



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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New partnership begins between Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Elkhart, Ind. (AMBS) – Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary is pleased to announce a new partnership with Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, Ill., a graduate school of ministry and theology related to The United Methodist Church.

The new initiative is designed to assist students at AMBS in meeting United Methodist ordination requirements through a certificate in United Methodist Studies and to provide students at Garrett-Evangelical the opportunity to obtain a concentration and/or certificate in Peace Studies. The University Senate of The United Methodist Church endorsed this partnership in June, and students will be able to start taking courses toward concentrations and/or certificates this fall.

Garrett-Evangelical will provide regular and multiple opportunities to fulfill requirements for United Methodist ordination through a certificate in United Methodist Studies for Master of Divinity students at AMBS. In return, AMBS will provide a set of courses for a concentration and/or certificate in peace studies. Some of these courses will be made available online, some by intensive courses in January and the summer, and some during regular semester terms on the campuses in Evanston or Elkhart. Another component of the partnership is that each school will also provide staff to advise students in fulfilling the expectations for these certificates.

Regarding this new partnership, AMBS President Sara Wenger Shenk said, “AMBS is thrilled with the opportunity to partner with Garrett-Evangelical in order to better serve churches in Indiana, Michigan and beyond. We have no doubt that our students will be enriched by the distinctive gifts we each offer the other from our respective traditions. We are energized by the prospect of partnering with a seminary who so deeply shares our commitment to educate leaders for God’s reconciling mission in the world.”

Garrett-Evangelical President Philip Amerson commented, “What a joy it is to enter this partnership with Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary. They are a marvelous institution with many fine academic offerings that complement our curriculum. This will afford students at both schools access to areas of strength at the other institution. I am pleased that this

agreement will make an approved United Methodist Studies Certificate available to students at AMBS.”

This partnership will make it possible for United Methodist students in northern Indiana and southern Michigan to complete most of their studies at AMBS, while also benefiting from the specific United Methodist courses and perspectives needed for their ministry. AMBS will benefit from the presence of United Methodists as the seminary seeks to serve students from varied faith traditions who are drawn to study in an Anabaptist learning community. For students at Garrett-Evangelical, the concentration or certificate in Peace Studies offers an opportunity to engage more deeply in the biblical vision of peace and justice and its embodiment in the world.

AMBS is a seminary of Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada. The two seminaries that formed AMBS have been preparing workers for the church since 1945; they began their association on the Elkhart campus in 1958.

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Mary E. Klassen