

# **Introduction to Mosaic Conference**

#### **Instructors:**

Stephen Kriss, PhD Rose Bender, M.Div

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#### **Class Location**

Mosaic Conference Office: 100 Longacre Center, 1000 Forty Foot Rd, Lansdale, PA 19446 Various (see below)

#### **Class Dates & Times**

Sat April 6 12:30-4:30pm ET Zoom

April 17-21 –in-person class in PA Wed 6pm-Sun, April 21 at 2 pm

Sat, June 1 12:30-4:30 ET – Zoom

# **Course Overview**

Learn how Mosaic Conference (and Mennonites) came to be, how the conference works, how decisions are made, and what it means to be a part of our conference together.

# **Course Objectives**

By the end of this class, students will

- have developed a basic understanding of Mosaic Conference with an eye toward the intercultural, missional, and formational priorities.
- have a basic understanding of the broad arc of Anabaptist story from 1500s until today with a glimpse toward migration, mission, and movement.
- have begun or continued conversation around intercultural engagement and transformation rooted in Biblical understandings of faith, mutuality, and witness.

# **Required Texts**

- A Shared Understanding of Ministerial Leadership: Polity Manual for Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA (MennoMedia, 2017)
- Law, Eric H. F, *The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb: A Spiritualty for Leadership in a Multicultural Community* (Chalice Press, 1993)
- Roth, John, Stories: How Mennonites Came to Be (Herald Press, 2008)
- Other required readings and articles will be posted online.

### Assignments

Beyond the readings, each student is responsible for 1) 3 forum posts describing how you have been practicing and learning from Sabbath-keeping. 2) a 2paragraph forum response to the Mosaic Conference website. 3) Sharing your Pathway to Anabaptism. 4) first-person monologue on a noteworthy Anabaptist. 5) Reading log/response (more details to come)

# **Course Schedule**

DATE	Subject	Details/assignments due:	Location
Mar 21 7:30pm or 23rd 1pm EST	Orientation	<ul> <li>Review Syllabus—and due dates and forum assignments</li> <li>Pathway stories</li> <li>Review housing/transportation needs for intensive</li> <li>Review Great Cloud of Witnesses and choose individual by April 6</li> </ul>	Zoom
April 6	Zoom Class	<ul> <li>Website Forum assignment due</li> <li>Pathway stories (assigned)</li> <li>Early Anabaptist Story in Europe</li> </ul>	Zoom
Apr 17	Dinner, introduction/welcome	<ul><li>Zion Mennonite story</li><li>Pathway stories (assigned)</li></ul>	Zion Mennonite Church 149 E Cherry Lane Souderton PA 18964
Apr 18	The Early Anabaptist story and Conference history	<ul> <li>Pathway stories (assigned)</li> <li>Read Roth text-respond to questions</li> <li>Respond to Sabbath Practice forum</li> <li>Great Cloud of Witness monologues (assigned)</li> <li>Documents discussion (Schleitheim, Dordrecht, Bender—Anabaptist vision, Global Convictions)</li> </ul>	Meet at Mennonite Heritage Center @ 9am; Afternoon session @ Penn Foundation (a conference related ministry)
Apr 19	Trace the first Mennonites coming to Germantown through creation of Franconia and Eastern District	<ul> <li>Relevant Cloud of Witnesses and Pathway stories shared</li> <li>Sabbath Practice</li> <li>Documents: Quaker-Mennonite Letter against Slavery</li> </ul>	Meet at Germantown Historic Meetinghouse, Rittenhouse Town in morning, and Philadelphia Praise Center
Apr 20	Formation of Mosaic Conference ; Sabbath retreat	<ul> <li>From Europe to Americas— notes/migration</li> <li>Pathways shared/cloud of witnesses</li> </ul>	Meet at Mosaic Conference office classroom; afternoon Fern Rock

Spring Intensive 2024

DATE	Subject	Details/assignments due:	Location
Apr 21		Worship in Mosaic Conference Church	Salford or Solidarity and Harmony Worship
May 11		Forum response to Sunday worship	
		2 <sup>nd</sup> Sabbath forum response due	
May 25		Eric Law Book read/response du	
June 1	Church Polity	<ul> <li>Swamp Case Study (Nathan Good)</li> <li>Polity handbook</li> <li>Intercultural polity</li> <li>Final forum responses due</li> </ul>	Zoom

# **Requirements for Students taking for Academic Credit**

Any student who would like to receive academic credit for this course must inform the instructor of record (PhD/DMin) before the class begins. Depending on the credit desired (certificate, undergraduate, or seminary), extra reading, papers, field research, assignments, and/or face time with the instructors may be required. Mosaic Institute does not guarantee that academic credit will be granted by your institution but will provide the materials necessary to apply for advanced standing through an institution of your choice (some institutions have prior agreements with Mosaic Institute). There may be extra fees required by Mosaic Institute as well as the accrediting school.

<u>Great Cloud of Witnesses Assignment:</u> each student will prepare a 1-page, first person monologue that they will share in class. Select a person from the list of noteworthy Anabaptist men and women below. Get to know that person through research. Prepare a 500-word introduction of that individual written in the first-person to read to the class and to hand in. Creativity is encouraged. Bibliography is required. (list is below—if you have other ideas of who you would like to do, please ask.

Conrad Grebel Felix Manz (1498 -1527) Balthasar Hubmaier (1480-1528) Michael Sattler (1490-1527) Claesken Galedochter (d. 1563) Menno Simons (1496-1561) Helena of Freyberg (1491-1545) Pilgrim Marpeck (1495-1556) Hans Denk (1500-1527) Peter Riedeman (1506-1556)—(Hutterites) Margaret Helwart (Kitchen Evangelist) Gerhard (Gerrit) Roosen (1612-1711) Thieleman J. van Braght (1625-1664) Jacob Amman (1644-1730) Benedict Brechbuhl (1666-1720) Hans Herr (1639-1725)

William Rittenhouse (1664-1708) Christopher Dock (1698–1771) Christian Herr (1750-1853)-Lancaster Conference

Benjamin Hershey (1697-1789) Martin Boehm (1725-1812) Christian Newcomer (1749-1830) Jacob Hochstetter-(Amish; 1757 Hochstetler Massacre)

Joseph Funk (1778 – 1862) –(VA, publisher)

John H. Oberholtzer (1809-1895) John M. Brenneman (1816-1895) John F. Funk (1835-1930) John S. Coffman (1848-1899) Annie C. Funk (1874-1912) Peter Martin Friesen (1849-1914) Daniel Kauffman (1865-1944) Amanda Musselman (1869-1940) N.B. Grubb Anna J. Allebach (1874-1918) Benjamin B. Janz (1877-1964) Kratz, Clayton (1896-1920) Orie O. Miller (1892-1977) Harold Bender (1897-1962) Christmas Carol Kauffman (1901-1969) James (1888-1978) Rowena (1892-1970) Lark Peter J. Dyck 1914-2010 John Howard Yoder (1927-1997) Doris Janzen Longacre (1940-1979) Vincent Harding (1931-2014) Hubert Brown (1945-) Phyllis Good Alfred Neufeld Ruth Brunk Stoltzfus (1915-2008) Lois Barrett Juan Martinez (Mennonite Brethren) Eleanor Kreider Mesach Krisetva