



# The Scroll

News from the Brethren Academy for  
Ministerial Leadership  
~ ministry education for lifelong learners ~

Spring 2021

## SPOTLIGHT ON UPCOMING COURSES

### Interpreting I Corinthians for the Twenty-First Century Church

June 29-30<sup>th</sup>

Directed Independent Study, B/T Unit



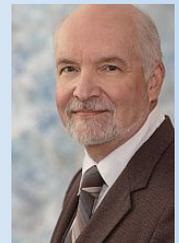
In response to news about divisions within the house-churches in Corinth, Paul's efforts to heal the beloved body of Christ included an instructive letter written in the early 50s CE. The thesis of that letter is an appeal for unity and reconciliation (1 Cor. 1:10). Its agenda is a laundry list of issues that troubled both the Corinthians and Paul. This directed independent study, taught by Carrie Eikler, and in conjunction with the online Brethren Ministers' Association pre-conference workshop, is an opportunity to interpret Paul's letter as scripture for the twenty-first century church. As we do so, we will experience the power of Paul's gospel to inspire, guide and unite believers today.

### Christianity in the Ancient and Medieval Worlds

August 25-October 19, 2021

online B/T course, BTS experience

This online course provides a brief overview of the history of Christianity from the close of the New Testament era to the eve of the Reformation (approximately 150 to 1450 CE). Dr. Ken Rogers, professor at Bethany Theological Seminary, will explore issues in the study of history, early Christianity and the beginning of Christian theology. Throughout, the course focuses on the development of Christian thought. Students will attempt to understand key Christian thinkers and their ideas in relationship to Christian ritual and practice; to familiarize ourselves with some of the major issues, events, and personalities in Christian history; and to become aware of the problems and methods of the disciplines of church history and theology



### Interim/Transitional Ministry: More than Mere Maintenance

September 15-November 9, 2021

online M/MS course, BTS experience



This course is a practical exploration of the gifts and challenges specific to interim/transitional ministry. Dr. Tara Hornbacker will explore the necessary tasks for successful interim/transitional ministry and the personality characteristics most helpful to develop for the practice of this specialized area of congregational leadership. Students will examine the unique calling of persons to walk with congregations in both short-term and long-term intentional ministry situations.

For more information on upcoming courses and to register, visit

<https://bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy/brethren-academy-course-listings/>

## SeBAH Noticias / SeBAH News

### Educación del Ministerio de Lengua Española

Seguimos motivando a los hermanos y hermanas de habla hispana que pertenecen a nuestra denominación, la Iglesia de los Hermanos. Les instamos a aprovechar la oportunidad para obtener credenciales de educación cristiana en español.

Existen dos programas en español para la formación básica del ministerio ofrecidos por la Academia de las Hermanas: Seminario Bíblico Anabautista Hispano de la Iglesia de Los Hermanos (SeBAH-COB) y Educación para El Ministerio Compartido (EPMC). Además, el Seminario Bíblico Anabaptista Hispano (SeBAH), nuestro socio en SeBAH-COB, ofrece cursos para la educación continua. Estos cursos están abiertos a todos los ministros de habla hispana de nuestra denominación. Los cursos de educación continua se acreditarán a los requisitos para la renovación de su Ordenación.



Aida Sánchez

### Iglesia Cristo Génesis inicia EPMC

A principios de 2021, la Iglesia Cristo Génesis en el Distrito Pacífico Suroeste abrió sus puertas al programa Educación para un Ministerio Compartido (EPMC). En ese momento, ya había varias iglesias de ese distrito enfocadas en los estudios teológicos ofrecidos por este programa. Fue el ejemplo y la influencia de aquellas congregaciones lo que despertó el interés en el equipo de Cristo Génesis. Los nuevos ministros en formación son un equipo de tres.

En su primera vez liderando una orientación para EPMC, Aida Sánchez llevó a cabo las sesiones completamente por Zoom. Aida informa que la experiencia tomó mucho esfuerzo y preparación, pero se llevó a cabo de una manera muy agradable y eficaz.

Los estudiantes mostraron gran entusiasmo después de enterarse de los términos del programa y ahora están involucrados en sus estudios para obtener sus credenciales ministeriales.

### Oportunidad de educación continua en español

El Seminario Bíblico Anabaptista Hispano (SeBAH), ofrecerá este verano un curso de educación continua en línea. El curso: "Sostener, curar y avanzar hacia la transformación: Comprender el Trauma de una Pandemia", se ofrecerá del 16 de agosto al 10 de septiembre del 2021. Si está interesado/a en este curso, notifique a Aida Sánchez a [sanchai@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:sanchai@bethanyseminary.edu) o al 765.983.1821

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Continuaremos orando para que cada distrito presente a cada una de las congregaciones los diferentes programas existentes.

En la paz y la alegría del Señor Jesús, sea bendecido.

Aida L. Sánchez  
Coordinadora de Programas de Entrenamiento en Español

## SeBAH Noticias / SeBAH News Continued

### Spanish-Language Ministry Education

We continue to motivate the Spanish-speaking brothers and sisters belonging to our denomination, Church of the Brethren. We urge them to take advantage of the opportunity to obtain Christian education credentials in Spanish.

There are two Spanish-language programs for basic ministry training offered by the Brethren Academy: Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary of the Church of the Brethren (SeBAH-COB) and Education for Shared Ministry (EPMC). Additionally, the Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary (our partner in SeBAH-COB) offers courses for continuing education. These courses are open to all Spanish-speaking ministers of our denomination. Courses for continuing education will be credited to the requirements for the renewal of ministry credentials.

### Cristo Génesis Church Begins EPMC

In early 2021, the Cristo Genesis Church in the Pacific Southwest District opened its doors to the Education for a Shared Ministry (EPMC) program. At the time, there were already several churches from that district focused on the theological studies offered by this program. It was the example and influence of those congregations that aroused interest in the team from Cristo Genesis. The new ministers-in-training are a team of three.

In her first time leading an EPMC orientation, Aida Sánchez conducted the sessions completely by Zoom. Aida reports that the experience took a lot of effort and preparation, but was carried out in a very enjoyable and effective way.

Students showed great enthusiasm after learning about the terms of the program and are now engaged in their studies to obtain their ministerial credentials.

### Continuing Education Opportunity in Spanish

The Hispanic Anabaptist Biblical Seminary/ Seminario Biblico Anabautista Hispano (SeBAH), will be offering an online course for continuing education this summer. The course, titled “Sustain, Heal and Move Towards Transformation: Understanding the Trauma of a Pandemic” will be offered August 16 to September 10, 2021. If you are interested in this course, please notify Aida Sanchez at [sanchai@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:sanchai@bethanyseminary.edu) or 765.983.1821.

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We will continue to pray that each district will present to each of the congregations the different existing programs.

In the peace and joy of the Lord Jesus, be blessed.

Aida L. Sánchez  
Coordinator of Spanish-Language Ministry Training Programs  
Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership  
[sanchai@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:sanchai@bethanyseminary.edu); 765.983.1821

## Annual Conference 2021

The Church of the Brethren Annual Conference will be virtual this summer, with business sessions, worship, networking groups, and insight sessions all online. The work of the church will go on, even as the way the work gets done is adapted due to the pandemic. To learn more, visit [Annual Conference \(brethren.org\)](https://www.brethren.org).



Attending Annual Conference is essential to understanding the Church of the Brethren. Whether through organized events, casual conversations, or chance meetings, participating in Annual Conference provides insight into the heart and process of the denomination. This is why attending Annual Conference, at least once, is required for students in every one of the Brethren Academy's ministry training programs.

We have great hope that Annual Conference will resume in person the summer of 2022. In the meantime, if any Academy student has questions about what this year's virtual conference means for them, they may contact their program coordinator, Carrie Eikler or Aida Sánchez.

## Brethren Ministers' Association Pre-Annual Conference Continuing Education VIRTUAL Event June 29 & 30, 2021

### The Church in 1 Corinthians: Challenges for Today

This continuing education event will be led by Dr. Michael J. Gorman. Dr. Gorman is a New Testament scholar who specializes in the letters, theology, and spirituality of the apostle Paul. His additional specialties are the book of Revelation, theological and missional interpretation of Scripture, the gospel of John, and early Christian ethics. In addition, he has a strong interest in the relationship between church and culture.

Dr. Gorman is the author of nearly twenty books and more than sixty articles on Biblical interpretation and on ethics. Among his books are several on Paul: *Cruciformity: Paul's Narrative Spirituality of the Cross* (2001); *Apostle of the Crucified Lord: A Theological Introduction to Paul and His Letters* (2004; 2nd edition, 2017); *Reading Paul* (2008); *Inhabiting the Cruciform God: Kenosis, Justification, and Theosis in Paul's Narrative Soteriology* (2009); *Becoming the Gospel: Paul, Participation, and Mission* (2015); and *Participating in Christ: Explorations in Paul's Theology and Spirituality* (2019). He is also working on a brief commentary on Romans.

Register online at <https://www.brethren.org/ministryoffice/sustaining/>.

The pre-registration deadline is June 28.

Continuing Education Units will be available.

## Upcoming Brethren Academy English-language Courses

*Courses for continuing education (2 CEUs), personal enrichment, or TRIM/EFMS credit*

Register and pay for courses online:  
[www.bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy](http://www.bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy)

### Summer/Fall 2021

#### *Interpreting I Corinthians for the Twenty-First-Century Church*

Directed Independent Study in conjunction with the Ministers' Association Event, virtual  
 June 29-June 30, 2021  
 Instructor: Carrie Eikler  
 (credits, MS)  
 Registration Deadline: May 28, 2021

#### *Ancient & Medieval Church History*, online

August 25-October 19, 2021  
 Instructor: Ken Rogers  
 (credits: B/T, BTS)  
 Registration Deadline: July 22, 2021

#### *Interim/Transitional Ministry*, online

September 15-November 9, 2021  
 Instructor: Tara Hornbacker  
 (credits: MS, BTS)  
 Registration Deadline: August 11, 2021

#### *Introduction to the New Testament*, online

October 13-December 7, 2021  
 Instructor: Matt Boersma  
 (credits: B/T, FCR)  
 Registration Deadline: September 8, 2021

#### *Technology and the Church*, Zoom intensive

October 22-24 plus Oct 14 & Nov 4, 6-8pm EDT  
 Instructor: Dan Poole  
 (credits: MS, BTS)  
 Registration Deadline: September 17, 2021

### Winter/Spring 2022

#### *A Place of Refuge: Urban Ministry*, Atlanta, GA

two-week intensive  
 Frist two weeks of January, specific dates TBD  
 Atlanta, Georgia  
 Instructor: Josh Brockway  
 (credits: 2 MS units, IEI, BTS)  
 Registration Deadline: TBD  
 Runs concurrently with Bethany Seminary course

#### *Church of the Brethren History*, online

February 2-March 29, 2022  
 Instructor: Denise Kettering-Lane  
 (credits: B/T, BTS)  
 Registration Deadline: December 20, 2021

#### *Pathways for Effective Leadership, Part 1*

Zoom intensive, offered through SVMC  
 March 25-26 and April 29-30, 2022  
 Fridays 4 PM – 9 PM; Saturdays 8 AM – 4 PM EST  
 Instructor: Randy Yoder  
 (credits: MS)  
 Registration Deadline: February 25, 2022  
 To register, contact Karen Hodges at  
[hodgesk@etown.edu](mailto:hodgesk@etown.edu)

#### *Heaven, Hell and the Afterlife*, online

April 27-June 21, 2022  
 Instructor: Craig Gandy  
 (credits: B/T)  
 Registration Deadline: March 23, 2022

*Please do not purchase texts or make travel plans until the registration deadline has passed and you have received a course confirmation.*

For TRIM/EFMS Students Only: BCE – Brethren College/Connections Experience,  
 BTS – Bethany Experience, IE-Intercultural/Interfaith/Ecumenical Experience,  
 BT-Bible/Theology, MS –Ministry/Ministry Skills, FCR-Fulfills Curricular Requirement

## Looking for Continuing Education Events?

Church of the Brethren agencies and partners offer classes and events throughout the year that qualify for continuing education units (CEUs) for clergy. Most of these events are also open to laypersons for personal enrichment. Some are offered online, while others are held onsite.

A page has been created on Bethany Theological Seminary's website to provide easy access to opportunities offered by the different agencies and partnerships. To see what is available, please go to [bethanyseminary.edu/events-resources/continuing-education-opportunities/](http://bethanyseminary.edu/events-resources/continuing-education-opportunities/).

**Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available for the following events.**



**Offered by the  
Susquehanna  
Valley Ministry  
Center**

### *Kingdom Building in Worship*

Saturday, October 30, 2021

(Currently planned to be in person at Stone Church of the Brethren, Huntingdon, PA).

Presenters: Cindy Laprade Lattimer, Marty Keeney, and Loren Rhodes.

Sundays are relentless. Worship happens every...single...week. It is a spiritual, cognitive, emotional, and sensory experience. But without careful planning, worship can easily become stale, unimaginative, and bland. This seminar is designed for anyone who has a role in planning worship: pastors, music leaders, lay ministers. We will use both presentations and workshop components to support attendees in developing a process for planning worship that is meaningful, Christ-centered, cohesive, thoughtful, and sensitive.

[Click here to register](#)



Church of the Brethren  
**Events Offered by the  
Church of the Brethren, INC.**

<http://www.brethren.org/webcasts/>

**McPherson College**

## Ventures in Christian Discipleship

*The Ministry of Jesus, Ubuntu and Cultural Competency for These Times, Virtual*  
Part 1: May 4; Part 2: May 11, 2021, 9-12 CDT

Presenter: LaDonna Sanders Nkosi

This course explores biblical examples, the ministry of Jesus, and current texts to build skills that increase cultural competency, respectful multicultural engagement, and beloved community building.

*Please check the Ventures website for more information about CEU credit or to register for their upcoming season of webinars: [Ventures in Christian Discipleship](#).*

## Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership

*Teaching Online Courses  
that Engage And Inspire, Zoom Seminar*  
May 22, 2021. 9:30 am to 4 pm EDT

Presenters: Karly Fribley and Dan Ulrich

This day-long workshop will help instructors get off to a good start in designing and teaching their first online courses. More experienced online Instructors may also find it worthwhile. Participants will learn to use essential features of Moodle and pedagogical strategies.

To request a registration form, please email [academy@bethanyseminary.edu](mailto:academy@bethanyseminary.edu).  
Registration deadline is May 4.

## Director's Page



Another Love Feast on Zoom? A far cry from what we hoped for? Perhaps. And yet, I found the services I attended deeply moving. Beloved faces filled the screen; familiar scriptures were read; and traditional rituals were repeated, adapted for a virtual context.

Those of us who have participated in a virtual Love Feast may have been able to sense the familiar ordinance within the new format. This is because we know so well the model on which it is based. We remember the feel of washing one another's feet. We "hear" the clink of glasses and low murmurs around fellowship tables. We recall the taste of the bread, broken and eaten slowly and reverently. We remember what it all looks, sounds, feels and tastes like.

But is remembering what was all there is? Are virtual worship services and rituals just a matter of remembering what we used to do? Or is there something more to be found in this brave, new, virtual world - where kindred gather across the country and around the globe, where ancient scriptures become fresh in their living context, where reimagined rituals reveal to us what faithful service looks like here and now, where the bread that is broken and the cup that is poured out remind us that Jesus is not bound by time, tomb, disaster, or disease?

Another Love Feast. . . another Easter. . . by Zoom.? Perhaps these were a far cry from what we had hoped for. And yet, by God's grace, may they have been so much more than we could have imagined.

In Easter Hope,

*Janet L. Ober Lambert*  
Janet Ober Lambert

A ministry-training partnership of the Church of the Brethren and Bethany Theological Seminary,  
providing non-graduate certificate level ministry training and continuing education  
[www.bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy/](http://www.bethanyseminary.edu/brethren-academy/)

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