

# Dr. Loren L. Johns

PROFESSOR OF NEW TESTAMENT, ANABAPTIST MENNONITE BIBLICAL SEMINARY

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## EDUCATION

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**Doctor of Philosophy** (*magna cum laude*), Princeton Theological Seminary, 1998

**Area:** Biblical Studies, New Testament

**Dissertation:** "The Origins and Rhetorical Force of the Lamb Christology of the Apocalypse of John"

**Master of Divinity**, Goshen Biblical Seminary, now Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, 1984

**Concentration:** Pastoral Ministry Track

**Bachelor of Arts**, Goshen College, 1977 **Major:** Bible, Religion, and Philosophy

## AWARDS

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**Bluffton University Study Center** research grant: "A Comparative Analysis of Symbolism in the Apocalypse of John and in the Dead Sea Scrolls" (1997).

**Bluffton University Study Center** research grant: "The Lamb in the Apocalypse of John" (1994).

**American Bible Society** award for outstanding graduate in biblical studies. Awarded by Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminaries, 1984.

## MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

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Society of Biblical Literature

Mennonite Historical Society (Vice-President, 2007–2014; President, 2014–2018)

Swiss Anabaptist Genealogical Association (Secretary, 2014–)

## HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

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**Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Position:** Professor of New Testament, 2010–

**Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Position:** Director, Master of Divinity Program, 2009–2018

**Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Position:** Acting President, Jun–Aug 2006

**Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Position:** Associate Professor of New Testament, 2000–2010

**Courses Taught:** BIB500: Reading the Bible; BIB500: Strange New World of the Bible; BIB502: Beginning Greek; 1 John; BIB503: Introduction to Bible Study Tools; BIB522: The Gospel and Epistles of John; BIB525: The Revelation to John; BIB527: Romans; BIB603: Canon and Community; BIB540E: Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture; BIB604: Greek Exegesis: Gospel of Mark; BIB610: Greek Exegesis: Galatians; INT501: Formation in Ministry, INT601: Growth in Ministry; INT603: M.A. Colloquium; INT610H: MDiv Capstone. (I have also led several independent studies on such topics as Reading the Greek of Paul's letters, Reading the Greek of the Church Fathers, The Book of Revelation, Q, Late Second Temple Judaism, etc.)

**Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Position:** Academic Dean, 2000–2007

**Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Position:** Editor, Institutional Self-Study, 2006–2007

**Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada:** Member of the Student Services Committee, 2001–2003.

**Bluffton University. Position:** Assistant Professor of Religion and Associate Professor of Religion (1993–2000). **Courses Taught:** Bible Survey; Biblical and Christian Teachings on War and Peace; Exegetical Studies in ... (The Dead Sea Scrolls, The Gospel of John, The Letters of Paul, The Prophets, The Psalms, The Revelation to John, Women in the New Testament, Women in the Old Testament); Faith

and Community (part of adult degree completion program); Introduction to Biblical Literature; Jesus (with an exegetical focus on one of the synoptic Gospels); Journey to Jerusalem (a study tour to Jerusalem, Israel, and Palestine); Methods in Biblical Interpretation; Introduction to New Testament Greek; Power, Poverty, and Peace in Washington, D.C. **New Courses Developed:** Exegetical Studies in ... the Dead Sea Scrolls, in Women in the New Testament, in Women in the Old Testament; Faith and Community (part of adult degree completion program); Introduction to Biblical Literature; Methods in Biblical Interpretation. **Cross-Cultural Courses:** Helped to develop and lead Bluffton College's first cross-cultural trip and course to Washington, D.C., in 1995. Helped to develop and lead Bluffton College's first cross-cultural trip to Jerusalem in 1996 (and its related course). **Related Involvements:** Co-leader (with my wife, Rachel) of a BASIC (Brothers and Sisters in Christ) group (1993–2000); Chair of History, Religion, and Political Science Department (1999–2000); Coordinator of Bluffton College Peace and Conflict Studies Program (1998–2000); Member of Faculty Executive Committee (1996–2000); Conference Coordinator for “Apocalypticism and Millennialism: Shaping a Believers Church Eschatology for the 21st Century” (1999); Faculty Chair (1998–1999); Member of Steering Committee for NCA Review (1997–1999); Chair of Subcommittee on Constituency Relations (for NCA Review; 1997–1999); Member of Task Force on Programs for Superior Students (1998); Chair of Student Affairs Committee (1996–1998); Member of Council for Strategic Planning (1996–1997); Member of Congregational Leadership Conference Planning Committee (1993–1996); Member of Religious Life Subcommittee (1993–1996); Member of Academic Affairs Committee (1994–1995); Member of General Education Subcommittee (1994–1995); Member of Cross-Cultural Education Subcommittee (1993–1995); Member of Academic Affairs Subcommittee on Curriculum Revision (1993–1994); Faculty Adviser to student Peace Club (1993–1994).

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Books

- Luke*, by Mary H. Schertz [Loren L. Johns, New Testament Editor]. Believers Church Bible Commentary. Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, *forthcoming*.
- Dead Sea Scrolls: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek Texts with English Translations. Volume 8A: Genesis Apocryphon and Related Documents*, ed. James H. Charlesworth, with Henry W.M. Rietz, along with Daniel A. Machiela, James C. VanderKam, Casey D. Elledge and Daniel M. Gurtner, 2018 [Loren L. Johns, Associate Editor]. Tübingen, Mohr Siebeck, 2018.
- 1 Corinthians*, by Dan Nighswander [Loren L. Johns, New Testament Editor]. Believers Church Bible Commentary. Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2017.
- Philippians*, by Gordon Zerbe [Loren L. Johns, New Testament Editor]. Believers Church Bible Commentary. Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2016.
- Galatians*, by George R. Brunk III [Loren L. Johns, New Testament Editor]. Believers Church Bible Commentary. Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2015.
- The Lamb Christology of the Apocalypse of John: An Investigation into Its Origin and Rhetorical Force*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2014 (reprint from Mohr Siebeck, with new introduction, written June 2014).
- John*, by Willard M. Swartley [Loren L. Johns, New Testament Editor]. Believers Church Bible Commentary. Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2013.
- Remembering God's Future: A Five Session Season of Prayer Guide Inspired by the Book of Revelation*. Winnipeg, MB: Mennonite Church Canada, 2012.
- Dead Sea Scrolls: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek Texts with English Translations, Volume 7: Temple Scroll and Related Documents*, ed. James H. Charlesworth, with Henry W. M. Rietz and Loren L. Johns, associate editors. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2011.
- Remembering God's Future: A Five-Session Season of Prayer Guide Inspired by the Book of Revelation*. Winnipeg: Mennonite Church Canada, 2011.

- 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus*, by Paul M. Zehr [Loren L. Johns, New Testament Editor]. Believers Church Bible Commentary. Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2010.
- Close Enough: From Joseph Schantz, Founder of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, to the Descendants of Ira S. Johns and Elizabeth Rickert* (Goshen, Ind.: Loren Johns, 2008).
- Even the Demons Submit: Continuing Jesus' Ministry of Deliverance*, coedited with James R. Krabill (Elkhart, Ind.: Institute of Mennonite Studies and Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2006).
- Dead Sea Scrolls: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek Texts with English Translations. Volume 3: Damascus Document Fragments, the Torah, and Related Documents*, ed. James H. Charlesworth, with Henry W.M. Rietz, along with J. M. Baumgarten, C. Claussen, D. A. Hume, J. B. F. Miller, L. Novakovic, S. Pfann, E. Qimron, and L. L. Johns. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2006.
- The Lamb Christology of the Apocalypse of John: An Investigation into Its Origin and Rhetorical Force* Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament, 2. Reihe (Band 167) (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2003).
- Pesharim, Other Commentaries, and Related Documents*, ed. James H. Charlesworth, with Loren L. Johns, assistant editor. *The Dead Sea Scrolls: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek Texts with English Translations*, Vol. 6B. (Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck; Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002).
- Apocalypticism and Millennialism: Shaping a Believers Church Eschatology for the 21st Century*, ed. Loren L. Johns (Kitchener, Ont.: Pandora Press; and Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2000).
- Peace and Justice Shall Embrace: Power and Theopolitics in the Bible* [Festschrift for Millard Lind], ed. Ted Grimsrud and Loren L. Johns (Telford, Pa.: Pandora Press; and Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2000).
- Hillel and Jesus: Comparative Studies of Two Major Religious Leaders*, ed. James H. Charlesworth and Loren L. Johns (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1997).
- The Bible Story: A Short Summary*, by Loren L. Johns and Burton G. Yost (Bluffton, Ohio: Bluffton College, 1997).
- Believing in Christ*. Adult Bible Study Guide (Scottdale, Pa.: Mennonite Publishing House, 1993).

### Articles and Essays

- "Apocalypticism." *T&T Clark Companion to Second Temple Judaism*, ed. Loren T. Stuckenbruck, Daniel M. Gurtner. New York: T&T Clark, *forthcoming*.
- "Resistance Movements." *T&T Clark Companion to Second Temple Judaism*, ed. Loren T. Stuckenbruck, Daniel M. Gurtner. New York: T&T Clark, *forthcoming*.
- "Jesus in Revelation," in *Oxford Handbook on Revelation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, *forthcoming*.
- "Do Mark 16:9-20 and John 7:53-8:11 Belong in Our Bibles? An Exercise in the Intersection of Canonical Criticism and Textual Criticism," in a Festschrift for James Hamilton Charlesworth, ed. Henry W. M. Rietz and Loren T. Stuckenbruck. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, *forthcoming*.
- "The Words of the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of God's Creation (Rev 3:14)," in *The Earth Is the Lord's: Essays on Creation and the Bible in Honor of Ben C. Ollenburger*, ed. Ryan D. Harker and Heather Bunce (University Park, PA: Eisenbrauns, 2018), pp. 194-203.
- "The Apocalypse of John and Theological Ecosystems of Destruction and Escape." In *Rooted and Grounded: Essays on Land and Christian Discipleship*, ed. by Ryan D. Harker and Janeen Bertsche Johnson. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2016, pp. 77-94.
- "Reading the Maccabean Literature by the Light of the Stake: Anabaptist Appropriations of the Apocrypha." *Mennonite Quarterly Review* 86, no. 2 (April 2012): 151-74.
- "Faith and Historical-Critical Pursuits in Teaching." *Conrad Grebel Review* 28/2 (Spring 2010): 45-51.
- "Was 'Canon' Ever God's Will?: Applying Set Theory to Canonization in the Early Church." In *Jewish and Christian Scriptures: The Function of "Canonical" and "Non-Canonical" Religious Texts*, ed. by James H. Charlesworth and Lee M. McDonald. *Jewish and Christian Texts in Contexts and Related Studies*, no. 6 (New York: T & T Clark, 2010), pp. 41-45.
- "Unity and Diversity in the Canon: Implications for the Church." In *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* 11/1 (Spring 2010): 74-83.

- “Atonement and Sacrifice in the Book of Revelation,” in *The Work of Jesus Christ in Anabaptist Perspective* [Festschrift for J. Denny Weaver], ed. Alain Epp-Weaver and Gerald Mast (Telford, Pa.: Cascadia Publishing House, 2008), pp. 124–46.
- “Identity and Resistance: The Varieties of Competing Models in Early Judaism,” in *Qumran Studies: New Approaches, New Questions* [Festschrift for James H. Charlesworth], ed. Michael Thomas Davis and Brent A. Strawn (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2007), pp. 254–77.
- “Homosexuality and the Bible: A Case Study in the Use of the Bible for Ethics” in *DreamSeeker Magazine* 6/1 (Winter 2006): 9–11. Reprinted in *Stumbling Toward a Genuine Conversation on Homosexuality*, ed. Michael A. King. Living Issues Discussion Series (Telford, Pa.: Cascadia, 2007), pp. 35–38.
- “The Mennonite Church,” in *Encyclopedia of Religion and Homosexuality*, ed. Jeffrey S. Siker (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Publishing Group, 2006), pp. 149–55.
- “The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Apocalypse of John,” in *The Bible and the Dead Sea Scrolls: The Princeton Symposium on the Dead Sea Scrolls, Volume 3: The Scrolls and Christian Origins*, ed. James H. Charlesworth (Waco: Baylor University Press, 2006), pp. 255–79.
- “Conceiving Violence: The Apocalypse of John and the Left Behind Series,” in *Direction: A Mennonite Brethren Forum* 34/2 (Fall 2005): 194–214.
- “Christian Zionism and Biblical Interpretation,” in *Peace Office Newsletter* [Mennonite Central Committee] 35/3 (July–December 2005): 7–10.
- “Ordination and Pastoral Leadership: A Response to John E. Toews,” in *Conrad Grebel Review* 22/1 (Winter 2004): 26–39.
- “Introduction” and “Ordination in the King James Version of the Bible” in *The Heart of the Matter: Pastoral Ministry in Anabaptist Perspective*, ed. Erick Sawatzky (Telford, Pa.: Cascadia Publishing House; and Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2004), pp. 1–14 and 105–17.
- “Love and Hospitality in Mennonite Higher Education: Negotiating Culture in a Competitive World,” in *Mennonite Life* 58/1 (March 2003): online.
- “Leaning Toward Consummation: Mission and Peace in the Rhetoric of Revelation,” in *Beautiful Upon the Mountains: Biblical Essays on Mission, Peace, and the Reign of God*, ed. Mary Schertz (Elkhart, Ind.: Institute of Mennonite Studies; and Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2003).
- “God’s Reign is Present: Opportunities Facing the Church at the Edge of History,” in *The Mennonite* (October 9, 2001).
- “Kill the Wicked, O God: Biblical Curses in the Life of the Church,” in *Canadian Mennonite* 5/5 (March 12, 2001).
- “‘A Better Sacrifice’ or ‘Better Than Sacrifice’? A Response to Michael Hardin’s ‘Sacrificial Language in Hebrews,’” chap. 6 in *Violence Renounced: Rene Girard, Biblical Studies, and Peacemaking*, ed. Willard M. Swartley (Telford, Pa.: Pandora Press; and Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2000), pp. 120–31.
- “Introduction” and “Facing Revelation’s Beasts: The Opportunities and Challenges of Pastoral Ministry at the Edge of History,” in *Apocalypticism and Millennialism: Shaping a Believers Church Eschatology for the 21st Century*, ed. Loren L. Johns (Kitchener, Ont.: Pandora Press; and Scottdale, Pa.: Herald Press, 2000), pp. 364–79.
- “The Lamb in the Rhetorical Program of the Apocalypse of John,” in *1998 Seminar Papers* (Society of Biblical Literature) (Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1998), pp. 762–84.
- “Who Do You Say that I Am?” in *Gospel Herald* (June 3, 1997): 6–7.
- “The Signs as Witnesses in the Fourth Gospel: Reexamining the Evidence,” by Douglas B. Miller and Loren L. Johns in *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 56/3 (July 1994): 519–535.
- “The Cross Is Our Symbol,” in *Gospel Herald* (Jan. 29, 1985). “Justice, Healing, and Peace,” in *Gospel Herald* (Dec. 29, 1981).

### Book Reviews

*A Slaughtered Lamb: Revelation and the Apocalyptic Response to Evil and Suffering*, by Gregory Stevenson. Abilene, TX: Abilene Christian University Press, 2013. Reviewed in *Interpretation* [Journal],

forthcoming, 2015.

*A Peaceable Hope: Contesting Violent Eschatology in New Testament Narratives*, by David J. Neville. Reviewed in *Conrad Grebel Review* 31/3 (Fall 2013): 313–14.

*Embodying the Way of Jesus: Anabaptist Convictions for the Twenty-First Century*, by Ted Grimsrud. Reviewed in *Conrad Grebel Review* 27/2 (Spring 2009): 96–98.

*Revelation*, by John R. Yeatts. Reviewed in *Direction: A Mennonite Brethren Forum* 33/1 (Spring 2004): 113–14.

*Footwashing in John 13 and the Johannine Community*, by John Christopher Thomas. Reviewed in *Mennonite Quarterly Review* 73/4 (October 1999): 842–43.

*The Gospel of Peace: A Scriptural Message for Today's World*, by Ulrich W. Mauser. Reviewed in *Koinonia* 4/2 (Fall 1992): 239–42.

*The Johannine Question*, by Martin Hengel. Reviewed in *Koinonia* 3/1 (Spring 1991): 91–94.

*The Interpretation of the New Testament, 1961–1986*, by Stephen C. Neill and N. T. Wright. Reviewed in *Koinonia* 2/1 (Spring 1990): 76–80.

## PRESENTATIONS

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“Mennonites and the Holocaust.” Sunday school presentation, Southside Fellowship, April 15, 2018.

“Where’s My Verse? Understanding the Problem of ‘Missing’ Verses in the New Testament.” Seminar presentation at Orlando 2017 [the biennial convention of Mennonite Church USA]. July 5, 2017.

“How to Choose a Bible Translation ... and a Study Bible.” Seminar presentation at Orlando 2017 [the biennial convention of Mennonite Church USA]. July 5, 2017.

“How We Got the Bible.” Three-Sunday Sunday school series at College Mennonite Church. March 2017.

“How the Bible Came to Be.” AMBS Webinar, Feb. 9, 2017.

“Human Sexuality in Biblical Perspective.” Three-Sunday series of sermons for College Mennonite Church, Feb. 5–19, 2017.

“Los Peligros de la Escatología Popular” [The Dangers of Popular Eschatology]. Short course taught (in Spanish) at AMBS, November–December 2016.

“Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture.” Pastors Workshop, Mennonite Church Alberta, June 1–3, 2015.

“Communicating a Theology of Holy Inclusion.” Resource person/speaker for Connecting Families, Laurelville Mennonite Church Center, May 15–17, 2015.

“Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture: What’s Different and Why?” AMBS Pastors Week and Leadership Clinic, Jan. 26, 2015.

“Homosexuality: New Testament Interpretation and Moral Discernment.” Part of series on Homosexuality and Biblical Interpretation at Oak Grove Mennonite Church, Smithville, OH, Jan. 25, 2015.

“The Apocalypse of John and Theological Ecosystems of Destruction and Escape,” paper presented at “Rooted and Grounded: A Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship,” Elkhart, IN, Sept. 18–20, 2014.

“Los Peligros de la Escatología Popular y el Apocalipsis de Juan,” a four-hour seminar presented (in Spanish) at Semilla, the Latin American Anabaptist Seminary in Guatemala City, Aug. 20, 2014.

“Being a Faithful Church,” a YouTube video prepared for Mennonite Church Canada on the Bible and Homosexuality, June 2014, available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=og7GrwjJTw>.

“Engaging the Word through Christian Formation,” a series of lectures and sermons delivered at Western District [Mennonite] Conference, Aug. 1–3, 2013, including “Shaped by God’s Story: The Bible and Anabaptist Interpretation,” “Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture,” “Homosexuality and the Bible,” and “The Work of the Discerning Community.”

“Love” [a series of three sermons on God’s love for us, our love for God, and our love for each other], presented at Allegheny Mennonite Conference, Laurelville, PA, Aug. 3–5, 2012.

“Understanding Revelation for Today.” AMBS Pastors Week, January 23–26, 2012. Opening sermon, three teachings, and one workshop on Revelation and the Left Behind series.

- “Reading the Maccabean Literature by the Light of the Stake: Anabaptist Appropriations in the Reformation Period.” Paper presented in the “Function of Apocryphal and Pseudepigraphal Texts in Early Judaism and Early Christianity Section” (which I co-chair with David A. deSilva), Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, San Francisco, November 20, 2011.
- “It’s Epic: Remembering God’s Future: An Introduction to Revelation.” Mennonite Church Canada Assembly, July 4–8, 2011, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario.
- “When Pseudepigrapha Become Canonical: The Case of Mark 16:9-20 and John 7:53–8:11.” Paper presented in the “Function of Apocryphal and Pseudepigraphal Texts in Early Judaism and Early Christianity Section.” Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, Atlanta, November 20, 2010.
- “On Learning Your School’s Culture ... and Engaging the World.” Presentation at the Association of Theological Schools Roundtable Seminar for Newly Appointed Faculty, Pittsburgh, Pa., October 15–17, 2010.
- “Reading the Bible Cross-Culturally,” workshop presented with Jamie Ross and Samantha Lioi at Mennonite World Conference, Asunción, Paraguay, July 18, 2009.
- “Conceiving Violence: The Apocalypse of John and the Left Behind Series.” Apocalypse Section, Society of Biblical Literature, November 21, 2004.
- “The Seven Cities of the Apocalypse and Rome,” study tour of the sites of the seven cities of the Apocalypse in Turkey, Istanbul, and Rome, co-led with Nelson Kraybill, May–June 2004.
- “The Violence of Revelation as a Theological Problem,” Apocalypse Section, Society of Biblical Literature, November 22, 2003.
- “The Book of Revelation Today and the ‘Left Behind’ Series,” Workshop at Mennonite Church Canada General Assembly, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, July 2002. I have given similar presentations at Kern Road Mennonite Church, South Bend, Indiana (June 2002; September 2004); Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana (July and October 2002; July 2004); Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas (February 2003); Hesston College, Hesston, Kansas (February 2003); Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas (February 2003); Eighth Street Mennonite Church, Goshen, Indiana (April 2003; October 2003; March 2005); Evangelical Anabaptist Seminary Program, Winnipeg, Manitoba (May 2004); Prairie Street Mennonite Church, Elkhart, Indiana (May 2004); First Mennonite Church, Middlebury, Indiana (October 2004); Bluffton University, Bluffton, Ohio (November 2004); Lower Deer Creek Mennonite Church, Kalona, Iowa (January 2005); Hively Avenue Mennonite Church, Elkhart, Indiana (January 2005); Belmont Mennonite Church, Elkhart, Indiana (February 2005); and Mennonite Church of Normal, Normal, Illinois (August 2005).
- “How to Interpret the Bible in the Life of the Congregation,” Workshop at Mennonite Church General Assembly, Nashville, Tennessee, July 2001.
- “The Lamb in the Rhetorical Program of the Apocalypse of John.” Rhetoric and the New Testament Section, Society of Biblical Literature annual meeting, San Francisco, 1998.
- “Introduction to the Book of Revelation,” Series of four lectures on the Book of Revelation, Market Street Presbyterian Church, Lima, Ohio, March 15–April 5, 1998.
- “The Dead Sea Scrolls,” Kiwanis Club, Bluffton, Ohio, February 5, 1998.
- “The Dead Sea Scrolls on the Fiftieth Anniversary of their Discovery,” Market Street Presbyterian Church, Lima, Ohio, March 23, 1997.
- “The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls,” Bluffton, Ohio, Lion’s Club, March 18, 1997.
- “The Lamb in the Book of Revelation,” Institute for Learning in Retirement (Bluffton, Ohio), October 9, 1996. “Learning from the Dead Sea Scrolls,” Continuing Education Seminar for Findlay-Area United Methodist Clergy (FINDUMAC), Findlay, Ohio, September 9, 1996.
- “The Dead Sea Scrolls: An Introduction to Their Discovery and Significance,” St. Michael’s Catholic Church (Findlay area churches), Findlay, Ohio, March 18, 1996.
- “The Significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls for Biblical Scholarship,” Lima (Ohio) Area Clergy Academy, Lima, Ohio, Nov. 28, 1995.

- “Revisioning the Biblical Traditions of the Divine Warrior for Life in the Believing Community Today: A Response to Tremper Longman III & Daniel Reid’s *God is a Warrior* and Susan Niditch’s *War in the Hebrew Bible*.” Study of Peace in Scripture Group, Society of Biblical Literature, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 18, 1995.
- “The Dead Sea Scrolls Controversy” (Live Talk Show Guest), 1340 Talk Radio (WPBR AM 1340), Palm Beach, Florida, Dan Gregory, DJ, September 25, 1995.
- “Inclusive Language at Bluffton College and the Intolerance of Exclusivism in Service of Community,” Friday Colloquium Series, Bluffton University, May 5, 1995.
- “The Moral Implications of the Lamb Christology of the Apocalypse, or, Can Anything Good Come Out of the Revelation to John?” Friday Colloquium Series, Bluffton University, January 13, 1995.
- “Lion and Lamb in Revelation 5: The Origins and Ethical Function of John’s Lamb Christology.” Study of Peace in Scripture Group, Society of Biblical Literature, Chicago, November 21, 1994.
- “How to Study the Bible Inductively,” series of five lectures, Lancaster Mennonite Conference’s School for Apostles, July 1994.
- “End Without Closure: A Program for an Ethic of Responsible Nonviolent Resistance?” a response to “Revelation 19–21: End Without Closure,” by M. Eugene Boring at 1993 Neumann Symposium on the theme, “Hope for the Kingdom and Responsibility for the World: Mark 13, Romans 8, and Revelation 20–21,” Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N.J., October 2, 1993.
- “The Signs as Witnesses in the Fourth Gospel: Reexamining the Evidence,” co-presented with Douglas B. Miller, Johannine Literature Section, Society of Biblical Literature, November 1991.

#### **PROFESSIONAL EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

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- New Testament Editor, Anabaptist Dictionary of the Bible (online), 2011–present.
- New Testament Editor, Believers Church Bible Commentary, 2006–present.
- Associate Editor, Princeton Theological Seminary Dead Sea Scrolls Project, Mohr-Siebeck (Tübingen, Germany) and Westminster/John Knox Press (Louisville, Ky.), 1992–present.
- Associate Editor, *Explorations*, American Interfaith Institute, 1990–1993. Executive Editor, *Koinonia Journal*, Princeton Theological Seminary, 1990–1993.
- Theology Book Editor, Herald Press (Scottsdale, Pa.), January 1985–August 1989.

#### **MINISTERIAL EXPERIENCE**

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- Overseer, Allegheny Mennonite Conference, 1983–1989
- Responsibilities: Provide general spiritual oversight of pastor and congregation, be liaison between conference and congregations; meet regularly with conference overseer board; provide consultation and assistance with pastoral review processes; meet regularly with pastors
- Pastor (with David E. Mishler), Blough Mennonite Church, Hollsopple, Pennsylvania, 1977–1985 (part-time and fulltime).
- Ordination Credentials held by the Central District Conference of Mennonite Church USA.

#### **CHURCH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

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Preached numerous sermons, taught Sunday school, and led discussions at local (and more distant) congregations, including:

- Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, Goessel, Kansas;
- Assembly Mennonite, Goshen, Indiana;
- Belmont Mennonite Church, Elkhart, Indiana;
- Benton Mennonite Church, Benton, Indiana;
- Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton, Kansas;
- Bethel Mennonite Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba;
- Blough Mennonite Church, Hollsopple, Pennsylvania;

- Bluffton Friends Meeting, Bluffton, Ohio;
- Casa Horeb, Guatemala City;
- Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship, Cincinnati, Ohio;
- Clinton Frame Mennonite Church, Goshen, Indiana;
- College Mennonite Church, Goshen, Indiana;
- Columbus Mennonite Church, Columbus, Ohio;
- Eden Mennonite Church, Moundridge, Kansas;
- Eighth Street Mennonite Church, Goshen, Indiana;
- Emmaus Road Mennonite Church, Berne, Indiana;
- Faith Mennonite Church, Goshen, Indiana;
- Fellowship of Hope, Elkhart, Indiana;
- First Mennonite Church, Bluffton, Ohio;
- First Mennonite Church, Iowa City, Iowa;
- First Mennonite Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba;
- Fort Garry Mennonite Fellowship, Winnipeg, Manitoba;
- Grace Mennonite Church, Pandora, Ohio;
- Grace United Methodist Church, South Bend, Indiana;
- Hively Avenue Mennonite Church, Elkhart, Indiana;
- Home Street Mennonite Church, Winnipeg, Manitoba;
- Kern Road Mennonite Church, South Bend, Indiana;
- Kidron Mennonite Church, Kidron, Ohio;
- Kingview Mennonite Church, Scottdale, Pennsylvania;
- Laurelville Mennonite Church Center, Laurelville, Pennsylvania;
- Leamington United Mennonite Church, Leamington, Ontario;
- Lima Mennonite Church, Lima, Ohio;
- Maplewood Mennonite Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana;
- Market Street Presbyterian Church, Lima, Ohio;
- Michigan State University Mennonite Fellowship, Lansing, Michigan;
- Neil Avenue Mennonite Church, Columbus, Ohio;
- Mennonite Church of Normal, Normal, Illinois;
- Oak Grove Mennonite Church, Smithville, Ohio;
- Peace Mennonite Church, Dallas, Texas;
- Pleasant Oaks Mennonite Church, Middlebury, Indiana;
- Prairie Street Mennonite Church, Elkhart, Indiana;
- Pulaski Mennonite Church, Pulaski, Iowa;
- Salem Mennonite Church, Dalton, Ohio;
- Salem Mennonite Church, Elida, Ohio;
- Salem Presbyterian Church, Venedocia, Ohio;
- Shalom Community Church, Ann Arbor, Michigan;
- Silverwood Mennonite Church, Goshen, Indiana;
- Southside Fellowship, Elkhart, Indiana;
- Summit Mennonite Church, Bordentown, Ohio;
- Walnut Hill Mennonite Church, Goshen, Indiana.

## **PERSONAL**

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Family: Married to Rachel Ann Leaman Johns; two daughters, Kendra (married to Kevin Nickel) and Jessica (married to Justin Mast); four grandchildren, Elliott Nickel, Ethan Nickel, Benjamin Mast, and Philip Mast.

Congregational Membership: Southside Fellowship, Elkhart, Indiana.

Hobby: genealogy