

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr. Sara Wenger Shenk
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Educational Preparation

EdD, 1999. Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of
Christian Education, Richmond, VA
MTS, 1986. Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL
University of Zagreb, Croatia. Croatian language studies, 1977-78
Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA. Studies toward an MAT, 1975-77
BA English Education 1975. Eastern Mennonite College, Harrisonburg, VA
Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL. Studies toward a BA, 1973

Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary

2010 fall— President

EMU/Eastern Mennonite Seminary Institutional Involvements

2000-09	Seminary Associate Dean
2010 spr	Interim seminary Dean
2007-10	Associate Professor of Christian Practices
2009-10	EMU Publishing Committee
2008-09	ATS Self-Study Editor and Sub-Committee Chair
2008-09	SACs Reaccreditation Committee
2007-09	Seminary Curriculum Design
2008 & 09	School for Leadership Training Worship Coordinator
2005-10	Seminary Academic Committee, Chair
2004-10	Clinical Pastoral Education Advisory Committee
2000-2007	University Lilly Vocational Grant Steering Committee
1999-2007	Associate Professor of Christian Education (1995-99, Assistant)
1999-00	Interim Seminary Dean (President's Cabinet, Strategic Planning Council...)
1998-00	Seminary Enrollment Strategy Committee
1998-99	University Self-Study Structure Committee
1998-99	ATS Self-Study Coordinator and Report Editor
1997-2010	University Institutional Effectiveness Committee
1995-2010	Seminary Trustee Committee—staff support
1995-2010	Coordinator of Seminary assessment activities

- 1995-2010 Seminary Admissions Committee
 1999-00,04-06 University Graduate Council
 1995-99 Assistant Seminary Dean

Publications

Books

- 2005 *Thank You for Asking: Conversing with Young Adults about the Future Church*, Herald Press, Scottsdale, PA.
- 2003 *Anabaptist Ways of Knowing: A Conversation about Tradition-Based Critical Education*, Cascadia Publishing House, Telford, PA
- 1998 *Toward An Anabaptist Educational Theory*, a dissertation presented to the faculty of Union Theological Seminary and The Presbyterian School of Christian Education, VA, August 1998. Approved, December 1998
- 1996 *Meditations for New Parents*, Herald Press; co-authored with N. Gerald Shenk
- 1992 *Coming Home: a thoughtful resource for fathers, mothers, and the rebirth of the family*. Good Books. The book interweaves the dynamics of everyday life with theological reflection on the crisis in the family, changing family patterns, passing on the faith, mother-father God, and practical spirituality.
- 1987 *Why Not Celebrate!* Good Books. A popularized version of a master's thesis on the spirituality of everyday life. In addition to theological reflection, the book includes a collection of celebrations useful for families, small groups and retreats.
- 1985 *And Then There Were Three: An Ode to Parenthood*. Herald Press. Republished by Hodder & Stoughton, London, 1989. Also published in adapted version, in Croatian, by Izvor (Osijek, Croatia), 1990. The book combines theological reflection with what it means to be man/woman and parents.

Chapters and Selected Articles

- 2011 Foreword, *Youth Ministry at a Crossroads: tending to the faith formation of Mennonite Youth*, eds. Andy Brubacher Kaethler and Bob Yoder, Herald Press
- 2010 "What is this place" Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2010 "Entering God's time, full-bodied" Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2009 "We can make music" Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2009 "At my mother's knee" Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2009 "And Then There Were Three" Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2008 "An Empty Chair at the Table" Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2008 "Cohabitation: What is at Stake?" *Vision: a Journal for Church & Theology*, Sexuality
- 2008 "No more church as usual: a different way, with Gerald Shenk, *The Mennonite*
- 2008 "A Cosmic Gift" Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2008 "Threshold Crossings" Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2008 "I'm getting married in the morning" Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2007 The Lexington Seminar Final Report, for the Lexington Seminar, a project supported by the Lilly Endowment Inc.
- 2007 "A New Modesty Movement?" Real Families column, *The Mennonite*, reprinted in *Our Faith Digest*
- 2007 "My father's generous orthodoxy" Real Families column, *The Mennonite*,

- reprinted in *Crossroads*
- 2006 “The stuff of a goodly heritage” Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2006 “A Shadow Illness” Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2005 “Sabbath at Home: A Practice for Opening the Gift of Time.” *Leader Magazine*
- 2005 “What’s in a Name?” Real Families column, *The Mennonite*
- 2002 “Anabaptist Ways of Knowing—a proposal for tradition-based, critical education” published in APRRE conference *Proceedings*
- 2000 “Daily Resurrections of Hope” *Sojourners*, book review of Jonathan Kozol’s *Ordinary Resurrections: Children in the Years of Hope*
- 1999 “Ten Years Later—Reflections on Revisiting Ex-Yugoslavia, June 1999” with N. Gerald Shenk in *Religion in Eastern Europe: Christians Associated for Relations With Eastern Europe*, Vol. XIX, No. 6, December 1999
- 1996 “Where Love is Lodged” chapter in Ted Koontz ed., *Godward: Personal Stories of Grace*, Herald Press
- 1995 Foreword, *Bridging the Generations*, by Katie Funk Wiebe, Herald Press
- 1995 “Remember Who You Are” John Roth ed., *Refocusing a Vision: Shaping Anabaptist Character in the 21st Century*, Mennonite Historical Society
- 1977- Numerous articles in periodicals, including *Gospel Herald*, *Christian Living*, *With*, *Sojourners Magazine*, *Festival Quarterly*, *The Mennonite*, *Mennonite Quarterly Review*, *Builder*.

Several selected articles:

- Occasional column in *The Mennonite* entitled: “A Way Home,” 1993-1996
- “In Love From the Beginning,” *The Mennonite*, August 4, 1998
- “Ocean of Constancy, Tides of Change,” guest editorial, *Gospel Herald*, Oct 1997
- “Planning to Teach: How Do We Evaluate Congregational Curriculum?” *Builder*, August 1997
- “Practicing Those Things That Make for Peace,” *Gospel Herald*, June 1997
- “Shaping a Culture that Forms Character,” *Gospel Herald*, January 1997
- Four advent monologues based on the story of Mary, *Builder*, December 1995
- “Remember Who You Are,” *Mennonite Quarterly Review*, July 1995
- “Both the Ruler and the Fool Were Rich,” *Gospel Herald*, July 1995
- “Farewell to Jesus: Thoughts on Ascension,” *Christian Living*, April/May 1995

Public and Scholarly Presentations

- Nov 2010 AMBS CLC Webinar: No more church as usual! No! More church as usual: Young adults and the church
- Oct 2010 AMBS Inauguration Address, Clinton Frame Mennonite Church, Elkhart, IN
- Oct 2010 AMBS Theological Center Guest, with three talks: (chapel) Surprised by the Call; (evening lecture) Theological Imagination: making a home in the world; (forum) Practical Theology and the Revitalization of Anabaptist Seminary Education
- Jan 2009 “A Luminous Web—Holding the World Together,” EMS spring convocation
- Spr 2008 “For Such a Time (and Place) as This,” author of Eastern Mennonite Seminary curriculum concept paper, presented to faculty; approved ‘09
- Jan 2008 “Sleeping on the job” EMS spring convocation

- Jan 2008 "Arise my love, my fair one and come away," EMS School for Leadership Training closing sermon
- Oct 2007 "What are Mennonite young people saying about the church? Implications for EMU" at EMU Faculty Luncheon
- Jan 2007 "With Every Breath," EMS spring convocation
- Feb/May'07 "Anabaptist Ways of Knowing," two-part presentation to EMU new faculty and mentors.
- Feb 2007 "The Power of Dialogue: what our students are saying," seminary faculty luncheon
- Jan 2007 "Young Adults on Mennonite Practices," workshop at School for Leadership Training, EMS
- Dec 2006 "What Young Adults Envision for the Church," two addresses to pastors, teachers and other leaders jointly sponsored by Atlantic Coast Conference, Lancaster Conference, and Lancaster Mennonite Schools, Lancaster, PA
- Nov 2006 "Circles of Dialogue," presenting *Thank You for Asking* as one of six featured books at the Annual Religious Education Association's Forum on Religious Education in Academic Disciplines and Institutions, Atlanta, GA
- Oct 2006 Respondent to Dr. Walter Howard Smith lecture, "Bowen Theory: A Natural Systems Understanding of the Family." Shenandoah Anabaptist Scientific Society public lecture, EMU
- June 2006 Anabaptist Learning Institute: Understanding Roots of Community, a project for Mennonite elementary and secondary school teachers sponsored by MBE—five lectures, Lancaster Mennonite School, PA
- April 2006 "Anointed and Sent to Bring Good News," Baccalaureate Address, Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, VA
- Mar 2006 "Young Adults & the Future Church—Thank You for Asking," two workshops at Lancaster Mennonite Conference annual meeting, Lancaster, PA, with Gerald Shenk
- Jan 2006 "The Inconceivable Surprise of the Good News," Spring Convocation, Eastern Mennonite Seminary, Harrisonburg, VA
- Jan 2006 "Ministering to Families in a Culture of Busyness," two lectures for Pastors, Deacons, Elders, Chaplains Annual Meeting, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, Toronto, Canada
- Nov 2005 Respondent to David Wilcox lecture "Human Origins: Biogenetic and Theological Issues." Shenandoah Anabaptist Scientific Society Forum, EMU
- Nov 2005 "Remembering Who We Are from Generation to Generation." Valley Brethren-Mennonite Crossroads Lecture, Dayton Church of the Brethren, Dayton, VA
- Sept 2005 "Practices for Nurturing Children in Faith." Workshop for Mennonite Educators Conference, Chevy Chase, MD
- July 2005 "What Young Adults Say About Faith and the Future Church," two seminars at Mennonite Church USA General Assembly, Charlotte, NC
- Mar 2005 Pearl Toon Smith Lectures, Anderson University, Anderson, Indiana. Co-presenter with N. Gerald Shenk

- Feb 2005 Two Workshops at Mennonite Education Agency Education Leaders Gathering, Pittsburgh, PA: “Revitalizing an Anabaptist-Mennonite Identity in Our Schools;” “Our Children—Formative Faith Narratives and Practices”
- Jan 2005 Eastern Mennonite Seminary Convocation, “Jesus Cosmic Balancing Act”
- Jan 2004 EMS School for Leadership Training seminar: “The Power of Dialogue When Teaching Adults”
- June 2003 Led MCC East and West Europe Summer Retreat (along with N Gerald Shenk), Crikvenica, Croatia
- Nov 2002 “Anabaptist Ways of Knowing—a proposal for tradition-based, critical education,” paper presented to Research Interest Group of the Association of Professors and Researchers of Religion Education, Philadelphia, PA
- Jan 2002 “Imagine the Wind.” Spring Convocation, Eastern Mennonite Seminary.
- Jan 2002 Three plenary addresses and one workshop for Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary’s Pastors’ Week—*Family, Culture and the Household of God*: 1) Family & Church Cultural Earthquakes; 2) A Biblical Vision for Households; 3) A Redefined Vision of Culture, Elkhart, IN
- Nov 2001 “Gifts of the Heart: the Importance of Traditions,” Central Valley Counselors Association, Staunton, VA
- June 2001 “The Whole World Sparks and Flames,” commencement address, Lancaster Mennonite High School
- June 2001 “A Word on Fire,” commencement address, Eastern Mennonite High School
- Oct 2000 “Remember When,” planning and leadership of homecoming worship service for Eastern Mennonite University
- Oct 2000 “Nurturing Faith in Children” and “Nurturing Faith in Adolescents,” two workshops at Mennonite Elementary and Secondary Education conference called “Joining Hands in Mennonite Education: Strengthening the School-Family Partnership,” Laurelville, PA
- Oct 1999 “Revitalizing a Family Culture,” seminar at conference, “Mennonites and the Family: Vision and Reality,” Goshen, IN
- Jan 1999 EMS School for Leadership Training seminar: “Practicing Truth in the Faith Community”
- Jan 1998 “The Future of Christian Education in the New Denomination,” Mennonite Publishing House sponsored gathering of representatives from 12 area conferences, Pittsburgh, PA
- Nov 1998 “Theological Perspectives on Women in Leadership,” seminar for Intercollegiate Women’s Conference at EMU
- Oct 1998 “Toward an Anabaptist Educational Theory,” workshop at a conference for Boards, Administrators, and Church Leaders sponsored by MBE for MSEC and MEEC called *Joining Hands in Mennonite Education*, at Laurelville Mennonite Church Center, PA. Worship leader for three sessions.
- Oct 1998 “Educating Youth in the Christian Family,” address at Conference-Based Theological Education Directors’ and Program Coordinators’ Annual Meeting, EMU

- July 1998 "Jesus, Son of the Most High," opening night homily for Virginia Conference Annual Assembly, Williamsburg, VA
- Aug 1998 "Becoming a Christian University of Distinction," address at Fall Faculty Conference, EMU
- April 1998 "Making Disciples of All Nations," Baccalaureate address, EMS
- Mar 1998 "Practicing Truth as a Global Christian Community," plenary address at Practicing Truth: Confident Witness in our Pluralistic World, conference sponsored by EMS and Eastern Mennonite Mission
- Feb 1998 "Forging a Unity of Faith and Practice," mid-winter faculty conference, Eastern Mennonite High School, with N. Gerald Shenk
- Jul/Aug 1997 "Blessing Our Children: It Takes A Village," seminar at Mennonite General Assembly, Orlando, FL
- Jan 1997 "What Does it Mean to be Mennonite?" with N. Gerald Shenk; joint session of Virginia Mennonite Conference Faith and Life Commission and EMU President's Cabinet, Harrisonburg, VA
- Jan 1997 EMS School for Leadership Training seminar: "Fashioning Congregations to Teach Peace"
- Jan 1997 "Practicing Peace in the Congregation," opening address at EMS School for Leadership Training
- Feb 1996 "Well Fed But Hungry for Meaning" and "All Grown Up With No Where to Grow," weekend for Christian Educators called *Who Cares About Adult Education in the Church?* Pasadena, CA
- Nov 1995 "Nurturing Faith Development from Womb to Tomb," keynote address at Lancaster Conference's 10th Annual Christian Education Conference. Also two workshops entitled, "Faith Development from Womb to Junior High" and "Faith Development from Teen to Tomb," Mellingers Mennonite Church, Lancaster, PA
- Oct 1995 "A Celebration of Family," three addresses at the Annual Southeast Mennonite Conference Assembly, Sarasota, Florida
- Sept 1995 Convocation address, "Run Come See What This River Has Done," EMS
- Mar 1995 Homily, "Authentic Community," Lancaster Conference Annual Meeting, Lancaster, PA
- Feb 1995 "The Church's Responsibility to Families," Staunton (VA) District Methodist Ministers Meeting
- June 1994 Homily for Mennonite Central Committee, Peace Theology Colloquium, "Peace Theology and Relating to People of Other Faiths," Messiah College, Grantham, PA
- June 1994 Respondent to Stanley Hauerwas's keynote address, "Whither the Anabaptist Vision? New Directions for a New Century," conference at Young Center for Study of Anabaptist and Pietist Groups, Elizabethtown, PA. Chair, Listening Committee
- April 1994 "The Church Ministers to Parents--Our Most Significant Caregivers," FLRC's sixth annual caregivers' retreat. Served as one of the planners and workshop presenters, "Celebrating Faith and Family Traditions," Williamsburg Retreat Center, VA

- Jan 1994 EMS School for Leadership Training seminar: “For the Good of Them and Their Children”
- May 1993 Concluding address, “A Generation Who Remembers,” at Annual General Assembly of Church & Peace, Elspeet, The Netherlands
- June 1992 Sermon, “Rekindling the Flame,” EMC&S 75th Anniversary Homecoming Worship Service
- Jan 1992 EMS School for Leadership Training seminar: “Ministry of Men and Women Together”
- Jul/Aug 1991 “Rhythm and Blues--Family Spirituality,” seminar at Mennonite General Assembly, Eugene, Oregon
- Jan 1991 EMS School for Leadership Training seminar: “Worship in the Family”
- July 1990 “Parenting for Peace & Justice” and “Celebration: An Invitation for Renewal at Home,” seminars at Mennonite World Conference, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- 1985-86 Presenter, study process of Men & Women in Church Leadership, Reba Place Church, Evanston, IL

Community, Church and other Professional Service

- July 2011 Western District Conference, keynote speaker; Bethel College Mennonite Church, morning sermon
- 2010- Aug '11 Sermons: Shore, Middlebury IN; Kern Road, South Bend IN; Eden, Moundridge KS; Trinity, Phoenix, AZ; First Mennonite, Bluffton OH; Lombard, Oak Park IL; College Hill, Tampa FL; Normal Mennonite, Normal IL; First Mennonite, Iowa City, IO; Bethel and at First Mennonite, Mountain Lake, MN; Faith, Leamington, ON; Steinmann, Waterloo ON; Bethesda, Henderson NE; North Goshen, Goshen IN; Neffsville, Lancaster PA
- 2009- MC USA Bi-national Worship Council (invited; first meeting October 2009)
- 2007-10 Mennonite Church USA Constituency Leadership Council, Virginia Conference representative
- April 2009 “On a pilgrimage,” installation sermon, Immanuel Mennonite, Harrisonburg, VA
- Aug 2008 “A Treasure Hunt,” installation sermon, Landisville Mennonite, Landisville, PA
- Mar 2007 “Family practices for red letter Christians,” and “The house was filled with fragrance,” Ridgeview Mennonite Church, with Gerald Shenk, Intercourse, PA
- 2006-10 Design Team convener and Teaching Elder, The Table—an emerging Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, VA
- Oct 2006 “Young adults and the future church,” sermon at Community Mennonite, Harrisonburg, VA
- Sept 2006 “Fire of love in our flesh and our bones,” installation sermon, Neffsville Mennonite, Neffsville PA
- Aug 2006 “Young Adults and the Future Church,” sermon at Akron Mennonite Church, Akron, PA
- 2006-07 Hospice Volunteer—in training at Rockingham Memorial Hospice
- 2005-08 Bible Department Advisory Council, Eastern Mennonite High School
- 2004-09 Editorial Advisory Council for *Concise Encyclopedia of Amish, Brethren, Hutterites and Mennonites*, Johns Hopkins University Press

2004-10 Board Member of NGO, Nurturing and Encouraging Women (NEW)
 2004-06 Chair, Worship Commission, Community Mennonite Church
 2004-06 Member, Church Council, Community Mennonite Church
 2002-04 Congregational Life Committee, Office of Congregational Life,
 Mennonite Church USA
 Nov 2004 Speaker for Winter Special Emphasis Series, West Union Mennonite
 Church, Parnell, Iowa
 Oct 2004 North Baltimore Mennonite Church Retreat, co-led with N. Gerald Shenk,
 Hagarstown, MD
 July 2004 "Anabaptist Ways of Knowing," Virginia Mennonite Conference
 workshop, Harrisonburg, VA
 Jan 2004 Wedding Meditation, Assembly Mennonite Church, Goshen, Indiana
 2002-03 Leadership Development Initiative Team, Office of Ministerial
 Leadership, Mennonite Church USA
 Feb 2002 "The Grand Inquisitor." Sermon, Community Mennonite Church,
 Harrisonburg, VA
 Jan 2002 "The Opening of a Cosmic Mystery." Sermon, Zion Mennonite Church,
 Harrisonburg, VA
 Aug 2001 Missional Church Project Team Planning Meeting, Kansas City, MO
 Aug 2001 Samuel Project Phase II Implementation Planning Meeting, Kansas City,
 MO
 April 2002 Leadership Development Consultation, Kansas City, MO
 1993-2001 Member-at-large, Faith & Life Commission of VA Mennonite Conference
 1996-2000 Eastern Mennonite High School Board of Directors
 1998 Harrisonburg District Churches Overseer Taskforce
 1997-98 Herald Press consultant and contributor for development of video teaching
 resource, "Teaching for Life"
 Mar 1998 Meserete Kristos College, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
 Lectured on faith development
 1997 Resource person for Herald Press consultation on new Vacation Bible
 School curriculum
 1996-97 Editorial Consultant, Gospel Herald, weekly magazine of the Mennonite
 Church
 1995 Speaker providing commentary for Mennonite Media video, "Turning
 Toward Jesus: A Video and Study Resource for New (and Growing)
 Believers"
 Spring 1993 Evangelical Theological Seminary, Osijek, Croatia
 The Church and Education
 April 1991 "Repent and Bring Your Affections Home," and "Invitation to Renewal at
 Home," Family Weekend at First Mennonite Brethren Church, Wichita,
 Kansas
 1991-99 Immanuel Mennonite Church pastor (91-95), associate pastor (95-96),
 elder (96-98), minister of worship (98-99)
 1990-91 Broad Street Mennonite Church, co-pastor
 1977-83, Eastern Mennonite Missions and Mennonite Central Committee
 86-89 Study/Service appointment to the former Yugoslavia.

Grants/Honors

- 2008 Calvin Institute of Christian Worship Renewal Grant, awarded to
The Table: an emerging Mennonite Church, Harrisonburg, VA
- 2007 Wabash Center Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion Grant for
EMS faculty workshop in integrated pedagogies, awarded to EMS
- Nov 2006 One of six selected authors to present at “Circles of Dialogue” during
plenary session of Religious Education Association/Association of
Professors and Researchers in Religious Education, Atlanta, Georgia
- 2003 Valparaiso Project on the Education and Formation of People in Faith
Research Grant: *Young Adults Practice Faith in a Changing World*
- Oct 2001 Association of Theological Schools funding to attend *Women in
Leadership Seminar*, Pittsburgh, PA

Professional Society Membership

Member of:

- 2005- American Academy of Religion (Practical Theology Group)
- 1995-2007 Association of Professors and Researchers of Religious Education
- 1995-2007 Religious Education Association
- 1995-2005 Anabaptist Mennonite Scholars Network

Conference Participation

- Mar 2011 MEA Missional Church Consultation and board meetings
- Jan 2011 ATS New Presidents Seminary, San Antonio, Texas
- Nov 2010 MEDA, Calgary, Alberta
- Nov 2010 AAR, Atlanta, Georgia
- Oct 2010 MEA Learning Network Consultation, Middlebury, IN
- June 2008 Calvin Institute of Christian Worship Renewal Grants Colloquium , Grand
Rapids, Michigan
- June 2008 Association of Theological Schools Chief Academic Officers Conference
and Biennial Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia
- Feb 2008 Association of Theological Schools Self-Study Workshop, Pittsburgh, PA
- Oct 2007 Lexington Seminar Final Consultation, Bar Harbor, Maine
- April 2007 Wabash Seminar Faculty Workshop, Staunton, VA
- Mar 2007 Association of Theological Schools M Div Curriculum Revisioning
Consultation, Pittsburgh, PA
- Jan 2007 Calvin Worship Symposium, Grand Rapids, Michigan
- Nov 2006 American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature,
Washington, DC
- Nov 2006 Association of Professors and Researchers in Religious Education,
Atlanta, Georgia
- March 2006 Wabash Conference on Educating Clergy, Chicago, IL

June 2005 Lexington Seminar, Northeast Harbor, Maine
Sept 2005 Mennonite Educators Conference, "Faith-Infused Opportunities," Chevy
Case, MD
Nov 2005 American Academy of Religion, Philadelphia, PA
Feb 2005 Mennonite Education Agency Education Leaders Gathering, Pittsburgh, PA
June 2004 "Hearing the Congregation's Voice in Evaluating & Revising M Div
Curriculum," Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa