

Volunteers & Continuing Support Needed!

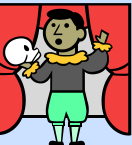
KIPCOR works in part because of generous assistance from volunteers, many of whom have now retired from their volunteering days (thanks to every one of you!). ***So we are calling all volunteers! The gift of your time or a referral to others who might help is most welcome!***



FOOD: KIPCOR is known for the quality of food provided during our trainings & events. ***Do you enjoy cooking and baking?*** Volunteer to help and we'll contact you to see if it would be convenient for you to provide baked goods, or perhaps a full meal (cooking duties can be shared with another volunteer).



MAILINGS: We have a large mailing list and our mass mailings (newsletters, for instance) need ***many hands to help*** with folding, sealing, and labeling. Volunteer and we will add your name to the contact list so you will know when we need help.



ROLE-PLAYERS: KIPCOR trains student mediators throughout the year, and part of that training can include rigorous role-play practice...which requires help from ***volunteer thespians***. Do you long for the stage every now and then? Volunteer and play the part of a parent fighting for more parenting time, a landlord or tenant, a consumer or business owner, or an unhappy neighbor.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT: We are associated with Bethel College, but ***almost entirely self-funded***. Since money does NOT grow on trees, we need to find it somewhere else. Without the generous support of friends and corporate/foundation sponsors, our work simply cannot continue.

If you can help us in our mission of peacemaking, please contact our Office Manager, Doug Lengel, at: 316-284-5217 or dlengel@bethelks.edu. He will be happy to explain the volunteer process to you.

www.kipcor.org



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This may be your last issue!!
To ensure that you continue to receive the KIPCOR newsletter, please contact us as indicated at the top of page 6 and provide us with a valid E-Mail address.

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Spring
2019

KIPCOR Starts New Era with New Advisory Council *Sheryl Wilson*

KIPCOR's newly installed Advisory Council will convene its first meeting this summer. As we begin a new chapter of the organization, it has become increasingly more important to have partners help us navigate our future plans. In years past, KIPCOR had a steering committee that served in an advisory role, but the group has not remained active.

The Advisory Council will act in lieu of a regular board of directors, as the Bethel College Board is the official board for KIPCOR and KIPCOR's fiscal sponsor. The KIPCOR Advisory Council will meet at least quarterly and will work to help guide some of the

major decisions of the organization. In addition, we hope that these individuals will work with KIPCOR staff to build stronger infrastructure.

All members of the advisory council were selected by Spring 2019. Those individuals are:

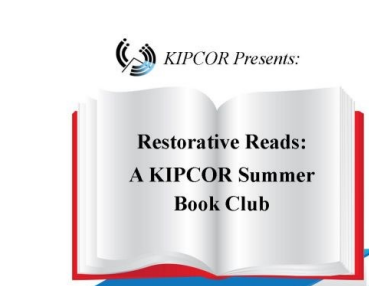
- **Christine Crouse-Dick**, Bethel College Associate Professor of Communication Arts
- **Christine Downey Schmidt**, former Kansas state senator and retired educator
- **Fabiola Flores**, Administrative Assistant, Mennonite Church USA/Mennonite Mission Network
- **Heidi Holiday**, Executive Director of Kansas City Consensus

- **Larry Lee**, Pastor, All Nations Church, Newton
- **Joe Robb**, Attorney, Newton
- **Leann Toews**, Retired educator and KIPCOR volunteer
- **Judge Richard Walker**, retired Harvey County Judge
- **Richard Zerger**, retired Bethel Professor

"We heartily welcome this group of exceptional people to link arms with us as we navigate KIPCOR's future," KIPCOR Director, Sheryl Wilson said. "I am looking forward to working with them."

(continued on page 2)

"Restorative Reads" Online Summer Book Club offered by KIPCOR



KIPCOR is hosting three sessions of an online summer book club for people interested in restorative schools.

This is your opportunity to connect online with others interested in Restorative Schools in the state of Kansas, to discuss current literature, and to learn from each other.

Each of the two remaining sessions will be an online webinar discussion using zoom, and each will be facilitated by members of the KIPCOR Restorative

Schools Initiative training team. Registered participants will receive log-in information in advance of each session.

The sessions are **FREE** for *Kansas Restorative Schools Network* members. For all other participants, **sessions are \$10 each**.

Each discussion session will center on a focus text that gives background and support to the practice of restorative justice in schools. In addition, each session will include a small "mini" discussion on an additional book that may be used in the classroom or otherwise of support of restorative justice implementation.

Participants are responsible to find and buy/borrow the relevant books as they wish. Pre-reading the texts is not required, but is welcomed and encouraged. Join us!

Monday July 8, 11:30am-1:00pm
[Justice on Both Sides](#) by M. Winn with mini discussion of **[What Are You Staring At?](#)**

Monday August 5, 11:30am-1:00pm
[Creating Restorative Schools](#) by M. Brown with mini discussion of **[Little Book Series](#)**

For more information, or to register, go to **KIPCOR.ORG**.

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Advisory Council

Christine Crouse-Dick, professor of communication arts at Bethel College, recently completed her Ph.D. in communication studies from the University of Kansas. Her specialty area is studies in media, especially the use of religious and political rhetoric.



Christine Downey-Schmidt was elected to three terms in the Kansas Senate. She has served on the Kansas Board of Regents and was chair in 2007-08. She has been a previous KIPCOR Steering committee member. She currently serves on the Governance Board for the Higher Learning Commission, northcentral region.



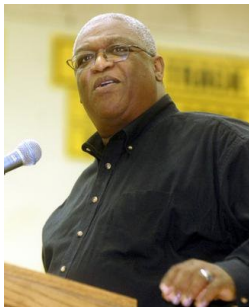
Fabiola Flores is an Administrative Assistant for the Latin American division at Mennonite Church USA/Mennonite Mission Network, and currently serves as the lead organizer of the Anti-Racism Team. In addition, she has served as one of the lead organizers of Anti-Racism trainings offered by the Newton Community for Racial Justice over the past decade.



Heidi Holliday is the Executive Director of Kansas City Consensus. She has extensive experience in community engagement, public policy, and nonprofit management. Heidi holds a bachelor's degree from Bethel College, where she also obtained a Conflict Resolution certificate, and a master's degree in public administration from the Bloch School at the University of Missouri Kansas City.



Larry Lee is the pastor of All Nations Church, of Newton. He is a retired project manager of a tax software firm. Larry has a degree in Accounting from Wichita State University and a Master of Arts degree in Christian Ministry from Friends University. He also serves as co-chair of the Newton Community for Racial Justice.

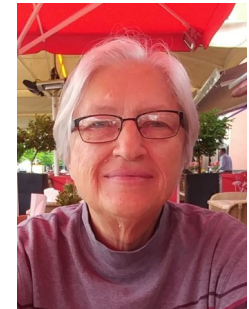


Newton Attorney **Joe Robb** specializes in divorce, child custody, and support issues. Joe has been a longtime member of the Community Mediation Center's Panel of Mediators. Joe holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from Kansas State University and a law degree from Washburn University.



Continued from page 1

Leann Toews is a retired educator and Bethel alum with a degree in elementary and secondary education in English, speech and drama. Toews has been a longtime advisor of KIPCOR. She has been one of the most consistent volunteers for many of KIPCOR's events.



Judge Richard Walker, Senior Judge on the Kansas Court of Appeals. Judge Walker has served nearly 31 years on the bench in the 9th Judicial District, including over 10 years as chief judge. In his tenure, Judge Walker helped develop the Triage Program for separating and divorcing families that is run through KIPCOR's Community Mediation Center.



Richard Zerger is a Bethel alum and a retired Bethel College chemistry professor. He has been a longtime advisor to KIPCOR and previously served on KIPCOR's Steering Committee. He currently farms in McPherson County.



Bob Milliman, Vice President of Academic Affairs serves as KIPCOR's liaison to Bethel College. Bob will serve in an Ex-Officio capacity on the Advisory Council. Bob has been an ardent supporter and advocate of KIPCOR in his tenure at Bethel.



2019 - 2020 Film Series

KIPCOR Film Series: A look back and a preview of coming attractions

KIPCOR enjoyed another well-attended Film Series in 2018-19 and there's a seat in Krehbiel Auditorium ready and waiting for you to view four films in 2019-20.

Rewind

The 2018-19 Film Series highlighted the topics of immigrant detention; the alarming ways the Internet is being used and manipulated in our digital age, and the threat this poses to Democracy; the use of Native American-themed sports nicknames and mascots; and Mennonite Central Committee personnel policy related to same-sex relationships.

As many of you know, KIPCOR film screenings are not passive events. We again brought passionate topic experts to lead post-film discussions, and we thank all of you who attended and posed thoughtful and sometimes-pointed questions and comments. Without your participation, the Film Series would not be the popular, long-running event it has become.

KIPCOR was especially pleased to bring to campus Dr. Edward Valandra and Sherman Padgett in February of this year for the screening of "More Than a Word." Valandra is a Native American researcher and educator from South Dakota; while Padgett serves as a Wichita high school principal with ties to Wichita North High School, where the Redskins moniker is still used. The two led a robust post-film discussion that examined all sides of the controversial use of Native American-themed mascots and nicknames.

In April, KIPCOR welcomed Lois Harder and Heidi Regier Kreider, a Mennonite pastor and Western District Conference minister, respectively. The pair engaged the audience in a conversation about "This Little Light," a film that documents the journey of community organizer Wendi Moore-O'Neal. Mennonite Central Committee hired, and later fired, Wendi after she married her same-sex partner. This was an especially poignant experience for many audience members, given the influence of the Mennonite Church and its related organizations in our community.

Preview

The dates are set for KIPCOR's 2019-20 Film Series, so take a moment now to mark these Sundays on your calendar:

September 8, 2019

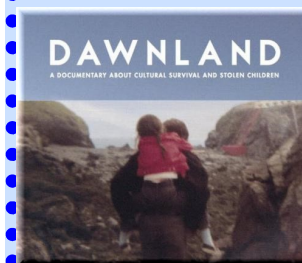
November 17, 2019

February 9, 2020

April 19, 2020

All films will be screened at 3:00 P.M. in Krehbiel Auditorium inside the Luyken Fine Arts Center on the Bethel College campus.

Two films have already been selected for the next edition of our Film Series:



November 17, 2019:

"Dawnland" chronicles the historic probe conducted by the first government-sanctioned truth and reconciliation commission in the United States. Commissioners spent two years in Maine investigating the stories of Native American children whom the government forced from their homes and placed with white families throughout the 20th century. The film bears witness to the devastating emotional and physical impacts on these children, as adults mistreated them and tried to wipe away their cultural identity.

Fittingly, the screening of this film coincides with the beginning of International Restorative Justice Week. KIPCOR is a leader in the Restorative Justice field in Kansas and hosted the inaugural Restorative Kansas Conference in 2018.



February 9, 2020:

"The Great White Hoax" is perfectly timed for the presidential primary season. The film illustrates how politicians from both parties have tapped into white anxiety and scapegoated people of color for decades for political gain. The filmmakers also show how Donald Trump's 2016 presidential campaign and his ongoing rhetoric fit within this historical pattern.

If you have suggestions for films or film topics for future screenings, we'd love to hear them! Call Dan at (316) 284-5829, or send him an email message at dwassink@bethelks.edu.

Donating to KIPCOR online is REALLY easy, and REALLY SECURE.

STEP 1: Go to the KIPCOR website at www.kipcor.org.

STEP 2: Click on **“Get Involved”** in the ribbon at the top, and then on **“Donate/Volunteer”**

STEP 3: Read the information on the Donate page; pay particular attention to **“Donation Instructions”**

STEP 4: Click on the **“Donate Online Today!”** button.

STEP 5: Fill out all of the information required. Near the bottom is the **“Gift Destination”** selection. The default is “Bethel College Fund (Current Fund), and has a downward facing arrow at the right. Click on that arrow and select **“Other”**. The “Other Gift Destination” box will appear. In that box, **type the word KIPCOR**. Fill out the rest of the form, and click on **“Submit Form.”** **That’s all there is to it!**

STEP 6: (Optional) If it's not too much trouble, or if you have difficulties getting the form to accept the “KIPCOR” designation, let Doug (dlengel@bethelks.edu or 316-284-5217) or Sheryl (swilson@bethelks.edu) in the KIPCOR office know that you’ve made an online donation so we can watch for the receipt from the development office, and give you a proper THANK YOU!!!

Thanks for your continued support!

KIPCOR Calendar

More information & registration is available at www.kipcor.org/Calendar/

July 8, 2019

[Restorative Reads Second Session](#)

11:30 am

An online opportunity. Register at KIPCOR.ORG for details.

August 5, 2019

[Restorative Reads Third Session](#)

11:30 am

An online opportunity. Register at KIPCOR.ORG for details.

September 8, 2019

[KIPCOR Film Series](#) **Film to be determined**

3:00 pm

Krehbiel Auditorium @ Luyken Fine Arts Center.
North Newton, KS 67117

September 16, 2018 (and additional meeting dates)

[Healthy Opportunities for Parenting Effectively](#)

5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Kaufman House 2515 College Ave. North Newton

November 4-5, 2019

[Advanced Restorative Schools Training](#)

8:00 AM—4:00 PM

Lawrence Public Schools District Office

November 17, 2019

[KIPCOR Film Series](#) **“Dawnland”**

3:00 pm

Krehbiel Auditorium @ Luyken Fine Arts Center.
North Newton, KS 67117

December 6, 2019

[CME/CEU Shorts](#)

8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Krehbiel Auditorium @ Luyken Fine Arts Center.
North Newton, KS 67117

January 6-17, 2020

[Practical Skills for Managing Group and Organizational Conflict](#)

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Kaufman House 2515 College Ave. North Newton

January 6-17, 2020

[Culture, Gender, and Power](#)

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Kaufman House 2515 College Ave.
North Newton KS 67117

February 9, 2020

[KIPCOR Film Series](#) **“The Great White Hoax”**

3:00 pm

Krehbiel Auditorium @ Luyken Fine Arts Center.
North Newton, KS 67117

April 19, 2020

[KIPCOR Film Series](#) **Film to be determined**

3:00 pm

Krehbiel Auditorium @ Luyken Fine Arts Center.
North Newton, KS 67117

Additionally, KIPCOR and the Community Mediation Center offer two classes for divorcing parents each month. We offer the Divorce Impact Education class the second Thursday of the month at 5:15 PM in McPherson, and we offer the same class the fourth Tuesday of the month, also at 5:15 PM, in North Newton.

Contact the Community Mediation Center at **(316) 284-5829** or CMC@bethelks.edu for more information on these classes.

Getting to Know KIPCOR: Office Manager Doug Lengel

As a way of getting to know KIPCOR's office manager, Doug Lengel, we asked him the following questions:

What is your work background?

I've never held a job more than about 5 years, and I'm old, so I've had a LOT of jobs. I was an economics instructor at McPherson College, bank examiner for FDIC, economics professor at Manchester College, economics professor at Tri-State University, business prof, dean of continuing education, and associate academic dean at Sterling College, car salesman (Saab) in Seattle, education director at the Master Builder's Association (a very large home builder's association in Seattle), retired (first time) in Rhode Island, assistant to the pastors at Christ Presbyterian Church in San Diego, office manager at the Presbytery of San Diego, retired (second time) and office manager at KIPCOR.

How long have you been at KIPCOR?

Just over 5 years. Ruh-roh.

You have had jobs that, no offense, pay squat. How come you have a Corvette?

I married well. Wylene was an executive and then a highly paid consultant in the biotech industry, before she quit in disgust and became a hair stylist. Yes, really.

So what other cars have you owned?

I **DO** like cars, so a bunch. 68 Plymouth Satellite, 73 Plymouth Fury III, 72 VW Su-

per Beetle, 74 Triumph Spitfire, 74 Volvo, 70 and 72 MGBs, 76 Triumph TR6, 70 and 72 Ford Broncos, 82 Dodge Colt, 73 Mercedes 450SL, 72 Olds 442, 86 Ford Escort Wagon, 89 Ford Mustang, 99 Honda Accord, 05 Toyota RAV4, 15 Subaru Legacy, 18 Subaru Crosstrek. And the 05 Corvette.

Where all have you lived?

I was born in Durham NC while my dad was getting his MA, and my sister was born a year and a half later in Eugene OR while he did the coursework for his PhD. We moved to McPherson, where dad was a professor at McPherson College, and since then I've been (with Wylene) making my own choices about where to live. Those choices have included Portland, OR, Manchester and LaGrange, IN, McPherson, KS, Bothell, WA, East Greenwich, RI, Carlsbad, CA, and McPherson again.

If you could live wherever you wanted to, where would it be?

I would LOVE to live in the San Diego area again. I made a lot of good friends in the 11 years we lived there. Of course Las Vegas would be fun too (and no state income tax)- when we lived in San Diego, and it was an easy (4 hour) drive to Las Vegas, I usually went between 4 and 6 times a year. You don't get better people-watching than in Vegas!

Do you have pets?

At the moment we have one cat, Rumbleteaser. She's grey and white, and turned 20 years old on June 15. We've had her for almost 20 years: she wasn't weaned yet when we brought her home.

Why do you start your answers to other people's questions with “It depends”?

It usually really DOES depend. I try to figure out what they really want to know and get at that, rather than just answering the first thing that comes to mind. I figured this out while teaching.

Who is your favorite musical artist?

It depends... on mood, time of day, current activity... but I'm never far from a moment when I want to listen to Leonard Cohen. I also listen to a lot of Crosby, Stills, and Nash, or Todd Snider, or Steely Dan, or

John Prine, or...

What are you reading now?

Just two books at the moment: Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them by J.K. Rowling (after watching the second installment of the movie), and The Last Voice You Hear, by Mick Herron. And of course the New York Times, Washington Post, and The New Yorker, when my desire to be informed overwhelms (always temporarily) my desire to remain sane.

What was your favorite recent vacation?

Early this year Wylene and I spent two weeks in Europe - we like to travel in the late winter because of the prices (airfare, lodging, etc.) and the small crowds. We flew into Brussels and spent a week, then took the train to Nice and spent a week there before flying home. We've been to Brussels several times, but I really like the city, and we stayed in a section we've never visited before, right by the EU Parliament. The city is small enough that you can walk everywhere, and I like to do that, both for the exercise and so I can have a better understanding of how everything relates geographically. We'd never been to Nice (it's pronounced “knees”, we understand,) and loved it... the food, the views, the museums... a wonderful, relaxing trip.

What will you do after you retire the third time?

Catch up on the movies I want to see, the books I want to read, and the walking and thinking I want to do.

Bonus question: Why does that photo make you look so bad?

It's not the photo... but here is one I like better. From the beach in Carlsbad, CA. About 10 years (and 25 pounds) ago.



Update from KIPCOR's Director of Education and Training *Sharon Kniss*



KIPCOR's training "department" has been quite active since our last newsletter in November 2018! There are three areas which make up the majority of the trainings that we provide: Restorative Justice in Schools, Conflict Resolution Skills, and Bethel College courses. Below is a summary of what we've been up to in the last 6 months:

Restorative Justice in Schools

We have conducted four Restorative Justice in Schools trainings for Lawrence Public Schools, Twin Valley School District, Kansas City KS Public Schools, and an introductory training spurred from interest in rural northern Kansas. We have also been called upon for presentations, such as at the Kansas National Education Association's first Social and Racial Justice Summit in Topeka and the State's Blue Ribbon Taskforce on Bullying.

In 2017 we began the Kansas Restorative Schools Network, connecting our trainees with each other for further learning and support opportunities. This summer, network members (and others!) are participating in our first ever online book club – Restorative Reads.

Conflict Resolution Skills

We continued our "Core Skills" series of monthly skills training opportunities on a range of conflict resolution tools and topics through the spring of 2019. In the spring, we covered topics ranging from Trauma-Informed Culture at Work, to the unique realities of Never-Married Parents in Domestic Mediation, to Common Sense Justice – an introduction to Restorative Justice.

We've also provided training in conflict resolution skills for a range of entities: local churches, college staff teams, the Kansas Association of Code Enforcement, Human Resource and Business leaders through Morris Laing Law Firm, and the Kansas Office of Judicial Administration Citizen Review Board Directors. We continue to field a number of enquiries from work-

place settings wanting to build healthy organizations and hone their skills in difficult and conflicted situations.

Bethel College

We continue teaching college-level courses through Bethel College for undergraduates, those pursuing our Conflict Resolution Certificate, and local professionals. In January, Bethel's "Interterm," we taught "Managing Difference & Disagreement in Faith Communities" and our flagship "Practical Skills for Managing Interpersonal Conflict" mediation course. We closed out the spring and early summer periods with two runs of our mediation course – one for Bethel College nursing students, and one largely attended by local professionals seeking state approval to become mediators.

Looking Ahead

Our summer and fall will continue to be active in all areas of training. For semester-length trainings, we will launch the first "Restorative Approaches to Justice" course at Bethel College as part of the new Criminal & Restorative Justice Certificate, and also teach the general education course, "Introduction to Conflict Management." We have seven Restorative Justice in Schools trainings we're hosting across the state and two planned Restorative Justice conference presentations. We also have three workplace conflict resolution trainings, and finish out the fall with our annual CME/CEU Shorts in December.

Without question, we remain active and on the go! We're grateful to partner with so many institutions and individuals eager to build the skills that form healthy relationships, organizations, and communities. Together, we thrive.

"Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures."

john f
KENNEDY

Thanks to those of you who have so generously contributed to KIPCOR in as we near the end of the fiscal year. With your help, and those of the other supporters, ***we are moving toward our goal of \$10,000.00*** by June 30. We know that many of you plan your giving to the college around the fiscal year, and we feel that our goal is well within reach. Thank you!!!

If you would like to make an electronic donation, see page 6 for detailed instructions.

Sarah Balzer (again!) wins C Henry Smith Peace Oration Contest *~Melanie Zuercher*



KIPCOR Director Sheryl Wilson congratulates Bethel College's 2019 C Henry Smith Peace Oration Winner, Sarah Balzer, and Second Place Winner Randall Schmidt.

Senior Sarah Balzer has some ideas to share about voting, and they're not about ballot boxes or campaign promises.

For the second year in a row, Balzer was the first-place winner in Bethel's C. Henry Smith Peace Oration contest, which took place at the end of April, with the winners announced at semester's end.

Last year, Balzer's winning speech "Environmental Inequalities in the Age of Plastics" also won the bi-national (US and Canada) contest.

Balzer is a senior from Inman, majoring in social work with minors in Spanish and peace, justice and conflict studies.

Her presentation this year, "A Voting Guide for Peacemakers Under Capitalism" has a simple message: In North America, in a capitalist economy, we vote for or against peace every day in how we spend our money.

Balzer's examples are the treatment of workers as dispensable and even less than human by a company that

provides shipping services to giant corporations like Disney; the "fast fashion" industry (think H&M or Gap) that depends on cheap labor in countries like Bangladesh, where workers' health and safety get short shrift; and the same kind of corner cutting with health and safety that takes place in American companies such as Tyson Foods.

Don't support Disney when their subcontractor's policies threaten human rights, Balzer says. Buy your clothes from a local or regional producer or a thrift store, and your food locally wherever possible.

Balzer also calls for more direct action in support of peace, looking at how American Mennonites in the 20th century began moving from being "the quiet in the land" to raising their voices in state capitals and Washington, D.C.

When consumers use their buying power for leverage, they can force changes that benefit workers, she says.

"We must create a sense of shared responsibility for ... injustices [like the examples given here]," Balzer concludes.

"We can all do our small part, buying our food locally, shopping at thrift stores, researching the companies we buy from, avoiding buying anything we don't absolutely need and speaking out against companies with unfair labor standards and unethical practices. When we take these small steps, we are using our vote to promote peace."

The second-place winner in the Bethel contest was Randall Schmidt, graduating senior from Lawrence, with "Medical Peacemaking: Sowing the Seeds of Peace."

Schmidt, whose immediate plans are taking him to Kenya with Mennonite Central Committee's SALT program and whose long-term goals include medical school and neonatology, talked about how providing health care to people affected by violence – whether through war, cycles of poverty or addiction, or systemic racism or sexism – is also a way of making peace.

"All of us need to learn about the violent structures that disadvantage people and bring them poor health, then work to address [them]," Schmidt said.

"Supporting the medical peacemaking of organizations like MCC, or promoting institutions that care for the health of the marginalized in your community, is a good place to start, as each is important in the development of peace."

The C. Henry Smith Peace Oratorical Contest is open to all students at Mennonite and Brethren in Christ colleges in Canada and the United States. To be considered for the contest, speeches must apply a peace theme to a contemporary concern.

Directors of the C. Henry Smith Trust established the contest in 1974 in honor of the late Mennonite historian and professor at Goshen (Indiana) College and Bluffton (Ohio) College, now Bluffton University.

Participating colleges host individual campus contests, usually during the spring semester of the academic year, and judges selected by Mennonite Central Committee choose the top three speeches from the winners of each campus contest.