



SPECIAL EVENTS AT MENNONITE/S WRITING TEN

The following are open to the general public
in Marpeck Commons, 2299 Grant Ave.

Thursday June 12, 8:00 PM
Opening Reception

Friday June 13, 8:00 PM
Keynote Address by Magdalene Redekop
& CMU Press / Pandora Press Book Launch

Saturday June 14, 11:00 AM
Keynote Address by Julia Spicher Kasdorf

Saturday June 14, 8:00 PM
Keynote Address by David Waltner-Toews

POST-CONFERENCE EXTRA

Sunday Afternoon Field Trip:
Literary Tour of Steinbach

More information at
cmu.ca/mennonites-writing

about the Mennonite/s Writing Ten Conference

The term “Mennonite/s Writing” was coined by scholar Hildi Froese Tiessen, who strove to emphasize the artists doing creative work alongside the scholars evaluating the field, and organized the first conference. Many key assessments of Mennonite literature have sprung from conference proceedings over the years, including essays in Froese Tiessen’s 2023 book *On Mennonite/s Writing* and within the upcoming collection *In Search of a Mennonite Imagination: Key Texts in Mennonite Literary Criticism* edited by Robert Zacharias.

The first Mennonite/s Writing conference took place at Conrad Grebel College in 1990 and subsequently eight other conferences have been held: at Goshen College (three times), University of Winnipeg Chair in Mennonite Studies (twice), Bluffton University, Eastern Mennonite University, and Fresno Pacific University.



An International Conference

Mennonite/s Writing Ten: Words at Work and Play

June 12-15, 2025

Canadian Mennonite University
500 Shaftesbury Blvd.
Winnipeg, Manitoba

cmu.ca/mennonites-writing



about the conference theme

Words at Work and Play

In her 2020 book *Making Believe: Questions About Mennonites and Art*, Magdalene Redekop attributes the surge of creative writing by North American Mennonites in the late 20th century to those who have been “willing to play and be serious at the same time.” From the martyr ballads and trickster tales of early Anabaptists through centuries of sermons, hymns, and diaries to the bestselling fiction, drama, and poetry of today, creative writing among Mennonites has always been a type of deeply serious play.

At once a form of labour and of entertainment, Mennonite literary work continues to be a source of community and transgression; a means of memory and of revision; a practice of devotion, resistance, lament, and joy. In keeping with the field's long-standing practice of working across creative and critical boundaries, Mennonite/s Writing Ten will feature presentations that engage with “words at work and play” across many disciplines and creative genres.



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Magdalene Redekop
Translating Self and Other

Julia Spicher Kasdorf
Mennonite Ruminant,
Notes from the Eleventh Province

David Waltner-Toews
The Meaning of Everything:
Experience, Science, Imagination

Canadian Mennonite University is grateful for the financial support offered to this conference by the Marpeck Fund and Research Manitoba.



REGISTRATION

Early bird (by 31 May, 2025): \$300

After 31 May: \$350

Discounts for students (see website)
Registration fee **includes** all sessions, two lunches, one dinner, Saturday evening banquet, coffee breaks, evening refreshments; tax inclusive

To register, go to:

cmu.ca/mennonites-writing

Accommodation on campus (single or shared room, twin beds, washroom shared between two rooms, inquire about breakfast options)

Cost: \$51-\$69/night (tax incl.)

To book, email mennowritingx@cmu.ca

Hotels near CMU

- Hyatt House, 700 Sterling Lyon Parkway (2 km)
- Hilton Garden Inn, 495 Sterling Lyon Parkway (2.3 km)
- Holiday Inn, 2520 Portage Ave. (4.7 km)
- Viscount Gort Hotel, 1670 Portage Ave. (5.6 km)

A limited number of travel subsidies are available. Accessibility questions?

Contact us: mennowritingx@cmu.ca

