

**Call for Submissions to the October 2020 Issue of *Anabaptist Witness***  
**Displaced: Indigenous Peoples, Land, and Mission**  
**Submission Deadline: April 1, 2020**

Anabaptists and Mennonites are known for migrating around the world in search of safe harbor to practice our faith without government regulation or the threat of persecution. Yet what we have counted as safe harbor has often been land recently wrested from indigenous peoples by colonial governments. The pattern has been replicated over the centuries: Prussian Mennonites arriving in the Crimea, various groups in North America, Old Colony Mennonites in northern Mexico, Russian Mennonites in the Chaco. In many cases the displacement of indigenous peoples from their lands has worked in tandem with ecological degradation.

Although some Anabaptists and Mennonites are beginning to analyze and challenge this pattern, it continues to play out, for instance in the recent displacements of indigenous peoples by Mennonite farmers in the Chaco and in Mexico's Yucatan peninsula, and of course in permanent Mennonite settler colonialist societies throughout the Americas. Related phenomena can be seen today in the eastern plains of Colombia, where Old Colony Mennonite farmers from Mexico are buying up land whose owners were displaced during Colombia's decades of armed conflict, or in Suriname where North American Mennonite investments in mining are directly harming indigenous peoples. On the other hand, Hmong Mennonites, members of the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria (EYN), and indigenous Mennonites in the Americas continue to experience displacement.

The October 2020 issue of *Anabaptist Witness* invites submissions that examine the connections between displacement (especially of indigenous peoples), land, and mission. What demands do these connections make on Anabaptists and our witness—what are the demands for repentance, lament, listening to indigenous peoples, reparations, and reconciliation? What stories, from past and present, might help us understand the pattern of displacement and environmental degradation? What stories might inspire us toward transformation? What missiological, theological, and biblical resources do we have—or might we need to gain—in order to face and change the pattern? How do our current resources need to be criticized?

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 April 1, 2020. 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 March 15, 2020.

Reviews of books on the theme or on other topics relevant to the journal are also welcome.

Address all correspondence to *Anabaptist Witness* editor Jamie Pitts ([jpitts@ambs.edu](mailto:jpitts@ambs.edu)).

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