

Anabaptism 500th Anniversary Resources List

Compiled by Mennonite Life Library and Archives Staff

The following list includes a variety of physical and digital resources to aid you in researching Anabaptist/Mennonite history, as well as the history of your individual church congregation.

If the resource is a book available in our library, the call number is listed after the title and author. Most of the books on this list may be checked out, but only Mennonite Life members may check out books.

If the resource is a website, digital article, or is otherwise hosted online, the link is listed below the resource. You may either click on the link or copy and paste it into your Internet browser's address bar.

You are welcome to come in and research at the Mennonite Life Library during our open hours, Tuesday-Friday, 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. No appointment is necessary. Our library staff and volunteers will be happy to assist you with your research. You may contact us by calling 717-393-9745 or by sending a message to the following email address: research@mennonitelife.org

Places to Start

- GAMEO – Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online – Based on *The Mennonite Encyclopedia* with additional content contributed by community editors, GAMEO is a robust online database of Mennonite and Anabaptist historical information. It also includes many articles on the history of individual congregations.
 - https://gameo.org/index.php?title=Welcome_to_GAMEO
- *Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage* – Mennonite Life's quarterly magazine contains articles on early Anabaptism, as well as articles on LMC and Atlantic Coast Conference history. Members have access to past issues of *PMH* in our Online Research Databases.
 - <https://mennonitelife.org/documents/>
- *Mennonite Research Journal*, precursor to *PMH*, includes earlier articles on conference and congregational history. It is also available to Mennonite Life members through our Online Research Databases.
- Mennonite Life Library Catalog – By searching your congregation's name in the library catalog, you can find out if your congregation has published a church history. If your congregation has changed its name, try searching previous names as well. You might also wish to search for books on Anabaptism, Mennonite history, or local conference history.
 - <https://lmhs.follettdestiny.com/>
- Mennonite Life Collections Catalog – Under the "Archives" section of Mennonite Life's new collections catalog, search your congregation's name to see what we have in our records. If your congregation has changed its name, search by the most recent name first.
 - <https://mennonitelife.catalogaccess.com/>

General/Comprehensive

- *Radicals and reformers: a survey of global Anabaptist history* by Troy Osborne. BX4931.3 .O83 2024
- *An introduction to Mennonite history* by Cornelius J. Dyck. BX8115 .I57 1993
- *Through fire and water* by Harry Loewen and Steven M. Nolt. BX8115 .L6484 2010

- *Timeline II: living echo of Menno Simons*, compiled by Jacob Schiere and Nelleke Schiere. BX8115 .T56 2009
- *The 450th anniversary of the Anabaptist movement, 1525-1975*. Calendar with a date on each day corresponding to an event in Anabaptist/Mennonite history. Vertical File Anniversary
- *500-year anniversary, 1525-2025, Switzerland Anabaptist calendar*. Calendar with a date on select days of each month corresponding to an event in Anabaptist/Mennonite history. Vertical File Anniversary
- *Stories: how Mennonites came to be* by John D. Roth. BX8115 .R68 2006
- *Cities of refuge: stories from Anabaptist-Mennonite history and life* by Harry Loewen. BX8115 .L6484 2010b

Beliefs

- GAMEO: Anabaptist Doctrinal Writings
 - https://gameo.org/index.php?title=Doctrinal_Writings_of_the_Anabaptists
- GAMEO: Anabaptist Doctrinal Confessions
 - https://gameo.org/index.php?title=Confessions,_Doctrinal
- *Anabaptist essentials* by Palmer Becker. BX4931.3 .B43 2017
- *The naked Anabaptist: the bare essentials of a radical faith* by Stuart Murray. BX4931.3 .M87 2015
- *Anabaptist Community Bible*. The text of the Common English Bible with marginal notes interpreting the Bible through an Anabaptist lens. BS195.C58 A54 2025 (Reference)

Early History

- GAMEO: Articles on key leaders of the Radical Reformation in Switzerland (click names to access links): [Georg Blaurock](#), [Conrad Grebel](#), [Felix Manz](#), [Michael Sattler](#), [Ulrich Zwingli](#)
 - **Staff note:** Zwingli later renounced Anabaptism in speech and writing, but due to his scholarly background and early associations with the Radical Reformers, he was a key figure in giving the movement a voice.
- *Living the Anabaptist story: a guide to early beginnings with questions for today*. Lisa D. Weaver and J. Denny Weaver. BX4931.3 .W43 2015
- *The Anabaptist story: an introduction to sixteenth-century Anabaptism*. William R. Estep. BX4931 .E8 1996
- *Discover Anabaptism in Switzerland*. Markus Rediger and Erwin Röthlisberger. BX8119.S9 R4313 2018
- Samuel E. Wenger's *Anabaptist and Reformed tour guides for Switzerland* (series of 4): DQ16 .W46
- "Responses of sixteenth-century Anabaptists to persecution" by John S. Oyer. p.2 of *Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage*, October 1995.
- "The Emergence and Travail of the Swiss Brethren and Sisters, Called Anabaptists: An Introduction" by Leo Schelbert and Paul Hostettler. p.2 of *Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage*, January 2009.
- "Bernese Anabaptists in the Sixteenth to Eighteenth Centuries and Their Migrations in the Old and New World" by Leo Schelbert. p.2 of *Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage*, October 2009.

American Mennonite History (Mennonite Experience in America series)

- *Land, piety, peoplehood: the establishment of Mennonite communities in America, 1683-1790* by Richard K. MacMaster. BX8116 .M46 1985
- *Peace, faith, nation: Mennonites and Amish in nineteenth-century America* by Theron F. Schlabach. BX8116 .S35 1988
- *Vision, doctrine, war: Mennonite identity and organization in America, 1890-1930* by James C. Juhnke. BX8116 .J84 1990
- *Mennonites in American society, 1930-1970: modernity and the persistence of religious community* by Paul Toews. BX8116 .T64 1996

Atlantic Coast Conference and LMC

- *The Earth is the Lord's: a narrative history of the Lancaster Mennonite Conference* by John L. Ruth. BX8129.M5 R87 2001
 - **Staff note:** *The Earth is the Lord's* also includes a thorough overview of early Swiss Anabaptist history.
- *Unity and diversity: historical highlights and commentaries of God and his people, 1978-2003: 25th anniversary, Atlantic Coast Conference of Mennonite Church USA* by John H. Rudy. BX8129.M5 R83 2003

Martyrs Mirror and Froschauer Bible

- *On fire for Christ: stories of Anabaptist martyrs, retold from Martyrs Mirror.* BX4933.E8 O6 1989
- *In the whale's belly and other martyr stories* by James Lowry. BX4931.2 .L68 1981 c.2
- *The Martyrs' Mirror made plain: a study guide and further studies* by James Lowry. BR1604.2 .L68 1997
- *Lessons from the Mirror: 500 years of Anabaptism* by J. Ross Baughman. BR1600 .B38 2024
- "The Froschauer Bibles and Their Significance for the Anabaptist Movement" by Urs B. Leu, p.10 of *Pennsylvania Mennonite Heritage*, April 2002.

Music

- *Church music and worship among the Mennonites* by Orlando Schmidt. ML3169 .S35 1981
- *Nineteenth century sacred music of the Mennonite Church in the United States* by Paul Marvin Yoder. ML3169 .Y63
- *The importance of music in worship* by Nancy Rosenberger Faus, editor. ML3161 .I46 1993

Conscientious Objection and Alternative Service

- *Nonresistance in colonial Pennsylvania* by Wilbur J. Bender. BR115.P3 B45
- *The CPS story: an illustrated history of Civilian Public Service* by Albert N. Keim. D810.C82 K45 1990
- *Faith under test: alternative service during World War II in the U.S. and Canada* by John M. Dyck. UB342.U5 D93 1997

- *Experiences of C.O.'s in C.P.S. camps, in I-W service in hospitals, and during World War I* compiled by William and Malinda Beechy. UB342.U5 B43 1990z

Missions and Global Anabaptism

- *A global Mennonite history* by John A. Lapp and C. Arnold Snyder, general editors. BX8115 .G56 2003 v.1
- *Called to be sent: essays in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Eastern Mennonite Board of Missions and Charities, 1914-1964.* Edited by Paul N. Kraybill. BV2545 .A385 [Staff note: Note older date of 1964.]
- *Going global with God as Mennonites for the 21st century* by Walter Sawatsky. BX8122 .S29 2017
- *Forging a theology of mission from an Anabaptist perspective* by Wilbert R. Shenk. BV2545 .M577 no.13
- Map of Anabaptists around the world, 2022, from Mennonite World Conference
 - <https://mwc-cmm.org/en/membership-map-and-statistics>

Celebrating the 500th

- Anabaptist Community Bible – a special 500th anniversary Bible published by MennoMedia.
 - <https://www.mennomedia.org/anabaptist-community-bible/#MennoMedia>
- Special 500th anniversary issues of periodicals and magazines, such as *Anabaptist World* and *Mennonite Family History*, are available at the Mennonite Life library.
- “Anabaptism at 500 Tool Kit” compiled by MennoMedia – “Designed for churches, conferences, historical societies, and schools. It provides a rich set of free resources to help you plan your 500th anniversary celebration.”
 - <https://anabaptismat500.com/anabaptism-at-500-tool-kit/>
- “Should We Celebrate Anabaptist Beginnings?” – This video features an interview with John Roth from Goshen College, director of the *Anabaptism at 500* project. He discusses how the various groups of Anabaptists commemorated the Jan 1525 event in the past; in fact, many did not, thinking such a celebration focused on humans rather than on Jesus Christ. The second half of the video goes into detail about the concept and approach to creating the Anabaptist Community Bible.
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HuiBokZj-Js>
- World Fellowship Sunday, 19 January 2025, Mennonite World Conference – has ideas and resources for celebrating the 500th in your congregation, regardless of the date.
 - <https://mwc-cmm.org/en/resources/anabaptist-world-fellowship-sunday-2025/>
- Mennonite World Conference, 2025 – An article containing information about the Mennonite World Conference to be held on May 29, 2025, in Zurich, Switzerland commemorating the 500-year anniversary of Anabaptism.
 - <https://mwc-cmm.org/en/stories/mennonite-world-conference-commemorates-birth-anabaptism-2025>
 - An additional link with more information can be found here: Anabaptism at 500.
 - <https://www.anabaptism500.ch/>
- Scripture Read-a-Thon, 2025 – An article with information about a global event focused on reading the Bible.
 - <https://mwc-cmm.org/en/stories/read-the-bible-around-the-world/>