

“Cultivating the grace of offering hospitality to one another ... ” (1 Peter 4:9).

Eastern Mennonite Missions

Christian-Muslim Relations Team

Peacemakers confessing Christ

Resources

The following published materials are available. Visit emm.org/peacemakers for more information.

Books with study guides:

Christians Meeting Muslims Series
(Herald Press)

- *A Muslim and a Christian in Dialogue*
- *Journeys of the Muslim Nation and the Christian Church: Exploring the Mission of Two Communities*
- *Teatime in Mogadishu: My Journey as a Peace Ambassador in the World of Islam*
- *christian. muslim. friend.: Twelve Paths to Real Relationship.*

Course outline with CD/video segments:

Approaches to Islam: Theological and Practical

Bible study series for a Muslim audience:

- *The People of God Series*
- *The Holy Book of God: Is the Bible Trustworthy?*

“Many Muslims have questions about the Christian faith. But often Christians do not know how to respond to those questions, or they are afraid that they might offend their Muslim acquaintances. I hope we can help equip Christians to follow the apostle Peter’s counsel: ‘Commit to Jesus as Lord. Respond to all questions people may ask, and demonstrate a spirit of gentleness and respect’ (1 Peter 3:15).” — David Shenk, Christian-Muslim Relations Team member

Learn more at emm.org/peacemakers.

To contact the Christian-Muslim Relations Team, email peacemakers@emm.org.

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53 W. Brandt Blvd • PO Box 458
Salunga, PA 17538-0458
717 898-2251 • emm.org



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EMM's Christian-Muslim Relations Team desires to equip Christians around the world for life-giving relationships with Muslims through dialogue, witness, peacemaking, and hospitality. In a world where complex conflicts sometimes divide Muslims and Christians and where mutual suspicion can build walls, this team speaks boldly and trains persistently to build bridges of loving and respectful connection between Christians and Muslims, while faithfully confessing Christ.

Andres Prins has traveled, studied, and worked in various North African and Middle Eastern countries over the last 30 years. In 1988, he and his wife were commissioned by Mennonite churches in South America to serve as teachers in Muslim societies, seeking to build bridges of peace, respect, and mutual understanding. They feel deep gratitude to God for the life transformations they have witnessed among friends all over the world.

Angie Earl served in Indonesia from 2009–14, teaching in Christian and Muslim university settings and mentoring Christians to express Jesus' love for everyone. She has helped equip young people to follow Jesus in learning to understand and befriend people of other cultures, sharing the hope found in Him. She and her husband enjoy welcoming refugees and immigrants from various backgrounds and encouraging others in such hospitality and witness.

David and Grace Shenk have served many years in Somalia and Kenya as well as the U.S., giving special attention to bearing witness to the peace of Christ in a world of religious and ideological pluralism. David is a professor and the author of a shelf of books; Grace is a counselor. They travel extensively, encouraging peacemaking among Muslims and Christians. Hospitality has always been an important dimension of their peacemaking endeavors.

Jonathan Bornman served with his family in Senegal as a Bible teacher and prior to that in Burkina Faso developing water resources. As a consultant for Christian-Muslim relations, he has traveled extensively, equipping Christ followers to better relate to their Muslim neighbors. Currently, he is researching Sufi commitments to nonviolence in the American immigrant context. Jonathan, and his wife, Carol, enjoy sharing hospitality with their Muslim friends at home and abroad.

Among them, the five team members speak eight languages. All speak English. Andres can teach in Spanish, Portuguese, French, and North African Arabic. Angie speaks Bahasa Indonesian. David is fluent in Swahili. Jonathan speaks French and Wolof.



EMM's Christian-Muslim Relations Team
David Shenk, Andres Prins, Grace Shenk,
Jonathan Bornman, and Angie Earl

Our witness-bearing commitment

In obedience to Jesus' command to be witnesses among all nations (Matthew 28:18-20) and to the apostolic exhortation to commend Christ with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:8-17), we bear witness to the good news of salvation, forgiveness, redemption, and reconciliation that God offers in Jesus the Messiah. We seek to do so in ways that are both faithful to Christ and sincerely respectful of each person's dignity, culture, and freedom of choice.

We desire to share in ways that are faithful to the following commitments:

1. To reflect and honor the spirit and values of the Messiah.
2. To be true to the gospel as revealed in the biblical Scriptures.
3. To communicate God's deep love for all.
4. To depend on God's Holy Spirit to reveal truth and transform lives.
5. To reject the use of all forms of violence, imperialism, bribery, intimidation, coercion, vilification, misrepresentation, and deceit.
6. To pursue peace, dialogue, and mutual understanding.
7. To listen and respond carefully to the questions, objections, and witness others may have for us.
8. To be honest and sincere and willing to suffer for the sake of justice and the truth.
9. To be respectful of people of other cultures, languages, and faiths.
10. To be ready to sacrifice for the well-being of our fellow humans.
11. To seek to build up the local and worldwide church or Body of Christ.
12. To take seriously the unique value of each person, language, and culture.
13. To respect the governing authorities.
14. To hold parents, children, and family life in high esteem.
15. To fully recognize each person's dignity and freedom of choice.

If anyone sees any of us not living up to these commitments, please let us know so that we may prayerfully consider the concern, as we seek to be faithful servants of God.