

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS. IF MORE THAN ONE PERSON PLANS TO COME, PLEASE ALSO USE SECOND BOOKING FORM OVERLEAF.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____ POSTCODE _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please tick each seminar you wish to attend, and write the amount enclosed in the space provided. Please include full fees for seminars 276 - 280 with this booking form, to be returned at least five days before the seminar date.

276 **Overcoming Corruption**
Thurs 13 September
Fee £10 (£5 unwaged) £ _____

277 **Are You Sitting Comfortably**
Sat 29 September
Fee £20 (£10 unwaged) £ _____

278 **Seeing the Light**
Sat 13 October
Fee £20 (£10 unwaged) £ _____

279 **Jesus Facing Conflict**
Wed 24 October
Fee £20 (£10 unwaged) £ _____

280 **The Emerging Church**
Sat 1 December
Fee £20 (£10 unwaged) £ _____

Would you like to make a donation toward our work? (optional) £ _____

Total amount enclosed £ _____

Cheques payable to: "London Mennonite Centre".
To help us plan for catering,
tick if you are ___ vegetarian ___ vegan.
If you have any dietary restrictions or food allergies, please explain:

Cross-Currents Autumn 2007



The London Mennonite Centre
*rooted in the Anabaptist tradition,
cultivating Christian discipleship
as a way of life*

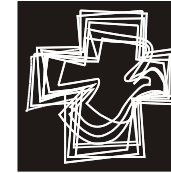
- Cross-Currents seminars
- Bridge Builders –
Transforming church conflict
- Metanoia Book Service
- Library
- Prayer Hut
- Guest rooms
- Facility hire



Photo: Martin Atkinson

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Web: www.menno.org.uk

London Mennonite Trust
Registered Charity No. 227410



Seminar Calendar
September – December 2007

Cross-Currents

The Teaching Programme of the
London Mennonite Centre

Cross-Currents seminars are a feast of learning, discussion, worship and fellowship – and, of course, good food! We invite you to participate, to bring friends and to pass this brochure on to others who may benefit from this teaching programme. We welcome enquiries about bringing all or part of a seminar to your congregation, college or organisation.

One-day seminars start with morning coffee, include lunch, and continue through teatime. At our evening table talks, presentations and discussion take place over a meal. All meals include vegetarian options. If you have dietary restrictions or food allergies, please note them on the booking form. Please note the scheduled times for each seminar you choose, as starting and ending times may differ.

Books, especially titles dealing with seminar themes, are offered for sale by Metanoia Book Service at www.metanoiabooks.org.uk or contact sales@metanoiabooks.org.uk

To book for seminars 276 - 280 please complete and return the enclosed booking form plus the full fee. A limited number of bursaries are available. To ensure a place and to help the staff in planning food and resources, please book at least five days prior to the seminar date. Cancellations must take place five days in advance of a seminar in order for a refund, less a £5 handling fee, to be issued.

Please note that Bridge Builders courses require a special application process, and have a different cancellation policy.

The London Mennonite Centre is a Victorian building with access difficulties for non-ambulant people. However we want our facilities to be enjoyed by all people so please contact our hosts (hosts@menno.org.uk) if you have any special needs, to discuss how they can be accommodated.

If you do not want to receive future mailings, please tick the box on the booking form.

Root & Branch

Anabaptist Network

Bridge Builders

The London Mennonite Centre is a member of Root & Branch: Radical Christian Vision Network. Root & Branch is a network of Anabaptist-oriented organisations. Its current members include: the LMC (with Bridge Builders and Metanoia), the Anabaptist Network, Workshop, Ekklesia, Urban Expression, SPEAK, Christian Peacemaker Teams UK, Wood Green Mennonite Church and Peace Church. To subscribe to the monthly email bulletin of Root & Branch, check on www.rootandbranch.org.uk or contact info@rootandbranch.org.uk

Anabaptist Network events

The Anabaptist Network offers resources to Christians exploring what it means to be radical followers of Jesus in a world in which the church is now on the margins.

Crucible: Creating Church on the Margins at Selly Oak Colleges, Birmingham 20-21 October
See www.cruciblecourse.net

Workshop: Applied Christian Studies
One weekend a month for a year that will change your life! www.workshop.org.uk

Bridge Builders

offers a range of services including:

- coaching for leaders facing conflict
- consultancy for those intervening in church conflicts
- interpersonal, leadership team and congregational mediation and conciliation services for those needing outside assistance.

For further information, please contact Alastair McKay, director of Bridge Builders
Email: alastairmckay@menno.org.uk

To receive further information about Bridge Builders mediation skills training courses, please contact Sharon Kniss, email: bb@menno.org.uk

Bridge Builders' Network Dates

Follow-up training days for "graduates" of the five-day mediation skills courses:

Thursday 6 September in London
Thursday 6 September in Manchester
Thursday 13 September in Leeds
Thursday 25 October in Reading
Thursday 10 January 2008 at the LMC
Wednesday 16 January 2008 in Durham
Thursday 24 January 2008 in Coventry

Please tick the appropriate box below if you want further information about the following:

- Church Mediation:**
An Ecumenical English Conference
Wed 19 September in London
- Skills Training for Mediation and Facilitation for Senior Church Leaders**
Mon-Fri 8-12 October in Durham
- Training of Trainers**
Tues-Thurs 13-15 November at LMC
- Skills Training for Mediation and Facilitation in the Church**
Sun-Fri 2-7 March 2008 in London
- Skills Training for Mediation and Facilitation for Senior Church Leaders**
Sun-Fri 11-16 May 2008 in Gloucester
- Becoming a Friend of the LMC**
-
- If you do NOT want to receive future mailings from us, please tick
- If you would like to receive mailings by email, please tick

*Please return to:
LMC, 14 Shepherds Hill, London N6 5AQ*

About the presenters

David Nussbaum worked for Transparency International, the leading global NGO focused on curbing corruption, from 2002 until May 2007 where he was Chief Executive. He is now Chief Executive of WWF-UK, which works to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature. David was formerly the Chair of Traidcraft, the leading UK 'Fair Trade' company and is a Trustee of the Anabaptist Network Trust.

Shan Stephens is a freelance filmmaker and storyteller. She is a founding member of The CREDO Storytelling Trust www.cafecredo.org.uk. She has worked with all ages and in a wide variety of both Church and community settings in the UK and overseas. Shan has a degree in Anthropology and Communications and offers training in story for the business world. www.storywise.co.uk

The Bridge Builders Team:

Alastair McKay is director of Bridge Builders at the LMC, offering consultancy, mediation and training services to British churches. He has been leading training in handling church conflict since 1995, working in the UK and the USA. Alastair has an MA in Conflict Transformation, and contributed a chapter on congregational decision-making to the book *Making Peace With Conflict* (Herald Press, 1999).

Colin Patterson is assistant director of Bridge Builders, and an Anglican priest. He is an experienced adult educator, who worked for 12 years as a training officer for the Diocese of Durham, and is author of the booklet *How to Learn Through Conflict* (Grove, 2003).

Sharon Kniss is Bridge Builders' assistant. She is a Mennonite from the United States, with a degree in Justice, Peace and Conflict Studies from Eastern Mennonite University in Virginia.

Thursday 13 September 2007

Overcoming Corruption: The Work of Transparency International

A Table Talk at LMC

David Nussbaum

From being unmentionable in polite conversation and referred to as "the 'C' word", corruption is now recognised as a critical issue for governments, in business and above all for the lives of people all over the world.

This Table Talk will review the nature and reality of corruption internationally, and focus on the work of Transparency International, the global anti-corruption organisation (www.transparency.org) which works to create change towards a world free of corruption. The talk will include some Christian perspectives on corruption and integrity.

To lead us this evening, we are pleased to welcome David Nussbaum, a former chair of the Trustees of the LMC and, until recently, the Chief Executive of Transparency International. The table talk will begin with an evening meal, after which David will share his experiences with us, followed by questions and discussion. Join us for what promises to be a very informative evening.

Thursday 13 September
6:30 – 9:30 pm.
Fee: £10 (£5 unwaged)
Fee includes VAT and meal
C-C seminar No. 276

Recommended Reading: *Property for People, Not for Profit: Alternatives to the Global Tyranny of Capital* by Ulrich Duchrow & Franz J Hinkelammert; *Christianity and Entrepreneurship: Protestant and Catholic Thoughts* by Samuel Gregg and Gordon Preece; *A High Price for Living Abundantly: The Story of Capitalism* by Henry Rempel.

Saturday 29 September 2007

Are You Sitting Comfortably? A Workshop on Christian Storytelling

Shan Stephens

Responding to a frequent request, we are pleased to offer a special day-long workshop on Christian storytelling. The aim of the workshop is to envision people, showing them the many different aspects of storytelling and helping them to see its potential. We would like to release the gifts that God has given each one of us to share God's story and our own stories. Our hope is that the day will equip and excite people enough to start storytelling or reawaken their gift.

To lead this workshop, we are pleased to welcome Shan Stephens, founding member of the CREDO Storytelling Trust, who has taught storytelling in a variety of church settings in the UK and overseas.

During the day, Shan will cover topics such as: 1) some easy ways to tell stories; 2) telling a Bible story; 3) developing your gifts; 4) the tradition of storytelling and its renaissance; and 5) setting up your own storytelling group. To warm people up, Shan will use story games which will access a variety of story genres. The day assumes no previous experience of storytelling, but can also benefit those already telling stories.

Saturday 29 September
9:30 am. – 4:00 pm.
Fee: £20 (£10 unwaged)
Fee includes VAT and meal
C-C seminar No. 277

Recommended Reading: *Tell It Like It Is: Reclaiming the Practice of Testimony* by Lillian Daniel.

Bridge Builders
Monday-Friday 8-12 October 2007

Skills Training for Mediation and Facilitation in the Church

Venue: Ushaw College, Durham

Bridge Builders Team

Bridge Builders is offering their acclaimed mediation skills course in Durham, on a residential basis at Ushaw College

The five-day course is designed to equip participants with practical skills for responding constructively to conflict, particularly in church settings but with much wider application. The course explores conflict within us, between individuals and within church groups. It is geared to help church leaders and lay people develop the ability to understand conflict and its sources, and learn methods to facilitate its resolution and transformation using mediation and group facilitation.

Please tick the booking form to request a full programme and application form. Spaces on the course are limited to only 24, and priority will be given to participants who can put this training to practical use. There is the option of attending non-residentially.

8-12 October

Course begins 9:00am on Monday, ends 4:30pm Friday and includes two evening sessions.
Fee: £595. Fee includes VAT, course manual, style booklet, food and residential accommodation.
C-C seminar No 251

Saturday 13 October 2007

Seeing the Light: Photography as a Spiritual Discipline

Howard Zehr

Through the medium of photography, this workshop will explore the importance of visual awareness and the meaning of light as an entrée to meditation and reflection.

No background in photography is required although participants should bring, and know how to use, a still camera. This may be digital (preferred) or film; a simple "point-and-shoot" or one-use camera is adequate. Although the workshop will cover some very basic technical aspects of photography, if necessary, the primary focus will be learning sensitivity to light and "framing" images. We will also explore light as a metaphor, drawing especially upon biblical images. Part of the time will be spent as a group and part will be spent photographing, either individually or in pairs. If weather permits, part of the session will be spent outdoors.

Saturday 13 October
9:30 am. – 4:00 pm.
Fee: £20 (£10 unwaged)
Fee includes VAT and meal
C-C seminar No. 278

Howard Zehr has done international photojournalism in many countries, but his primary interest is in documentary work. He is currently Co-director of the graduate Conflict Transformation Program at Eastern Mennonite University.

Recommended Reading: *Doing Life: Reflections of Men and Women Serving Life Sentences; Transcending: Reflections of a Crime Victim; and The Little Book of Contemplative Photography*, all by Howard Zehr.

Wednesday 24 October 2007

Jesus Facing Conflict: An Exploration of Matthew's Narrative

Colin Patterson

Of the four evangelists, Matthew offers the most extensive information about the teaching of Jesus, and so his Gospel is the natural source-book for a life of discipleship. Anabaptists, among others, have studied extensively the 'Sermon on the Mount' (Chs. 5-7) and the discourse on community relationships (Ch.18) to find guidance for Christian conduct. From these texts emerge challenging precepts: forgo revenge, love your enemy, forgive without limit, be as little children.

And yet the first gospel is not just a teaching manual. Matthew also offers a vivid portrayal of Jesus' words and actions in relationship with others. The events in which Jesus is personally faced with conflict are particularly striking.

Colin Patterson wonders whether sufficient attention has been given to the narrative elements of Matthew's gospel, which are surely meant to cohere with the didactic elements. In this seminar, Colin will examine the way that Jesus, according to Matthew, handles conflict. To what extent is conflict a key element of the whole story? What impact does the narrative have if we pay attention to relationship dynamics, levels of tension, choice of words, body language and tone of voice? How does Jesus model his own precepts? What does "God with us" look like in relation to facing conflict?

The seminar will be participatory in style. Together we will bring movement, drama and empathy to Matthew's story, and try to know Jesus better.

Wednesday 24 October
9:30 am. – 4:00 pm.
Fee: £20 (£10 unwaged)
Fee includes VAT and meal
C-C seminar No.279

Recommended Reading: *The Gospel of Matthew; How to Learn Through Conflict* by Colin Patterson.

Bridge Builders
Tuesday-Thursday 13-15 November 2007

Training of Trainers

Venue: LMC

Bridge Builders Team

If you have attended one of Bridge Builders' mediation skills courses, and want to be able to share with others some of the new insights about conflict that you have encountered, then this is the course you have been looking for!

Since 1996, Bridge Builders has led more than one hundred introductory workshops and courses throughout the UK for a wide variety of church groups. Training of Trainers, held at the London Mennonite Centre, will draw on that experience to equip others to lead a day-long workshop. The course will include teaching, group work and practice, and will provide guidelines on how to lead elements of a workshop using Bridge Builders' workshop manual. Practical in focus, the sessions will seek to demonstrate Bridge Builders' active approach to education and learning.

Spaces on the course are limited to a maximum of 20. Prior attendance on one of our mediation and facilitation skills courses is a prerequisite.

A full brochure and application form can be obtained from our web site www.menno.org.uk; or else tick the booking form if you want us to send you a copy.

13-15 November
Course begins 9:00am on Tuesday, ends 4:00pm Thursday
Fee: £265. Fee includes VAT, two training manuals, lunches and refreshments.
C-C Seminar No 252

Saturday 1 December 2007

The Emerging Church: An Anabaptist Perspective

Stuart Murray-Williams

Why are fresh expressions of church emerging in Britain and several other western nations? Are these creative missional initiatives incarnating the church into post-modern and post-Christendom culture? Or are they self-indulgent distractions from the task of mission in contemporary culture?

What is church? What are the negotiables and non-negotiables of church? What can we learn from emerging churches and how can we participate in this conversation? This seminar offers an Anabaptist perspective and uses the lens of post-Christendom to investigate this phenomenon.

To lead us during this day of reflection on the emerging church, we are pleased to welcome back one of our most popular guest speakers, Stuart Murray-Williams, who has engaged widely with, and reflected carefully on, the emerging church.

Saturday 1 December
9:30 am. – 4:00 pm.
Fee: £20 (£10 unwaged)
Fee includes VAT and meal
C-C seminar No. 280

Stuart Murray-Williams spent twelve years as an urban church planter in East London and continues to be involved in church planting as a trainer, mentor, strategist, and consultant, and as co-ordinator of Urban Expression. He is chair of the Anabaptist Network and the author of several books (see below).

Recommended Reading: *Changing Mission: Learning from the Newer Churches; Post-Christendom; Church After Christendom*, all by Stuart Murray-Williams and *Church Planting in the Inner City: The Urban Expression Story*, co-authored by Juliet Kilpin.