEACE

- Elizabeth Miller - From “Social Action” to “Life Abundant”: The Historical Development of Anabaptist Peace Theology Among Colombian Mennonites, 1970-2000

This paper argues that the primary external dialogue partners for Colombian Mennonites in the development of an articulated peace theology were the social-political dynamics of the Colombian context broader Latin American movements and Anabaptist leaders in other parts of Latin America.

- Janna L. Hunter Bowman - Immigration Peacebuilding  
In a world in flux, and considering the limitations and problems of the ‘sanctuary’ model, what new immigrant-led orientations might North American churches take in their work to support immigrants? The project pivots on one immigrant women’s intervention in a gathering with churches preparing to provide sanctuary in their buildings in 2017, focusing on how this orientation contributes to peacebuilding.
- Daniel Moya - Truth-Finding and Transitional Politics: An Analysis on Truth-finding and its Relation to Post-Peace-Accord Contexts in Latin America, through an Exploration of the Political Thought of Hannah Arendt  
Truth-finding is a central task during a peace process, yet, is a disputed and conflictive one, as observed in recent peace processes in Latin America. How do practices of truth-finding and truth-telling, facilitated by Truth Commissions in Latin America, prevent or promote the transition to peace, and how does Hannah Arendt’s political thought contribute to the debate?
- Anthony Khair- Peace in the Midst of Occupation: A Palestinian Narrative of Peace and Resilience Amid Occupation  
Anthony will speak from his personal experience being a Palestinian Christian about the concept of peace and justice. In addition to, stories about migration, oppression, loss of land, and resilience in the Palestinian context.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

SSC 001

## PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION AND PEACE

- Schuyler Pals - Forgive Them Their Debts

Predatory lending has been with humanity since the earliest days of recorded civilization, and we have attempted to deal with it since its inception. We need loans for college, to buy a home, and to buy a car. Understanding how the Church has historically addressed interest bearing loans and predatory lending and contrasting it with how a contemporary North American conception of lending allows us to see what we miss when we consider how financial institutions lend and how individuals

get trapped by debt. Combining this conversation with how the law has developed in the United States shows us how we have addressed the issue in recent history, how we are currently addressing it, and how the Church can approach this issue going forward.

- Manjula Patnaik - *The Journey Amidst Trauma and Healing*

This paper examines the acceptability and primary efficacy of positively addressing conflicts, stigma, and discrimination of People Living with HIV (PLHIV) and their caregivers by adapting positive psychology, healing, and resilience in addressing trauma. Understanding the social and psychological context of the trauma, helped in creating the right social intervention for healing at social and personal levels.

- Eliane Gerber - *Nonviolence and Communication Design*

This paper explores 3 questions: How can we use communication to counter and resist violence? How can we communicate nonviolence not only in what we say but in how we say it? And how do we become sensitive to violence in our own communication?

WORKSHOP: Friederike Willhoeft, Andres Pacheco Lozano, Fernando Enns **SSC 106**

### **DECOLONIZING PEACE THEOLOGY**

- We will apply a decolonizing perspective to peace theology and use three aspects to illustrate how the potential of a postcolonial hermeneutic has applied to peace theology.

WORKSHOP: Benjamin Bergey

**SB 203**

### **INTEGRATING MUSIC INTO PEACEBUILDING**

- This workshop will explore the concepts and goals of integrating music in peace-building work, as well as practice hands-on activities that can be used in your contexts.

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## **SATURDAY 2:00-3:30PM**

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PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

**SB 123**

### **PEACE IN RELATION TO WAR**

- Dan Ott & Jeremy Fuller - *Moral Injury & Corporate Sin: Justification and Justice after War*

This paper explores implications of learnings about moral injury connected to the doctrine of sin. The paper wrestles with the corporate nature of sin for warring societies and nations. The heart of the argument is that perhaps the greatest tragedy of moral injury is that warriors are left alone to deal with the moral implications of their actions.

- Stella Mbangi Kayenga - *Assessing the Challenges of Armed Conflicts and the Role of Peacekeeping Mission in War-Torn Countries: The Case of Democratic Republic of Congo, 2011-2020*

Armed conflicts have emerged as the most prevailing form of depicting political and socio-economic grievances against ruling governments. To explain why the DRC



continues to experience cycles of armed conflict, this paper will look at why that is, despite having the longest and largest peacekeeping mission. What factors explain the limited success of peacekeeping mission in a war-torn country such as the DRC?

- Janna L Hunter Bowman - *Returning a Book to its Roots: Witnessing Peace Back in Colombia*

The presentation reports on the book *Witnessing Peace*, rooting in 8 ½ years of working with Justapaz in Columbia, followed by several years of academic research carried out during visits and virtually. The author soon aims to facilitate spaces for the protagonists of the book to speak into how they are represented, how the author and them theorize with and about them, and how the approach illuminates, or fails to illuminate, what is going on today in Columbia.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

SSC 106

### **THEOLOGICAL JOURNEY TOWARDS PEACE AND JUSTICE**

- Paul Doerksen - *The Collateral Damage of Peace: David Adams Richards, Mercy Among the Children*

The novel *Mercy Among the Children* investigates the moral and spiritual dimensions of violence and peace. This paper will focus on the sacrifices demanded of those characters who live with the cost of someone else's vow of peace.

- Karl Koop - *Early Anabaptism and Social Protest*

Narratives describing developments in Mennonite peace studies in the last century have noted the shift in emphasis from separation and nonresistance to active peacebuilding and a concern for justice. This presentation argues that the concern for justice is already observable in early Anabaptist social protest.

- Derek Suderman - *Tackling Violence in the Prophets as a People of Peace: Anabaptist Approaches Then and Now*

Writing a commentary on the prophetic books of the Bible for an Anabaptist audience presents a significant challenge since much of this material describes, and at times celebrates, God's judgement of evil-doers. This paper outlines various approaches to violence in the prophets articulated by contemporary Anabaptist scholars in contrast to writings from the early Anabaptists.

WORKSHOP: Global Anabaptist Peace Network

SSC 001

### **GLOBAL FLOURISHING: PARTNERING WITH THE EARTH AS OUR PEACE WITNESS**

- This GAPN workshop, utilizing the voices of our diverse membership (different representative of the GAPN will be gathering prior to the GMP III) will explore courage and justice, nourishing our peace spirituality – through our stories and our theological frameworks – as two avenues for our climate peace work.

WORKSHOP: Jacob Alan Cook

SB 203

### **FORMATION FOR MORAL AGENCY AND LEADERSHIP**

- This workshop presents key frameworks for understanding the moral psychology of people gathered as a church-community and offers strategies for helping others reflect on their own moral formation, better understand the diverse perspectives of others, and work collaboratively on pressing challenges.

**SERVING LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP**

- This serving leadership is in line with the mission and goals of the Center for Serving Leadership who aspire to be agents of change, to be co-workers with Jesus to realize God's desire for Shalom: The webbing together, the integration of all things according to God's purposes for the common good of God's children. To know Shalom is to know God's gracious presence in all areas of our lives.

**SATURDAY 4:00-5:30PM**

PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

SSC 001

**PEACE AND DECOLONIZATION**

- Mzwandile Nkutha - *Towards a Decolonial Turn: (Re)Thinking Ethics of Peace and Justice Otherwise*  
What does it mean for the colonized (racially disposed) to do theological ethics of peace and justice otherwise? What might be the protocols of embodying such practices of peace and justice in a world (in)formed through colonial and imperial Christianity?
- Thirza Snoek - *Abraham Kuyper's on Islam Revisited: A Critical Review using Edward Said's Orientalism*
  - This paper examines Abraham Kuyper's writings on Islam, specifically the ones collected in the book *On Islam*. Postcolonial and decolonial knowledge can help to deconstruct Orientalist discourse, and in this paper, the concepts of testimonial and hermeneutical injustice are used to start thinking through a decolonization of harmful ideas.
- Tala Bautista - *Decolonizing and Localizing Peacebuilding through Social Enterprise*  
Tala, of the Sumacher tribe from the Philippines, will be sharing their indigenous worldview and how they do peacemaking in their contexts. She will share her journey on integrating the Peace theology from a Mennonite organization and her community's core values – panyaw, ngilin and ba-in. She will give a concrete example of how these values are practiced in Coffee for Peace, a coffee social enterprise, as a tool for decolonization and peacebuilding.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS:

SSC 106

**GENDER, JUSTICE AND TRANSFORMATION**

- Defrita Rufikasari - *Women as Agents of Peace and Justice: Study of the "Aksi Kamisan" in Indonesia and Rizpah Story in II Samuel 21:1-14*  
The "Aksi Kamisan", a silent sermonstration has been going on for 16 years in Indonesia, initiated by Maria Katarina Sumarsih, Suciwati, and Yati Indriyani as a forum to express their demands for the tragedy of the death of their children and siblings in the Semanggi 1 and 2 tragedies as well as other gross violations of human rights in Indonesia. Through "Aksi Kamisan", this paper invites us to understand the role of women as agents fighting for justice by women both in "Aksi Kamisan" and Rizpa's

story in the Bible. This contemporary context is dialogue with biblical, theological, and social contexts to produce alternative narratives that show women are able to be actively involved in humanitarian issues and to regain justice.

- Jayaker Yennamalla - *Gender Justice and Peace in India: Mennonite Response*  
This paper highlights some of the issues and challenges to promoting gender justice and peace in India and a Mennonite response to it.
- Fernando Enns and Andres Pacheco Lozano - *Introduction to an Ecumenical Theology of Companionship*  
In this paper, we will present key aspects of the emerging Ecumenical Theology of Companionship. It seeks to provide an alternative to the traditional notion of “accompaniment” within the ecumenical fellowship.

WORKSHOP: Gloria Rhodes and Hyojin Chang

SB 123

### **SEEKING PEACE AND PURSUING IT: FORMATION FOR PEACEBUILDING PRACTICE**

- How do we contribute to peace and justice in our own contexts? What do we need to know about ourselves and context in order to act justly and peacefully? How do we know when it’s appropriate or inappropriate for us to take action? As individual working for peace, social justice, and the reduction of violence, we are the *instrument* of the work.

WORKSHOP: Elinne van der Kaaden and Daniel Serrano-Bernal

SB 203

### **PRIVILEGE AND PROVIDENCE: AN INTERCULTURAL BIBLE READING**

- This workshop reflects on the relation between privilege and providence. It will introduce the topic with a guided reflection on three narratives about providence, linking it with privilege(s) based on positionality. Following that, each participant is asked to reflect on their own context and positionality by writing down their experiences of providence. This supports the main activity of the workshop: a collective discernment based on inter-contextual Bible reading of Luke 11:1-11 and Genesis 37.

### **PERFORMANCE ARTS CAFÉ**

UC 177

- Elizabeth Eby “SITTING WITH YOUR THOUGHTS: A PLAY IN ONE Act” and Jeff Gundy “HOW WILL THE WORLD NAME YOU?”

This session includes two short performing arts expressions. One is a short one act play detailing mental health and trauma, written and directed by Elizabeth Eby. The second is a selection of interwoven song and text with mystic roots presented by Jeff Gundy.

# EVENING PERFORMANCES & SOCIAL TIME

University Commons

## THURSDAY 7:00P

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### **Theatre of the Beat: Selah's Song**

MainStage Theater, UC170

- Selah's Song is an original, heartwarming musical written by Theatre of the Beat with music by beloved Mennonite musician Bryan Moyer Suderman. The musical tells the story of a young girl whose courage inspired a village, and whose song became an anthem for peace. Selah, a burgeoning songwriter, is excited to hear that her father is coming home from the war in West Candling. But, the joy of having her family reunited is short-lived when a harsh War Tax is started instead. Inundated with catchy pro-war propaganda songs, Selah is inspired to share her own music with the village, creating some competition for the King.

## THURSDAY 9:30P

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### **La Repvblica**

MainStage Theater, UC170

- Concert: La Repvblica is an original alternative rock band by brothers Daniel Moya and Juan Moya from Columbia with a decade of experience. The band has influences in Latin Amerian rhythms, blues, and alternative rock and have a strong commitment to sing for peace and social justice.

## FRIDAY 7:00P

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### **Elsewhere Ensemble**

MainStage Theater, UC170

- Concert: "Invocation – A Prayer for Peace" A lyrical, haunting and deeply powerful new work for soprano baritone and string trio. It brings together words from 8<sup>th</sup> century BCE to the present. Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu prayers alongside writings by poets, a scientist, an environmental activist and civil rights leaders. Featuring Grammy Award winning baritone Kenneth Overton and Internationally acclaimed soprano Camille Ortiz.

## FRIDAY 9:30P

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### **The Rain Pickers**

Old Common Grounds, UC177

- Concert: The Rain Pickers are a string band from Harrisonburg, Virginia, playing the music of Old- (and New-) Time Appalachia and beyond.

## SATURDAY 7:00P

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### **Theatre of the Beat: Selah's Song**

MainStage Theater, UC170

- Selah's Song is an original, heartwarming musical written by Theatre of the Beat with music by beloved Mennonite musician Bryan Moyer Suderman. The musical tells the story of a young girl whose courage inspired a village, and whose song became an anthem for peace. Selah, a burgeoning songwriter, is excited to hear that her father is coming home from the war in West Candling. But, the joy of having her family reunited is short-lived when a harsh War Tax is started instead. Inundated with catchy pro-war propaganda songs, Selah is inspired to share her own music with the village, creating some competition for the King.

## SATURDAY 9:30P

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### **LaRepubblica and Friends**

Old Common Grounds, UC177

- Join LaRepubblica for their second concert of the conference. This evening of music is led by La Repvbilca with guest musicians throughout the night.

## THUR-FRI-SAT 6-11:00P

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### **Menno House DRINKS AND SOCIAL TIME**

Old Common Grounds, UC177

- Brothers Brewery will have drinks for sale in Menno House, (UC 177 or Old Common Grounds) and right outside of University Commons (see red star on your map). GatherIt is not permitted to leave these areas with any alcoholic beverages.

## **LOCAL TOURS**

### **REQUIRES PRE-REGISTRATION**

All tours will meet on/near the “Black Lives Matter” mural in front of the University Commons building. Please arrive in a timely manner.

#### **THURSDAY 9:00A-12:00P**

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##### **JOURNEYING WITH LOCAL HISTORY: RACE, RESILIENCE, AND FAITH**

Meet in front of University Commons

- Karen Thomas, Monica Robinson, and Matthew Bucher are excited to walk with you through Harrisonburg's history. We'll explore stories of community resilience, the importance of education, urban renewal, the impact of the northeast neighborhood, the role of churches, and much more. Participants will have the opportunity to explore three unique locations in the neighborhood and note continuity and change in moving between each location. We'll walk through the neighborhood, hearing about what is no longer visible and seeking to imagine what might be cultivated and grown in the present and future.

#### **THURSDAY 12:30-3:00P**

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##### **FOCUS ON SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES**

Meet in front of University Commons

- This tour will visit different local farms that are working to embody sustainable and organic practices in vegetable production. We will visit Jubilee Farm and explore its solutions for climate change, food justice, food sovereignty, land equity, and mutual empowerment. We will then visit Second Mountain Farm which grows certified organic, nutrient-dense vegetables, using no-till practices on just half an acre.