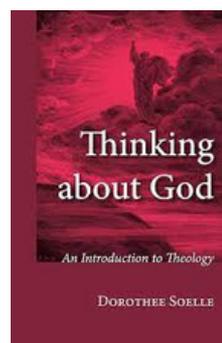
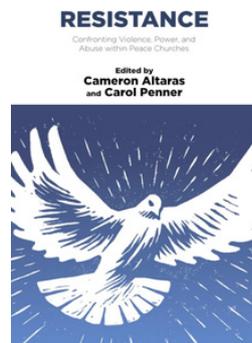


OPEN COURSE - ONLINE

DOING THEOLOGY FROM ANABAPTIST-MENNONITE PERSPECTIVE

In this course we discuss different themes of systematic theology from a peace-church perspective. Guided by Dorothee Soelle's book: 'Thinking about God', we reflect on questions of racism, queer theology, sin, creation, feminist theology, and more. We introduce a Mennonite perspective with the book 'Resistance. Confronting Violence, Power, and Abuse within the Peace Church' which self-critically asks questions about the complicity of churches in supporting racism, colonialism, and heterosexism, and reflects on power relations in church institutions.



All interested in theology are welcome to join this course.*
Every week, Tuesdays 16.01-23.03, 11:30-13:00 hr. Online.
Prof. Fernando Enns,
Registration: religionpeacejustice@gmail.com

*For registered students credits can be given (6EC)

“Gott denken” is an Introduction to Theology by Dorothee Soelle that she wrote some 30 years ago. This is above all an invitation to share her enthusiasm for theology, her delight in the beauty and the power of religious and theological language and the themes it expresses. The book covers the major areas of theology: the nature of systematic theology – comparing orthodox, liberal, and radical approaches – the use of the Bible in theology, creation, sin, feminist liberation theology, the understanding of grace, Black theology, Jesus, cross and resurrection, the kingdom of God and the church, the theology of peace, the end of theism, and the question of God. (“Thinking About God: Introduction to Theology”, Philadelphia: Trinity Press International, 1990).

Soelle was not a Mennonite, but she shares a way of doing theology, that is very close to some peace-church approaches. We want to read a new Mennonite resource book next to Soelle’s theology, called “Resistance. Confronting Violence, Power, and Abuse within the Peace Church” (ed. by Cameron Altara and Carol Penner, 2022), which raises self-critically the question: “Are churches complicit in supporting racism, colonialism, and heterosexism? How do churches excuse sexual violence? How are abuses of power justified to protect church institutions?” Here, storytellers, academics, poets, administrators, students, activists, and pastors bring these questions to life through stories of personal and systemic violence and betrayals when theology is weaponized. – This collection directly confronts violence within historic peace churches, providing strategies for using power to resist violence and promote transformation.

A third book that will accompany our studies is an overview on Mennonites in Europe, which will provide some more general information about the communities, in which the roots of this way of doing theology can be traced: “Testing Faith and Tradition: A Global Mennonite History” (Global Mennonite History Series, Europe, 2006).

The course will be held online, in English. Everyone interested in doing theology is invited to participate. Please indicate your interest to: religionpeacejustice@gmail.com