

Curriculum Vitae

Kimberly L. Penner

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Theology with a focus in Ethics, University of Toronto, St. Michael's College, Toronto, 2017
Dissertation: "Discipleship as Erotic Peacemaking: Toward a Feminist Mennonite Theo-ethics of Embodiment and Sexuality" (supervisor: Dr. Marilyn Legge)

M.T.S., University of Waterloo, Conrad Grebel University College, Waterloo, 2011
Thesis: "The Work of Wealthy Women: Female Discipleship in Luke 8:1-3" (supervisor: Dr. Tom Yoder Neufeld)

B.A., Canadian Mennonite University, Winnipeg, 2008

EMPLOYMENT

Pastor, Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church, Kitchener, ON, February 2021 – current.

Associate Teaching Faculty, St. Stephen's College, at the University of Alberta, September 2022 – current.

Adjunct Instructor, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Spring 2024.

Adjunct Instructor, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana, Winter 2024.

Adjunct Instructor, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, January 2019 – 2021.

Adjunct Instructor, Victoria College, University of Toronto, May 2020 – May 2021.

Adjunct Instructor, Emmanuel College of Victoria University, in the University of Toronto, Fall 2016 – Fall 2019.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

International Conference in Spirituality and Aging Coordinator, Conrad Grebel University College, April 2020 – October 2020.

Administrative Assistant to Theological Studies and Anabaptist Learning Workshop, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, May 2017 – May 2020.

Co-ordinator of Continuing Education and Events, Emmanuel College of Victoria University, in the University of Toronto, September 2016-July 2017.

Co-ordinator of the Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre, June 2015-May 2016.

Administrative Assistant to Ministry Quest Inquiry Program, Canadian Mennonite University, September 2011- April 2012.

BOARD EXPERIENCE

Board Member, Pastors in Exile (a progressive and affirming community-based ministry), Kitchener, Ontario.

Program Committee Member, Mennonite Scholars and Friends Forum at the American Academy of Religion and Society of Biblical Literature.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

With Michael Buttrey, *Power, Desire, Theology: Understanding Abuse in Christian Institutions* (under contract with Bloomsbury Publishing).

Book contributions

- "Exploring Sin, Suicide, and MAiD Through an Intersectional Feminist Lens: Revealing the Interplay of Social Systems, Divine Love, and Justice" (forthcoming)
- "Power, Violence, and Peace Church Ethics," in *Resistance: Confronting Violence, Power, and Abuse within Peace Churches*, edited by Carol Penner and Cameron Altaras, 1-15. Elkhart: Institute for Mennonite Studies, 2022.
- "Toward Ecclesial Practices and Notions of Authority that Embody Radical Hope," in *Concern for Church Polity and Discipline: Essays on Pastoral Ministry and Communal Authority in a Post-Christendom World, 1958-1969, vol. 1*, edited by Laura Schmidt Roberts, 133-142. Oregon: Wipf & Stock, 2022.
- With Susanne Guenther Loewen. Foreword to *The Challenge is in the Naming: A Theological Journey*, by Lydia Neufeld Harder, 10-14. Winnipeg, MB: CMU Press, 2018.
- "Sacred yet Insufficient: The Use of Scripture as a Source in a Mennonite-Feminist Approach to Sexual Ethics," in *All You Need is Love: Honoring Women's Voices in Theology*, edited by Jenny Castro, 173-184. Elkhart, IN: Women in Leadership Project, Mennonite Church USA, 2016.

Peer-reviewed journal articles

- "Formed as (Sexual) Peacemakers? Interrogating the Role of Sexuality in Relation to Institutional Culture for Formation for Witness and Discipleship at Postsecondary Theological Schools," *Anabaptist Witness* 9, no. 1 (April 2022): 69-81.
- "Parenting a Child with Health Challenges: A Story of Vulnerability and Hope," *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* (Spring 2021).
- "Mennonite Peace Theology and Violence Against Women," *The Conrad Grebel Review* 35, no. 3 (Fall 2017): 280-292.
- "Building Right Relationships," *Anabaptist Witness* 3, no. 2 (Dec. 2016): 29-46.
- "From Community to Consumers: The Wedding Industry's Impact on the Ritual and Theological Meaning of Mennonite Weddings," *The Conrad Grebel Review*, 34, no. 3 (Fall 2016): 266-283.

Other journal articles

- "Tensions: Legal Systems and the Church in Ethical Crisis," feature article *Leader Magazine* 19, no. 4 (Summer 2022): 2-4.
- "Let's talk about power," feature article *Canadian Mennonite* 26, no. 1 (January 5, 2022): 3-7.
- "Celebrating Embodied Incarnation," *Canadian Mennonite* 20, no.1 (January 4, 2016): 27-28.

Book reviews in academic journals

- On Holy Ground: Stories by and about Women in Ministry Leadership in the Mennonite Brethren Church*, edited by Dora Dueck, *Journal of Mennonite Studies*, forthcoming.
- Liberating the Politics of Jesus*, edited by Elisabeth Soto Albrecht and Darryl Stephens, *Reading Religion*, American Academy of Religion, published September 25, 2022, <https://readingreligion.org/9780567692788/liberating-the-politics-of-jesus/>.
- Mennonite Ethics: From Isolation to Engagement*, by J. Lawrence Burkholder, *The Conrad Grebel Review* 37, no. 3 (Fall 2019): 290-292.
- Resurrecting Parts: Early Christians on Desire, Reproduction, and Sexual Differentiation*, by

Taylor G. Petrey, *Religion and Gender: Online Journal for the Systematic Study of Religion and Gender in an Interdisciplinary Perspective* 9, no. 2 (December 2019): 231-232.

Remnants: A Memoir of Spirit, Activism, and Mothering, by Rosemary Freeney Harding, with Rachel Elizabeth Harding, *The Conrad Grebel Review* 35, no. 1 (Winter 2017): 103-105.

Global Justice, Christology, and Christian Ethics, by Lisa Sowle Cahill, *The Conrad Grebel Review* 34, no. 2 (Spring 2016): 198-199.

Generous Spaciousness: Responding to Gay Christians in the Church, by Wendy VanderWal-Gritter, *The Conrad Grebel Review* 33, no. 3 (Fall 2015): 388-390.

ECUMENICAL AND INTER-FAITH DIALOGUES

Representative of Mennonite Church Canada, in dialogue with the Anglican Church of Canada, 2017 – 2022.

PRESENTATIONS

Conference colloquia/panels

“How Theological and Institutional Norms Hinder Protestant Responses to Sexual Violence,” panel at the Religion and Sexual Abuse Conference, March 5, 2022, University of California, Riverside, hybrid in person and Zoom.

“How Theological and Institutional Norms Hinder Protestant Responses to Sexual Violence,” panel at the Society of Christian Ethics Annual Meeting, January 8, 2022, online.

“People of Peace?: Sexual Violence and Christian Institutions of Higher Education,” panel discussion, Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre, October 14, 2021, online.

“The Future of Women Doing Theology in Canada,” panel on Women in Theology in Canada: The Past, the Present, and the Future, Canadian Theological Society annual meetings, Toronto, ON, May 30, 2017.

Response to “Naming God While Doing Theology,” keynote address by Lydia Neufeld Harder, Toronto Mennonite Graduate Student Conference, Toronto, ON, June 15, 2018.

Moderator, “Supersessionism,” Mennonite Scholars and Friends Forum, American Academy of Religion annual meetings, Boston, MA November 17, 2017.

Conference papers

“The Revolutionary Nature of Lydia Neufeld Harder’s Feminist-Mennonite Method for Theology/Ethics,” Mennonite Church USA Women Doing Theology Conference, Elkhart, IN, November 9, 2018.

“Conversations on Peace Ethics,” Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre Scholar’s Forum, Toronto, ON, December 5, 2017.

“Peace Theology and Violence against Women,” Global Mennonite Peacebuilding Conference and Festival, Conrad Grebel University College, Waterloo, ON, June 10, 2016.

“God with Skin on: An Embodied View of the Incarnation for Mennonite Ecclesiology and Ethics,” Mennonite Scholars and Friends Forum, American Academy of Religion annual meetings, San Diego, CA, November 12, 2014.

With Joanna Manning, “On Feminist Theology,” Junia’s Daughters: Young Women Partnering in Ministry Conference, Wycliffe College, Toronto, ON, November 8, 2014.

“An Embodied View of the Incarnation for Mennonite Sexual Ethics,” Toronto Mennonite

- Theological Centre Graduate Student Conference, Winnipeg, MB, May 30, 2014.
 “Use of the Bible in Christian Ethics,” Toronto School of Theology Advanced Degree Student Association Conference, Toronto, ON, March 14, 2014.
 “Sacred Yet Insufficient: Use of Scripture for Mennonite-Feminist Sexual Ethics,” Mennonite Church USA Women Doing Theology Conference, Leesburg, VA, February 15, 2014.

Invited class lectures

- “Feminist Theologies” TS 690: Theology from the Margins, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, ON, June 1, 2023.
 “Why must leaders think about power?” TS 783: Theology and Practice of Leadership, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON, Spring 2022.
 “Feminism,” REL 220 Introduction to Christianity, Ryerson University, Toronto, ON, March 13, 2020; November 22, 2021.
 “Violence in the Community of Faith: Blind Spots in Peace Church Ecclesiology,” TS 735 (Conrad Grebel University College) and CGT 3610/CGT 6610 (Toronto School of Theology) Peace Church Theology, Toronto, ON, March 12, 2018.
 “Intersectional Feminist Theology,” BTS 3995 Topics: Feminist Perspectives on Bible and Theology, Canadian Mennonite University, Winnipeg, MB, September 21, 2017.
 With Ren Ito, “Gender Justice and Relationships of Power and Privilege within the Context of Congregational Ministry,” TRP 2641: Principals and Practice of Liturgy, Trinity College, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, December 8, 2015.

Church presentations

- “Why am I Mennonite?” *Canadian Mennonite* panel event, online, November 16, 2022.
 “Starting the Conversation: Naming Key Causes of Sexual Violence in the Mennonite Church,” Elmira Mennonite Church, Elmira, ON, October 29, 2017.

Workshops

- “What is sexual integrity? Restoration in the form of healthy sexuality” Pastors, Chaplains, Congregational Leaders Event on within “Becoming a Restorative Church - Seeking Peace & Justice” series, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, online, January 21, 2023.
 “Toward the Inclusion of Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, and Queer (LGBTQ) Persons,” a series of workshops at Shantz Mennonite Church, Baden, ON, November 2018 – 2020.
 “Dismantling Oppression,” Mennonite Central Committee Ontario staff training, Kitchener, ON, February 25, 2016.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate courses

- HTE 663: Sexuality, Colonialism, and Queer Theology, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (Winter 2024)
 SSC5154: Intersectional Theologies, St. Stephen’s College, at the University of Alberta (Winter 2024; scheduled for winter 2025)
 TS 635: Christian Ethics, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo (Winter 2019; Fall 2020)

Undergraduate courses

SPRIT 316: Sexual Ethics in a Multi-Faith Context, St. Stephen's College, at the University of Alberta (Fall 2022, 2023, scheduled for fall 2024)

VIC169H1S: Ethical Living in a Pluralistic World (Winter 2021)

EMP 2160HF: Context and Ministry, Emmanuel College of Victoria University (Fall 2018)

EMP 1601HF: Context and Ministry, Emmanuel College of Victoria University (Fall 2017; Fall 2016)

EMP 3130: Ministry Integration Seminar, with Janet Ross, Emmanuel College of Victoria University (Fall 2015)

EMF 3020: Contextual Education, with Natalie Wigg-Stevenson, Emmanuel College of Victoria University (Fall 2014 to Winter 2015)

Teaching Assistantships

EMT 2902: Christian Ethics in Context, Teaching Assistant, Emmanuel College of Victoria University (Fall 2014; Fall 2013; Fall 2012)

BTS 2330: Marriage and Family in Christian Perspective, Teaching Assistant, Canadian Mennonite University (Winter 2012)

BTS 3250: The Problem of Evil in Biblical Perspective, Teaching Assistant, Canadian Mennonite University (Fall 2011)

RS 130: The Bible, Teaching Assistant, Derek Suderman, Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo, (Winter 2011)

RS 110: Religions of the West, Marker, Peter Frick, University of Waterloo (Winter 2011)

RS 100: Religions of the East, Marker, Mavis Fenn, University of Waterloo (Fall 2010)

Tutor for student in RS 100: Religions of the East, Mavis Fenn, University of Waterloo (Fall 2010)

Research Experience

Research Assistant to Dr. Natalie Wigg-Stevenson, Director of Contextual Education at Emmanuel College of Victoria University in the University of Toronto, funded by Lilly Endowment Inc., 2017-2018

Research Assistant to Assistant Vice President Academic, Wesley Toews, Canadian Mennonite University, Fall 2011-Winter 2012.

Research Associate for Professor Glen Klassen, D. F. Plett Historical Research Foundation, 2007-2008

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Spirituality and Aging Seminar: Death and Dying, Conrad Grebel University College (June 2022)

Certificate in the Fundamentals of University Teaching, University of Toronto, Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation (Winter 2018)

Teaching in Higher Education Course (THE500), University of Toronto (Fall 2016)

“Tune into Teaching: Setting the Tone for Success – The First Day and Beyond,” University of Toronto, Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation Workshop (Fall 2016)

“Getting Started Building Your Own Portal Course,” University of Toronto, Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation Workshop (Fall 2014)

FELLOWSHIPS/MAJOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Research Fellow, Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre, July 2017-July 2021
 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Award Finalist, 2015
 Teaching for Ministry Fellow, Emmanuel College, September 2014-April 2016 (\$11,500)
 Research Fellowship, Emmanuel College, September 2012-June 2016 (\$44,000)
 Full-Time Tuition Scholarship, Conrad Grebel University College, September 2008-April 2010
 (\$8,000)
 Jane Plas Scholarship, Conrad Grebel University College, 2009 (\$1,500)

Awards

A. James Reimer Award, Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre, 2013 (\$15,000)
 Jane Plas Scholarship Award honouring academic excellence and commitment to community life,
 Conrad Grebel University College, 2009 (\$1000)
 Karen Packull Anabaptist Studies Award promoting Anabaptist studies among students who have
 excellent potential in Anabaptist research, Conrad Grebel University College, 2009
 (\$1,800)
 Stephen Family Theological Studies Entrance Award honouring good academic standing, Conrad
 Grebel University College, 2008 (\$1,500)
 Scholarship for 4.0 average, Canadian Mennonite University, 2006-2007 (\$1000)
 Church Leadership Award, Canadian Mennonite University, 2004-2005 (\$500)

Travel grants

Academic Development and Research Fund Travel Grant (\$400), Conrad Grebel University
 College, to present a paper at the Mennonite Church USA Women Doing Theology
 Conference, Elkhart, IN (2018).

Additional grants secured

Fund for Peoplehood Education, Mennonite Education Agency (\$2600), for Toronto Mennonite
 Theological Centre Graduate Student Conference, 2016.
 Marpeck Fund grant (\$3200), for Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre Graduate Student
 Conference, 2016.

SERVICE

Mennonite Church Eastern Canada Leadership Council (June 2022 – current)
 Mennonite Church Canada Study Conference Planning Committee (July 2019-October 2020)
 Mennonite Scholars and Friends Forum Planning Committee, American Academy of Religion and
 Society of Biblical Literature (2015-current)
 Service of Lament and Commitment for Survivors of Sexual Abuse Planning Committee, Society
 of Christian Ethics (2016-2017)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS and AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion, since 2012
 Anabaptist/Mennonite Scholars Network, since 2013
 Canadian Theological Society, since 2014
 Society of Christian Ethics, since 2014