

Anna M. Speicher
Curriculum Vitae
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EXPERIENCE

Freelance editor. 2014 to present.

Editorial specialties are scholarly and religious works. I provide a range of services from research and writing to content and copy editing to fact checking and proofreading. The World Council of Churches is a major current employer. Other organizational clients have included the Lutheran World Federation, the World Association for Christian Communication, Communication Point (a UK-based media and communication services company), and the Church of the Brethren. I volunteer my services for organizations such as my own congregation and other area nonprofits.

Independent scholar. 1997 to present.

Currently curating a digital collection of the diaries of Sarah and Angelina Grimké, two nineteenth-century antislavery and women's rights activists.

Published dissertation through Syracuse University Press. Served as adjunct instructor of American history at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Researched fugitive slave narratives for The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. I have given papers and talks on women's history, African American history, slavery, and antislavery activism to academic conferences and community groups.

Development Coordinator (consultant). Christian Peacemaker Teams. Chicago, IL. 2018.

Coordinated all elements of CPT's fundraising, including major and annual gift giving, grant writing, and donor stewardship. Developed plan to increase income by 10%. Participated in five-week training program in Amman, Jordan.

Project Director and Senior Editor. Gather 'Round curriculum, Brethren Press and Mennomedia. Elgin, IL. 2003-2013.

Oversaw the on-time and in-budget production of over 450 products in 8 years. Provided final review and editing of virtually every curriculum piece for writing style, theology, and age appropriateness. Grew single-staffed project into a team with 3 full-time staff and 2 part-time editors. Hired and coordinated contributions of 25 Bible scholars and 49 contract writers. Led annual writer orientation conferences. Coordinated curriculum development team. Worked with marketing team to develop and execute marketing strategies. Networked with other faith partners.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion, Carleton College. Northfield, MN. 1996-1997.

Taught courses in US religious history, gender and religion in America, and African American religions, as well as a general introduction to religion.

Graduate and post-graduate research and teaching positions. 1989-1998.

Scholar in Residence, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL.

Researcher, African American Communities Project, Smithsonian Institution.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, George Washington University.

Banneker Fellow, Center for Washington Area Studies, George Washington University.

Associate Director, Neighborhood Justice of Chicago. Chicago, IL. 1986–1988.

Worked with director to administer programs of nonprofit mediation agency. Supervised staff, student interns, and 100 volunteer mediators. Managed payroll. Presented NJC to community groups and referral agencies. Wrote and edited program materials.

EDUCATION

- MNA (master of nonprofit administration), School of Business and Nonprofit Management, North Park University. Concentrations in organizational leadership, fundraising, and governance.
- PhD, American Studies, George Washington University. Dissertation: *“Faith Which Worketh by Love”: The Religious World of Female Antislavery Lecturers.*
- AM, Religious Studies, University of Chicago Divinity School. Field: ethics and society.
- AB, Oberlin College. Major: Government.
- Certifications: Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents, Assn for Documentary Editing • Mediator, Neighborhood Justice of Chicago (now Center for Conflict Resolution).

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Books

- *The Religious World of Antislavery Women: Spirituality in the Lives of Five Abolitionist Lecturers.* Syracuse University Press, 2000.
- Co-Editor, *Shine On: A Story Bible.* MennoMedia and Brethren Press, Harrisonburg, Virginia, and Elgin, IL, 2014.

Articles and book reviews

- “Antislavery and Abolitionism.” *Encyclopedia of Women and Religion in North America.* Indiana University Press, 2006.
- Book reviews in *Reviews in American History*, *Journal of the Early Republic*, and *American Studies International*, 1991–2015.
- Articles in *Messenger* and *Basin and Towel*, denominational publications of the Church of the Brethren, 2008–2016.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Local church activities: currently chairing the Financial Stewardship Team and serving on the Green Team (promoting sound environmental practices). Served on the church board (1999–2005 and 2015–17), chairing for 5 years. Taught children’s Sunday school (2003–13). Chaired the church strategic planning committee (2014) and served on the administrative review committee (2016–17). • Treasurer, Nothing but Treble, a women’s choral ensemble. • Letter writer for Vote Forward, encouraging citizens in underrepresented communities to vote.

INTERESTS

Reading, singing, playing the piano, cooking, travel, time with family and friends.