

# Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership proudly offers: *Church of the Brethren Beliefs and Practices*

8-WEEK ONLINE COURSE

MARCH 4 – APRIL 28, 2026

[REGISTER ONLINE](#)

## Course Description and Objectives



What do Brethren believe? How do these beliefs translate into practice? This course will answer these questions and others by exploring Brethren beliefs related to a variety of issues, including Scripture, the person of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the nature of the church, original sin, and the end times. We will discuss how these beliefs shape our understanding of Brethren ordinances, such as baptism, Love Feast, anointing, nonresistance, and nonconformity. Particular attention will be paid to the Pietist and Anabaptist origins of Brethren beliefs. The course will also examine how these beliefs and practices have changed over time and consider the diversity of beliefs found among Brethren today.

This course is available to:

- TRIM/EFSM students- fulfills one BHTS, BTS Unit, FCR
- Those seeking Continuing Education Units (2.0 CEU)
- Anyone seeking personal and spiritual enrichment

Essentially, this course is open to ALL!

Course fee \$300.00

**Registration deadline:**

**January 21, 2026**

- Students will consider Brethren ways of constructing theology.
- Students will read about unique Brethren beliefs and practices as well as consider how Brethren have interpreted beliefs and practices shared with other Christian traditions.
- Students will learn to identify the works and contributions of significant Brethren writers on these topics.
- Students will become aware of the range of habits and beliefs in the Brethren tradition as well as the diversity of their interpretation and use in the Church of the Brethren today.
- Students will reflect theologically on at least one belief or practice found within the Brethren tradition.

## Instructor: Denise Kettering-Lane

Denise Kettering-Lane is the Associate Professor of Brethren Studies at Bethany Theological Seminary. She earned an MTS from Candler School of Theology and then completed her PhD at The University of Iowa in 2009. She began teaching at Bethany in 2010. Before coming to Bethany, Denise worked as an archival assistant at the Brethren Historical Library and Archives in Elgin, Illinois. She teaches courses on Brethren history and theology as well as general courses in church history. She also serves as the editor for the journal *Brethren Life and Thought*.

Denise and her husband Calvin have 2 children and currently live near Dayton, Ohio.

**Brethren Academy for  
Ministerial Leadership**

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## Required Text

Dale Brown, *Another Way of Believing: A Brethren Theology* (Elgin, Ill.: Brethren Press, 2005).

Graydon Snyder and Kenneth M. Shaffer Jr., *Texts in Transit II* (Elgin, Ill.: Brethren Press, 1991).

In addition, students will be expected to access Brethren Life & Thought articles online and other resources through their local libraries.

**Course Withdrawal Refund  
Policy**

100% of course fee prior  
to registration deadline

50% from the registration  
deadline to the first day of  
class

No refunds will be given  
once the class has begun

Exceptions require the  
approval of the Director of  
the Brethren Academy

**To earn CEU credit**

Participant will

- Meet the attendance  
requirement

- Complete the assigned  
reading

- Engage in the course through  
meaningful participation

- Complete reduced  
assignments as outlined in the  
syllabus

## Expectations

Online learning requires students to be disciplined in their time management. Students are expected to spend 10 hours per week in course-related work

For online learning, students will need an email account, a laptop or desktop, basic computer skills, and access to the internet using an updated web browser, such as Microsoft Internet Explorer or Edge, Google Chrome, or Mozilla Firefox. Some courses may also require Zoom or Skype. If your computer is four years old or less, you should have the capabilities for this course. If you have questions about specifics, please contact the Brethren Academy.

During a Brethren Academy course or event, you may be included in photographs or sound /video recording. Such photos and recordings, including quotes from you, may be included and identified in news articles, informational brochures, or social media on behalf of the Brethren Academy and/or Bethany Theological Seminary. If you wish to be excluded from such publications, please contact the Brethren Academy in writing by the start date of the course or event.

**Brethren Beliefs and Practices – March 4 – April 28, 2026**

[Register online](#) or fill out following information and return, along with payment to:

Brethren Academy \* 615 National Road West \* Richmond, IN \* 47374

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Best contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I will be taking this course for: \_\_\_\_ TRIM credit \_\_\_\_ EFSM credit \_\_\_\_ CEUs (2) \_\_\_\_ Personal Enrichment

Course Fee: \$300 payable to Brethren Academy      Registration January 21, 2026