



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 2-11

## **2011-2012 school year begins**

The seminary community crowded into temporary worship space for the opening service of the school year, because the Chapel of the Sermon on the Mount is undergoing renovation and expansion. Sara Wenger Shenk, AMBS president, used this as a metaphor for the learning that will happen in the new year.

We dig up what is buried ... examine it ... decide if it's worth polishing and being restored ... decide what is not worth keeping. We lay new foundations and configure new space to allow in more light. All of these are part of the chapel construction project, but also fit what students will experience in their study and worship.

Sara Wenger Shenk moved on to share a vision for how the Anabaptist movement which AMBS claims is revitalizing the church today. "We will ask again this year:

What does it mean to be an Anabaptist learning community, remaining eager to hear from a diversity of voices?"

"We will be a community where love for God is woven in all we do," she said, emphasizing that study of Scripture is a signature of the seminary. "We will be a community where the Good News of Jesus Christ animates our life together. And we will be a community committed to listen more attentively to the Spirit."

