



## CURRICULUM VITAE

# Malinda Elizabeth Berry, PhD

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary  
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## CURRENT POSITIONS

### **Assistant Professor of Theology & Ethics Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary | Elkhart, Indiana**

In July 2014 I joined the Teaching Faculty at AMBS, where my responsibilities include teaching a variety of courses in the History, Theology & Ethics department (Creation Care, Thinking Ethically, Ethics for Organizations, Theology & Women's Narrative, Contemporary Theology, Suffering & Hope, Economic Justice & the Christian Conscience, Human Sexuality & Christian Ethics, Church & Race). I serve on the Pedagogy Committee and as the partnership representative to Merry Lea Environmental Center's Sustainability Leadership Semester.

### **Prophetic Christianity Book Series Editor Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. | Grand Rapids, Michigan**

Along with Dr. Bruce Ellis Benson and Dr. Peter Goodwin Heltzel, I am a founding editor of this book series begun in 2009. We work with a new generation of scholars to develop manuscripts (two per year) that explore the complex relationship between Christian doctrine and contemporary life. We bring to publication thoughtful works that ignite critical dialogue in classrooms and faith communities where people are striving to synthesize faith, action, and discipleship as they seek to live with integrity and authenticity into a just and peaceable global future. We particularly work at cultivating the scholarship of those who are connected to the Black Church, the Historic Peace Church, and progressive Evangelicalism. As of 2015, there are six published titles in the series.

## EDUCATION

### **2013 Doctor of Philosophy: Systematic Theology & Social Ethics Union Theological Seminary | New York, New York**

My dissertation, titled "'A Human Figure Poised to Embrace': Political Theology, Discipleship, Nonviolence & Nonconformity," focuses on theological anthropology in conversation with christology and ecclesiology. Drawing from Reinhold Niebuhr, Martin Luther King Jr., and Doris Janzen Longacre, I develop a reconstruction of the Anabaptist doctrine of nonconformity, central to US Mennonite theology.

### **2009 Master of Philosophy Union Theological Seminary | New York, New York**

### **2001 Master of Arts: Peace Studies Associated (now Anabaptist) Mennonite Biblical Seminary | Elkhart, Indiana**

### **1996 Bachelor of Arts: English & History Goshen College | Goshen, Indiana**

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & WORK EXPERIENCE

### 2016 – present **Nonviolent Communication Class**

Since February 2016, I have been part of a class receiving instruction in Marshall Rosenberg's theory and philosophy of nonviolent communication. Our teacher/facilitator, Amanda Blaine is a Center for Nonviolent Communication certified trainer based on Vaschon Island, Washington.

### 2015 **The Circle Way Practicum** **PeerSpirit, Inc. | Whidbey Island, Washington**

My spouse and I were privileged to join a group of twenty other women and men for the last practicum led by PeerSpirit founders Christina Baldwin and Ann Linnea. The week-long intensive gave us hand-on experience participating in and leading circle process using PeerSpirit's unique approach and protocols known as "the circle way." I left the week identifying as a "circle carrier" and have contributed my commitment to circle process to circle practice at AMBS and in my local congregation.

### 2014 – 2015 **Pre-Tenure Workshop for Faculty in Theological Schools | Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion | Crawfordsville, Indiana**

I was part of a thirteen-member cohort of pre-tenure scholars that met for a series of three workshop sessions from July to the following June. Our goals focused on understanding and exploring the porous nature of teaching, research, and writing. The racial, ethnic, national, religious, and geographical diversity of our group made the workshop experience both challenging and rewarding.

### 2009 – 2014 **Assistant Professor of Theological Studies & Director of the MA Program, Bethany Theological Seminary | Richmond, Indiana**

My full-time, tenure-track position is divided in half between teaching in Theological Studies and administering the MA Program.

### 2006 – 2009 **Visiting Scholar in Religion & Women's Studies** **Goshen College | Goshen, Indiana**

Through a partnership of the Multicultural Affairs Office; the Bible, Religion, and Philosophy Department; and the Women's Studies Program, I taught three courses a year, participated in MAO programming, and served as a mentor for several students minoring in Women's Studies.

### 2006 – 2007 **Columnist for Sojourners Magazine**

I was a monthly contributor to the magazine through "Living the Word," a 1,650-word column providing readers with theological reflections on the month's Revised Common Lectionary readings (see issues December 2006 – November 2007).

### 2003 **Interim Minister, Manhattan Mennonite Fellowship (New York, New York)**

I took a three-month assignment with my congregation, Manhattan Mennonite Fellowship, during a lengthy period of pastoral transition. My responsibilities included worship planning, administrative tasks, leading an internal conflict-resolution process, and providing basic pastoral care.

**1999 – 2001 Associate Director, Mennonite Voluntary Service (Elkhart, Indiana)**

My responsibilities in this position were three-fold: providing administrative oversight to an MVS unit in Chicago, Illinois; direct recruitment on college campuses; and designing and implementing program-wide recruitment strategies. MVS is a program of Mennonite Mission Network.

**1997 – 1998 Development Associate, Peace Action (Washington, DC)**

In the national office of this peace and disarmament non-profit organization, I worked with the development director to implement cultivation strategies for major donors, secure funding through foundation grants, and coordinate the design and production of direct mail fund-raising appeals. These efforts contributed to raising approximately \$900,000.

**SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS****2015 Learning to Teach in the Circle Way | Wabash Summer Project Grant Project**

I received a \$5,000 grant to pursue a pedagogy and research project of my design. The project involves participating in the Circle Process Practicum developed by Christina Baldwin and Ann Linnea of PeerSpirit, Inc. and then comparing their model of leadership development with Robert Greenleaf's Servant Leadership paradigm. I will use the results of my project for course development and share them through a conference presentation and an essay for journal publication.

**2014 Goshen College Young Alumni Servant Leadership Award**

The Young Alumni Servant Leadership Awards was established by the Goshen Alumni Association to honor and recognize the achievements of Goshen College alumni who exemplify the college motto, Culture for Service, and who live out the core values of the College: Christ-centered, passionate learners, global citizens, compassionate peacemakers and servant leaders. Awardees have a distinguished record of service and/or achievement to home, church, college, community, and world. They are committed to seeking a life which balances the demands of their professional, church, community and family life.

**2005 Daniel Day Williams Fellow, Union Theological Seminary**

Awarded by the faculty, this fellowship is given to a student who is doing outstanding work in theology and is interested in the relationship of theology, philosophy, ethics or culture in ways exemplified by Dr. Williams.

**2001 – 2004 Expanding Horizons Partnership Doctoral Fellow**

Awarded through The Fund for Theological Education to African American students entering PhD or ThD programs in the field of religion, fellowship recipients are chosen based on a variety of criteria including their academic record and desire to teach in the academy upon completion of their program. I also received the Dissertation Year Fellowship in 2009.

**2001 – 2005 Doctoral Study Fellow, Union Theological Seminary**

This fellowship for full-time study is awarded to outstanding applicants to the doctoral program, and funding is provided throughout the first four years of study.

**2000 Peace Studies Award, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary**

The History, Theology & Ethics faculty give this annual award to two students doing outstanding work in the field of Peace Theology.

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

American Academy of Religion  
Anabaptist/Mennonite Scholars Network  
Society for the Arts in Religious & Theological Studies

**RESEARCH AGENDA**

**Below, listed alphabetically, are projects both on my desk and on my horizon.**

*(Disciplinary and methodological approaches follow in parentheses.)*

**EcoWomanism and Nonviolence in Theological Perspective**

*(ecothology, feminist theology/spirituality, systematic theology, womanist theology/spirituality)*

**Pneumatology and Communal Discernment**

*(peace church ecclesiology, Anabaptism and pneumatology, nonviolent communication, circle process)*

**Shalom Political Theology**

*(Anabaptist theology and ethics, peace theology, Dorothee Soelle's mystical theology)*

**PUBLICATIONS****Books**

Benson, Bruce Ellis, Malinda Elizabeth Berry, and Peter Goodwin Heltzel eds. *Prophetic Evangelicals: Envisioning the Just and Peaceable Kingdom*. Prophetic Christianity 1. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. 2012.

Graber Miller, Keith, and Malinda Elizabeth Berry, eds. *Wrestling with the Text: Young Adult Perspectives on Scripture*. Journeys with Scripture 2. Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House, 2006.

**Articles, Essays & Book Chapters**

Berry, Malinda Elizabeth. "Thinking of Myself as Your Servant is a Bad Idea: Mennonite Education & the Problem of the Servant Leadership." In *Education with the Grain of the Universe: A Nonviolent Program for the Future of Mennonite Schools, Colleges, and Universities*, edited by J. Denny Weaver. Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House, forthcoming.

———. "Shalom Political Theology: A New Type of Mennonite Peace Theology." *Conrad Grebel Review*, 34, no. 1 (Winter 2016), 49–73.

———. "What about the Sacrifice of Animals in the Hebrew Scriptures?" In *A Faith Embracing All Creatures: Addressing Commonly Asked Questions about Christian Care for Animals* edited by Andy Alexis-Baker and Tripp York, 23–38. The Peaceable Kingdom Series 2. Eugene, Ore.: Cascade Books (2012).

———. "Changing the Bulb and Turning on the Light: The Power of Personal Agency in Feminist Work." In *Faith, Feminism, and Scholarship: The Next Generation*, edited by Melanie L. Harris and Kate M. Ott, 53–72. New York: Palgrave Macmillan (2011).

- . “Poised to Embrace: The Literary Arts and Anabaptism.” *Center for Mennonite Writing Journal* 3, no.3 Literary Art in Worship. Last accessed October 21, 2011, <http://www.mennonitewriting.org/journal/3/3/poised-embrace/>.
- . “The Gifts of an Extended Theological Table: MCC’s World Community Cookbooks as Organic Theology.” In *A Table of Sharing: Mennonite Central Committee and the Expanding Networks of Mennonite Identity*, edited by Alain Epp Weaver, 284–309. Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House, 2011.
- . “The Five Life Standards: Theology and Household Code.” In *Living More with Less*, Doris Janzen Longacre, edited by Valerie Weaver-Zercher, 35–37. 30th anniversary ed. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 2010.
- . “Needles Not Nails: Marginal Methodologies and Mennonite Theology.” In *The Work of Jesus Christ in Anabaptist Perspective: Essays in Honor of J. Denny Weaver*, edited by Alain Epp Weaver and Gerald J. Mast, 263–281. Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House, 2008.
- . “Milbank, Theology, and Stories of the Marginalized.” *The Conrad Grebel Review* 23, no. 2 (Spring 2005): 25–32.
- . “A Theology of Wonder.” *The Conrad Grebel Review* 23, no. 1 (Winter 2005): 9–29.
- . “On Racism, Mennonite Politics, and Liberation: Words We Don’t Like to Hear.” *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology*, 3 (Fall 2002): 1–9.
- . “Responses to Kampen.” *The Conrad Grebel Review* 19, no. 2 (Spring 2001): 47–51.
- . “Women and Missio Dei.” In *Anabaptist Visions for the New Millennium: A Search for Identity*, edited by Dale Schrag and James Juhnke, 167–173. Kitchener, ON; Scottsdale, PA: Pandora Press, Herald Press, 2000.
- . “Set 2: Believing Readers Reading the Bible and Calling It Scripture.” In *Telling Our Stories: Personal Accounts of Engagement with Scripture*, edited by Ray Gingerich and Earl Zimmerman, 249–251. Journeys with Scripture 1. Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House, 2006.
- Berry, Malinda Elizabeth, and Elizabeth Landis. “Scripture is a Snake.” In *Telling Our Stories: Personal Accounts of Engagement with Scripture*, edited by Ray Gingerich and Earl Zimmerman, 37–48. Journeys with Scripture 1. Telford, PA: Cascadia Publishing House, 2006.

### Book Reviews

- Berry, Malinda Elizabeth. Review of *The Nonviolent God* by J. Denny Weaver. *Mennonite Quarterly Review*, 89, no. 2 (April 2015): 336–338.
- . Review of *A Mind Patient and Untamed: Assessing John Howard Yoder’s Contributions to Theology, Ethics, and Peacemaking*, edited by Ben C. Ollenburger and Gayle Gerber Koontz. *Conrad Grebel Review* 23, no. 1 (Winter 2005): 102–103.
- . Review of *Living Stones in the Household of God: the Legacy and Future of Black Theology*, edited by Linda E. Thomas, ed. *Sojourners Magazine* 33, no. 5 (May 2004): 41–44.

- . Review of *Anabaptist Theology in Face of Postmodernity: A Proposal for the Third Millennium*, by J. Denny Weaver. *Mennonite Life* 59, no. 1 (March 2004). Last accessed October 21, 2011, <http://www.bethelks.edu/mennonitelife/2004Mar/reviews.php>.
- . Review of *The Nonviolent Atonement*, by J. Denny Weaver. *Mennonite Life* 59, no. 1 (March 2004). Last accessed October 21, 2011, <http://www.bethelks.edu/mennonitelife/2004Mar/reviews.php>.

## LECTURESHIPS & ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

This list is a sampling of presentations I have made going back ten years.

- 2 | 24–27 | 2017 Annual Mennonite Bible Study Series Speaker, Bethel Mennonite Church and First Mennonite Church, Mountain Lake, Minnesota.
- 11 | 3–4 | 2015 “God’s Mission & Voices from the Margins,” “Circles of Bread, Circles of Stones: The (Nonviolent) Mission of Mennonite Education,” and “‘My Soul is Filled with Joy’: Mariology & the Mission of Mennonite Education.” Augsburg Lectures at Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Virginia.
- 10 | 17 | 2015 “Thinking of Myself as Your Servant is a Bad Idea: Mennonite Education & the Problem of the Servant Leadership Paradigm,” *Mennonite Education: Past, Present and Future*, at Bluffton University, Bluffton, Ohio.
- 11 | 18 | 2012 “The Garden of God’s Womb: The Female Divine in Toni Morrison’s *Paradise*” delivered as part of the session titled “The Goddess, Music, and Womanist Epistemologies” sponsored by the Womanist Approaches to Religion & Society Section at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois.
- 3 | 25 | 2011 “Finding Wisdom in Her Lap: Mary as *Alma Mater*” an interdisciplinary paper written by Malinda Elizabeth Berry and Anne H. Berry (MFA) delivered at “My Spirit Rejoices in God My Savior: Mary in Anabaptist Dress” a conference sponsored by the Institute of Mennonite Studies at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana.
- 11 | 7 | 2009 “The Sisterist Twist: A Proposal Regarding the Place of Feminist Social Analysis in Third Wave Womanism” delivered as part of the “Third Wave Womanism Panel” sponsored by the Womanist Approaches to Religion & Society Section at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Montréal, Quebec.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

[personal website](http://malindaelizabethberry.net) | malindaelizabethberry.net

[Academia.edu](https://www.academia.edu/) | Malinda Elizabeth Berry

[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/malindaeberry/) | Malinda Elizabeth Berry

[LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/malindaeberry/) | Malinda Elizabeth Berry

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