

Foreword

The 2008 Bechtel Lectures on “The Mennonite Experience in Paraguay” comprise the core of this issue. Given at Conrad Grebel University College last March by Paraguayan-born Mennonite theologian and minister Alfred Neufeld, the two lectures will introduce many readers to the dynamic history and current involvements of Mennonite communities in that country. Neufeld chairs the coordinating committee for Mennonite World Conference (MWC) Assembly 15, which will meet in Paraguay this July.

An article by Sarah Johnson analyzes aspects of the “Shared Convictions” statement adopted by MWC in 2006 (and on which Alfred Neufeld has written a commentary, *What We Believe Together*). An article by Jon Hoover, “Islamic Monotheism and the Trinity,” expands the discussion of matters explored in recent CGR issues devoted to Mennonite-Muslim dialogue – see 24.1 (Winter 2006) and 21.3 (Fall 2003).

The book review section offers thoughtful assessments, by a wide range of reviewers, of eleven recent releases. Readers should note that the CGR website offers all book reviews we have published since 2006 and is regularly updated between print issues. (CGR print issues occasionally must focus only on article-length pieces, while book reviews go directly to the website and then appear in the next available print issue.)

Upcoming CGR issues will include papers from a San Diego symposium on J. Denny Weaver’s *The Nonviolent Atonement*, and a host of research articles and other items inviting readers’ close examination.

We invite submissions for consideration – and we are always happy to welcome new subscribers, of course.

C. Arnold Snyder, *Academic Editor* Stephen A. Jones, *Managing Editor*