

Call for Submissions to the April 2019 Issue of *Anabaptist Witness*

Mission in Conflict Zones

Submission Deadline: October 1, 2018

Since 2011 up to 500,000 people have been killed in Syria. Over 100,000 have died since 2006 in the Mexican Drug War. Major armed conflicts also rage in Afghanistan, Myanmar, Somalia, and Yemen, while smaller conflicts destroy lives, communities, and land in Colombia, Egypt, Israel-Palestine, Kashmir, the Maghreb, Nigeria, and many other parts of the world. Even in seemingly peaceful regions, specific populations are under regular lethal attack: women, people of color, refugees, indigenous communities, environmental activists, journalists, and others. Sexism, racism, settler colonialism, and economic forces create enduring conflicts.

Anabaptists and Mennonites joining God's mission in these conflict zones have specific challenges. Yet in many ways these challenges are not new to Anabaptist and Mennonite Christians: European Anabaptism was born amidst religious persecution and warfare, and later Anabaptists and Mennonites have experienced, and sometimes contributed to, conflicts such as the American and Russian revolutions, the American Civil War, World War I and II, the Chaco War, the Vietnam War, the Central American conflicts of the 1980s, and so on. Missionaries in particular have been caught up in colonial conflicts, including those that have occurred in India, Indonesia, and elsewhere, and in the persistent systemic violence against women and certain racial, ethnic, and religious communities. Anabaptist and Mennonite mission has also taken the form of protesting and reforming institutions, including governments and corporations, whose policies and projects can inflict damage at a global scale.

The April 2019 issue of *Anabaptist Witness* explores the nature and shape of mission in conflict zones. How must the church witness in the midst of active conflict, and how does that conflict limit or otherwise influence witness? How does mission in conflict zones differ from mission in other times and places? How does mission differ in different kinds of conflicts? What are stories emerging out of Anabaptist and Mennonite mission in conflict zones today? What might we learn from studying Anabaptist and Mennonite mission in conflict zones from the past? What biblical, theological, and historical resources might shape Anabaptist and Mennonite mission in future conflicts?

Because this journal is an exchange among peoples from around the world, from laity and pastors to academics and administrators, we welcome submissions from a variety of genres including sermons, photo-essays, reflections, interviews, biographies, poems, and academic papers. We also encourage submissions in languages other than English, particularly in French or Spanish.

Guidelines and deadline:

We welcome submissions on this topic through October 1, 2018. Through a peer review process, we will choose 3–4 shorter articles of approximately 1,500 words in length, and 5–6 academic papers of no more than 7,500 words (including footnotes). Image-based and other artistic submissions are also subject to peer review. Please familiarize yourself with our editorial process and technical requirements at <http://www.anabaptistwitness.org/guidelines/>. If you have an idea you would like feedback on, you are welcome to submit a one-page abstract by September 15, 2018.

Address all correspondence to *Anabaptist Witness* Editor Jamie Pitts (jpitts@amb.edu).

Anabaptist Witness is a publication of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Mennonite Church Canada, and Mennonite Mission Network.