

Guest Lecture by Dr. Peter C. Blum



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**“Where Two or Three are Gathered, but Who's Counting?
Nachfolge, als ob ich mehrere Mächte bin.”**

Hosted by the Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre

Tuesday November 10, 4:30 pm

Toronto School of Theology, Boardroom 1

47 Queen's Park Cr E, Toronto, Ontario

Abstract: This will be an experiment in thinking about discipleship (*Nachfolge*), as understood in the Anabaptist-Mennonite tradition, in light of the idea that there is irreducible multiplicity in the individual. “Discipleship as if I am multiple agencies.” Freud opened the twentieth century with the announcement that there are opposed/conflicting powers or agencies (*Mächte*) in the psyche, and that these agencies operate mostly behind the back of consciousness. Subsequent phenomenological and sociological reflections have reinforced the idea of the self as multiple. I will present an outline of this theoretical trajectory, and explore some ways in which Mennonites might draw from it in thinking about the relationship between the individual disciple and the gathered community (church). A central question will be: *Who counts?*

The event will consist of a 30-40 minute lecture followed by discussion. All are welcome!