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## **AMBS Announcements**

March 2006

### **Consultation: The Confession of Faith Ten Years Later**

How has our confession of faith guided our faith and practices in Mennonite congregations? Has it, as the writers intended, put forth the claims of the gospel in a compelling way for people who are searching for faith?

These are the central questions of a three-day consultation, scheduled for June 8–10, at Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Bringing together pastors and scholars, Canadians and Americans, the majority and increasingly significant minority groups in the church the consultation will assess how the confession has served us. See more information on the AMBS web site: [www.amsb.edu](http://www.amsb.edu); enter “Confession of Faith” in the search box on the home page. Or go directly to

[www.amsb.edu/php/ims/ims\\_confession\\_consultation.php](http://www.amsb.edu/php/ims/ims_confession_consultation.php).

You will receive a brochure in a future mailing of Equipping Canada.

### **Engaging Pastors**

With the goal of building stronger connections between the church and the seminary, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary has designed ten programs in a project called Engaging Pastors. The Lilly Endowment-funded project gives opportunities for pastors and faculty to participate in Bible studies together, to join in-depth discussions about ministry issues, and to reflect on what contributes to and what prohibits pastoral excellence. Pastors may apply to participate in several of these efforts and the application deadlines are in spring for the following school year. See information on the AMBS web site: [www.amsb.edu](http://www.amsb.edu); select *Church Leadership Center*, then *Engaging Pastors*.

**Apply now for the Pastor Sabbatical program.** This program, one of ten in the Engaging Pastors project, provides a stipend for pastors to spend time at AMBS, in addition to covering lodging and lunches. Pastors on sabbatical at AMBS may participate in forums, chapels and spiritual direction in addition to pursuing a research project of choice. The application deadline for fall 2007 is April 28. Because the program is new, several openings are still available for fall 2006. Check with the Church Leadership Center office at AMBS for information (574.296.6269), or see more (including an application form) on the AMBS web site:

[www.amsb.edu/php/EngagingPastors/ep\\_sabbatical.php](http://www.amsb.edu/php/EngagingPastors/ep_sabbatical.php)

### **Pastoring in the Face of Sexual Abuse**

A new event in the AMBS pastoral care and counseling series, Extreme Cases in the Congregation, focuses on pastoring those in the congregation who have experienced or are experiencing sexual abuse. The day-long workshop, scheduled for June 1, features presenter Carolyn Holderread Heggen, author of *Sexual Abuse in Christian Homes and Churches*. See details on the AMBS web site: [www.amsb.edu](http://www.amsb.edu); select *Church Leadership Center*, then *Continuing Education*, then the specific event, or go directly to [www.amsb.edu/php/clcenter/clc\\_workshops\\_abuse.php](http://www.amsb.edu/php/clcenter/clc_workshops_abuse.php).