



alumni news

2005 award recipients announced

Summer 2005
Volume 11 Issue 1

As we celebrate a new class graduating from AMBS this spring, we also choose to celebrate the efforts of two of our alumni with the annual AMBS Alumni Ministry and Service Awards. Without discussing the process of selection, we on the alumni executive committee must confess that it is both subjective and painful. We have many nominees that deserve to be recognized.

Our choices are not guided by who makes the biggest splash but by the fruitful and steady ministry that speaks of the sense of following a lifelong call. It seems appropriate that we send a new class into their next stage of ministry as we recognize the long-term implications of following God's call.

With the two award winners this year we acknowledge that ministry takes many forms once a person leaves the AMBS campus. Isn't the body of Christ wonderful with the diversity that it represents?

So, for our new graduates, we welcome you and urge you to use your gifts in the church and with a view to the long-term and faithful pursuit of following Christ.

Tim Lichti, president

Ann Gingrich and E. Stanley Bohn are the recipients of the 2005 AMBS Alumni Ministry and Service Awards. This award, now in its second year, honors alumni whose ministry is marked by faithful and effective service or distinguished accomplishment.

Ann Gingrich has been involved in several different forms of ministry. From 1953 to 1969 she and Paul, her husband, served as missionaries in Ethiopia under Eastern Mennonite Mission Board. When they returned to the U.S., Ann earned a bachelors degree from Goshen College and taught elementary school. In 1987 she completed a Master of Arts: Theological Studies degree at AMBS and for ten years was pastoral counselor at AMBS. Following this, she and Paul worked for the Mennonite Church for three years as Peace Evangelists.

Ann's most recent ministry is pastoral counseling for survivors of sexual abuse. She has led support groups, done individual counseling, spoken in seminary and church classes, preached sermons and referred many to resources for help with healing.

Ann and Paul also have many hobbies and interests, including being grandparents to ten grandchildren. Currently

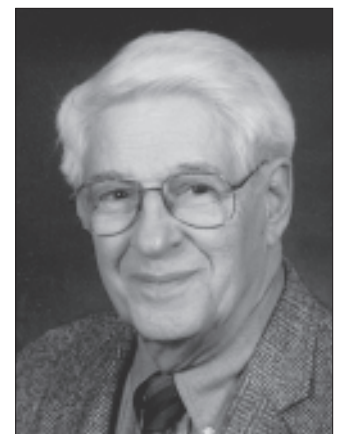
they are active in Belmont Mennonite Church in Elkhart.

Stan Bohn was involved in congregational ministry during and even before he was a student at Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Chicago in 1954. He earned a B.D. from MBS in 1955 and later a masters degree in philosophy from Ohio State University.

The congregations he has served span the geography from Kansas City, Kan., to Manhattan, N.Y., and a time period of more than 50 years. He has served as conference

minister in the General Conference Mennonite Church, taught philosophy and conflict resolution courses at Jamaica Theological Seminary, served as executive secretary of the General Conference's Commission on Home Missions and served as staff at church camps. As a volunteer, he's been involved with Offender Victim Ministries, Habitat for Humanity and Lombard Mennonite Peace Center.

Stan and Anita, his wife, have four children. Currently they are members of Shalom Mennonite Church, Newton, Kan. ●



2005 AMBS Alumni Ministry and Service Award recipients:
Ann Gingrich and E. Stanley Bohn.

Perry Yoder honored for commitment to scholarship and teaching

Committee member to continue

Jill Wright, member at large on the AMBS Alumni Association Executive Committee, has agreed to serve another three-year term. Jill is pastor of Christ United Methodist Church in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Other council members are listed in the masthead below.

Perry Yoder is retiring from teaching at AMBS this summer after serving as professor of Old Testament for 21 years. The tributes that come his way at this time of transition recognize several passions of Perry's: studying the Hebrew text; understanding the biblical concept of Shalom, and canoeing the Boundary Waters.

When Arthur Paul Boers joined the AMBS faculty, he audited two of Perry's courses. After taking Psalms and the Boundary Waters canoe trip, he concluded that he had entered "Perry territory."

Willard Swartley has used Perry's book *From Word to Life* in many of his classes. "It is set up in a clear and logical way and that characterizes Perry," Willard said. Then he emphasized how much he values Perry's work in two other books, *The Meaning of Peace: Biblical Studies* (Westminster/John Knox, 1992) which he coedited with Perry, and *Shalom: The Bible's Word for Salvation,*



Mary E. Klassen

Gayle Gerber Koontz and Perry Yoder visit after a recognition event at which Perry was honored. He is retiring this summer after 21 years of teaching at AMBS. He also has taught at Bluffton College, Bluffton, Ohio, and Bethel College, North Newton, Kan.

Justice and Peace (Faith & Life, 1987). "In almost everything I write I quote from that book," Willard said.

Together with Mary Schertz, Perry also is author of *Seeing the Text: Exegesis for Students of Greek and Hebrew* (Abingdon, 2001).

Nelson Kraybill commented to Perry at a

recognition event, "I am moved by your faithfulness to your call and the joy you have found in scholarship, teaching and mentoring a whole generation of church leaders and scholars. A passion of your life has been to let the text speak, and encouraging the church to learn the tools to let it speak to us." ●

**Summer 2005
Volume 11 Issue 1**

AMBS Alumni News is published three times a year by Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary. It is intended to keep alumni informed about each other and AMBS.

*Please send suggestions for articles or information about alumni activities, honors, publications, to: Mary E. Klassen, editor
574 296-6229
mklassen@ambs.edu*

Alumni Director: Ron Ringenberg

Alumni Association Executive Committee:

*Tim Lichti, president
Louise Wideman, vice president
Marilyn Rudy-Froese
Jill Wright
Myron Schrag*

Rafael Barahona appointed to administrative position

Rafael Barahona (MATS 1997) will begin serving at AMBS in July, combining two positions: director of pastoral connections and director of leadership programs.

As director of pastoral connections, Rafael will help implement activities of the Engaging Pastors program,



funded by a grant from Lilly Endowment. He will coordinate several efforts to foster communication and collaboration between pastors and AMBS faculty. As director of leadership programs, Rafael will oversee

nontraditional and undergraduate theological education programs of the

Church Leadership Center.

Rafael has served as director of Hispanic Education in Theology and Leadership at Goshen College, Goshen, Ind., since 1997. He also has served as pastor in Indiana, Alberta and Manitoba. He has been involved in the creation, design and implementation of IBAPE, the initials for the Spanish name for Anabaptist Bible Institute by Extension, begun in 1999. ●

Publications and faculty writings

Check the AMBS web site for a list of faculty writings and publications from the 2004–2005 year. At www.ambs.edu go to *Academic Information*, then *Faculty Writings*. Note these new books:

Take our Moments and our Days, by an editorial committee of faculty members Arthur Paul Boers and John Rempel, adjunct faculty member Eleanor Kreider, and alumna Gloria Jost (MDiv 2004);

The Sound of Sheer Silence and the Killing State: The Death Penalty and the Bible, by Millard Lind; Volume 8 in the Studies in Peace and Scripture Series (Cascadia and Herald Press, 2004);

Old Testament Theology: Flowering and Future; Sources for Biblical and Theological Study, No. 1, by Ben Ollenburger

(Eisenbrauns, 2004); *Through the Eyes of Another: Intercultural Reading of the Bible*, edited by Daniel Schipani and three others (IMS and The Free University, 2004);

North American Foreign Missions, 1810-1914: Theology, Theory, and Policy, edited by Wilbert Shenk (Eerdmans, 2004).

Information about journals, articles and book reviews also is included on the web page.

Watch for announcements of a summer release of a new book edited by Perry Yoder, featuring essays by recent AMBS graduates. *Take This Word to Heart: The Shema in Torah and Gospel* will include papers written in a seminar class by Jackie Wyse, Amy Barker, James Carlson and Joel Short. IMS is the publisher. ●

Alumni News

Tom Thews (MDiv 2004) will begin June 16, 2005, as associate pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church, Elkhart. Since August he has been filling in where needed and says he has preached in thirteen different United Methodist churches during this time.

Gerald Nussbaum (MDiv 1987), Galena, Ohio, received the Outstanding Local Leadership Award from the Association of Professional Chaplains, a 3,500-member national association. Jerry received the award at the annual conference in Albuquerque, N.M., in April.

Steve McKindley-Ward, peace studies 1980-81, is a restoration horticulturist for the Anacostia Watershed Society in Bladensburg, Md. He and Mimi, his wife, have three teenage boys.

Carmen (MATS 1996) and **Luke** (MATS 1995) **Schrock-Hurst** served in the Philippines for two years with Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). In the summer of 2004, they began a new assignment with MCC and Eastern Mennonite Missions (EMM). Carmen serves as assistant chaplain at Faith Academy, the largest missionary children's school in the world. Luke is walking with Filipino Mennonite pastors and congregations, providing resources for mission, development and peace. He is developing a monthly Anabaptist sharing and prayer group for pastors in the Manila area. They have three children: Grace, Lucas and Caleb.

Earl Sears (MDiv 1971) has retired from full-time pastoring and serves as halftime pastor of the Mennonite Congregation of Boston, Cambridge, Mass., for six months each year.

Richard Wineland (MDiv 1996) began serving as interim rector at St. John of the Cross Episcopal Parish in Bristol, Ind., in March 2004. He also is working part-time on an M.A. in Educational Psychology at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich.

Death

Leah Sonwani, Mennonite evangelist in India, died February 9, 2005. Leah studied at AMBS from 1982 to 1985 and returned for Interterm 2004 to complete the MDiv program of study.

Ordinations

Kelly Carson (MDiv 2000) was ordained Jan. 16 at Chicago Community Mennonite Church for chaplaincy work.

Jane Thorley Roeschley was ordained July 11, 2004. She serves as associate pastor at Mennonite Church of Normal, Ill.

Jill Wright was ordained at the annual conference of the Northern Indiana district of the United Methodist Church on June 4.

Retirements

Martha Smith Good (MDiv 1977) retired in April 2005 after more than 30 years of ministry. In 1982 she was the first woman to be ordained in the Mennonite Church in Ontario. In 1988 she earned a DMin from Toronto School of Theology.

Andrew Kwang-Cho Lu (Cert. 1974) retired from pastoral work in March 2004 from Taichung (Taiwan) Mennonite Church.

Birth

Deron (MDiv 2004) and **Annette Brill Bergstresser** (AMBS Communications Assistant) announce the birth of Alina Ruth on May 8, 2005.



Mary E. Klassen

The Chapel of the Word, a space dedicated to teaching preaching and worship, was completed this spring at AMBS. The bell tower (seen through the chapel window above) was dedicated on April 27.

AMBS Notes



Associated
Mennonite
Biblical
Seminary

Practical steps to peace

Building Peace: Overcoming Violence in Communities, a new book from the World Council of Churches, offers practical, step-by-step guidance for overcoming violence and building a culture of peace. Using paradigms that have proved successful in the disciplines of public health and community development, the book addresses the problem of violence as an epidemic that is threatening lives and health.

This book is the most enduring legacy of the Peace and Justice Collaborative of which AMBS was

a partner along with Goshen College and Andrews University. Mary Yoder Holsopple, adjunct faculty member at AMBS, was director of the collabo-



Mary E. Klassen



Mary Yoder Holsopple signs a copy of Building Peace for AMBS staff member and student Matt Tschetter at a May 8 celebration.

orative and worked with Ruth E. Krall of Goshen College and Sharon Weaver Pittman of Andrews University on the book.

"This book is a marriage between public health and community development," Mary explained. "If we are going to build a culture of peace, it must be done involving all sectors of life and all levels from individual to micro to macro."

To order, go to www.isbs.com, web site for International Specialized Book Services. ●

On the AMBS web site

2005 graduates are featured: http://www.ambs.edu/php/welcome/wel_news_commence.php

AMBS Build (the AMBS Habitat for Humanity building blitz):

http://www.ambs.edu/php/welcome/wel_AMBS_Build.php

3003 Benham Avenue
Elkhart, IN 46517-1999
574 295-3726
www.ambs.edu

Alumni Gathering: If you will attend the Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada convention in Charlotte, N.C., in July, come to the AMBS dinner: **Tuesday, July 5, 6-8:30 p.m.** The cost is included in the meal plan or is \$19.25.

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PLYMOUTH, IN
PERMIT #29

3003 Benham Avenue
Elkhart, Indiana
46517-1999

Associated
Mennonite
Biblical
Seminary