

Annual Alumni Issue

WHAT ARE CGCM GRADUATES DOING NOW?



ALUMNA'S WORK IN BURKINA FASO
ANICKA FAST SERVING WITH THE MCC & MMN



NEW PUBLICATIONS & MISSION INNOVATIONS
JEREMY MENCHIK & TITUS PRESLER



HONORING DR. M.L. DANEEL
NEW INTRODUCTION TO INFLUENTIAL SPEECH

CGCM NEWS

Center for Global Christianity & Mission



Serving the Church & Mission in Burkina Faso

Anicka Fast ('20) serves part-time as co-representative for the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) in Burkina Faso alongside her husband John Clarke, and spends the rest of her time in an assignment as Specialist in church history and missiology with the Mennonite Mission Network (MMN). In the latter assignment, she focuses on supporting the capacity of francophone African Christians to tell the stories that shape their identity as part of a

Anicka Fast is working to preserve sources on African Christianity and to ensure that Africans have access to them

global church. Tasks include teaching, mentoring, research, and supporting the development of archives among francophone Anabaptist churches in West and Central Africa. Her position is a unique collaboration between MCC, which provides Anicka's living costs, and MMN, which provides a travel grant.

During 2021, Anicka taught courses on church history in francophone Africa to undergraduate and masters' students in both Burkina Faso (Université chrétienne LOGOS de Ouagadougou) and DR Congo (Université chrétienne de Kinshasa). In these courses, she relied on biographies as a source of course material for lectures on African church history, while also offering practical training to support students in writing their own biographies of African Christians. Her students were proud to contribute to the *Dictionary of African Christian Biography* – an open-access database of nearly 3,000 biographies – with their biographies of Burkinabè Christians, and to the Global Anabaptist-Mennonite Encyclopedia Online (GAMEO).

Anicka also worked to support the preservation of historical sources and to advocate for access to those sources for African Christians hoping to write histories of their churches. To support her in this work, she has developed affiliations with several institutions. She is a Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Global Anabaptism (ISGA) at Goshen College and a Technical Advisor for the *Dictionary of African Christian Biography*. She also participates in the Comité européen du Réseau mennonite francophone of the Mennonite World Conference. These connections have led to fruitful collaboration in various digital preservation



initiatives: the Bibliothèque numérique anabaptiste is a developing ISGA initiative to make French-language Anabaptist-oriented theological resources available online; the Mennonite Historical Library is digitizing the journal of the Congo Inland Mission/Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission, *Congo Missionary Messenger* (1929-1980 issues); and a collaboration is developing between the ISGA and DACB to re-post biographies of African Mennonites on GAMEO.

Anicka's Upcoming Activities for 2022:

- Guest editing the April 2022 issue of the *Journal of African Christian Biography*, which will focus on Mennonites. This issue will appear simultaneously in French and English and will showcase biographies and congregational histories written by African Mennonites, a case study by Anicka on using DACB biographies as a teaching tool, and several other helpful resources for African Mennonite historians.
- Continuing to support the Bibliothèque numérique anabaptiste by representing the ISGA in conversations with French-speaking stakeholders as well as advocating for permissions from publishers.
- Teaching workshops in both Burkina Faso and DR Congo for Mennonites who are working on writing histories of their churches and biographies of church members.

To Hear More

The Mennonite Mission Network MissionWary podcast, "You must remember this," features Anicka as she discusses the importance of remembering stories of mission as a way of strengthening our identity as members of a global church.

The Missionary Spirit and Liberal Internationalism

Jeremy Menchik, CGCM Faculty Associate, recently published an article entitled “Woodrow Wilson and the Spirit of Liberal Internationalism.” Below, Jeremy shares a summary of some significant findings from his research.

Woodrow Wilson is among the most influential presidents in U.S. foreign policy history, and the most pious. The challenge for scholars is joining Wilson’s faith and his foreign policies. What was the role of religion in Wilson’s worldview? What is the place of religion in Wilsonianism? This article uses original archival sources and a synthesis of historical research to intervene in IR theory, demonstrating that Wilsonianism is a product of Wilson’s specifically Southern Presbyterian upbringing, his admiration for other Christian idealists, and the influence of the budding movement of the Social Gospel. Wilson’s worldview was a mirror for the kind of social and political order he witnessed and propagated in America, a Janus-faced spirit of universalism and exceptionalism, internationalism and parochialism, that continues to motivate the liberal internationalist project.

Unearthing the Protestant origins of Wilsonianism helps us understand the missionary spirit driving the liberal internationalist project. The spirit of liberal internationalism is a desire to expand using military force when necessary, but more often adopts strategies common to other missionary projects: contact, exchange, information, and education, so as to give the “gift of democracy” to those who are ready to receive it.



Women in Mission to be theme of Episcopalians’ Global Mission Conference, May 12-14

Women in Mission will be the theme of the 2022 Global Mission Conference sponsored by the Global Episcopal Mission Network (GEMN) to be held Thursday-Saturday, May 12-14, online via Zoom. Conference sessions will occur 1-4 p.m. EST each day.



The conference will include a plenary by Prof. Dana Robert on the history of women in mission, and a panel led by Episcopal mission personnel officer Elizabeth Boe on the companionship of women missionaries with the women where they serve around the world.

Speakers from Africa, Asia, and Latin America will highlight outreach to women by mission initiatives based in their contexts, and intersections of women’s mission with race, poverty, migration & violence.

Further conference details will appear soon on the GEMN website (www.gemn.org), along with registration information.

GEMN brings together Episcopal dioceses, mission organizations, congregations, seminaries and individuals committed to “gather, inspire and equip people to participate in God’s mission with humility, inclusion and companionship.”

BU STH Alumnus Canon Titus Presler (’95) is the current president of GEMN.

Honoring Dr. M.L. Daneel's Groundbreaking Work

Dr. Harold Hunter, a leading Pentecostal scholar and ecumenist, has released a recording of Dr. M. L. Daneel's speech at Brighton '91. Hunter has added an introduction to help situate the groundbreaking nature of the lecture.

The conference at Brighton was the first major theological conference of Pentecostal scholars and thus significant in its own right.



The speech given by Dr. M.L. Daneel, Zimbabwean missiologist and co-founder of the Center of Global Christianity and Mission, became formative in Dr. Hunter's move towards ecotheology and foundational in the inclusion of creation care and environmental justice in pentecostal theology.

To view Dr. M.L. Daneel's groundbreaking lecture from Brighton '91, you can watch it on YouTube by inserting the link: <https://youtu.be/n2MFVg2xBUY>, or you can search "Brighton '91: Dr. M.L. Daneel."

To learn more about Dr. M.L. Daneel's work and view his photographs of African Christianity, visit the multimedia website Old & New in Shona Religion: <https://sites.bu.edu/shonareligion/>

The CGCM has an exciting line up of guest lecturers this Spring

Please join us for these online events by emailing us at cgcm@bu.edu to receive the links.

Global Cooperation in Mission

March 1st, 12:30pm - CAS B06A & Zoom
Rev. Dr. Casely Essamuah ~ General Secretary, The Global Christian Forum

Global Migration

March 1st, 2:00pm - CAS B06A & Zoom
Rev. Jack Amick ~ Director of Global Migration & Special Assignments, UMCOR

Imagined Communion: Volkskirche, Imagined Communities, and Germany Missionary Theology

March 4th, 10:30am - STH 115 & Zoom
Dr. Jeremy Best ~ Assistant Professor of Modern Europe, Iowa State University

Sharing Christ's Love through Veterinary Medicine

April 19th, 2pm - CAS B06A & Zoom
Dr. Jean Gradé ~ Founder of Karamoja Christian Ethnoveterinary Program; Founder/Owner of Drifless Veterinary Services