

# Supportive Care in the Congregation

In the 1980s, a group of Mennonites developed an innovative proposal to support individuals with significant disabilities, along with their families. Now thoroughly revised and updated, *Supportive Care in the Congregation* retains its vision for care groups in congregations. In this edition, an expanded chapter on theology looks at the Anabaptist roots of the book's vision. Three new chapters present complementary ministries and movements that have emerged since the book's first edition, offering a wealth of resources to those who take up the invitation to build supportive, caring, inclusive communities of faith.

This updated resource provides compelling ideas for putting our commitments into practice. People with significant disabilities and their families will no doubt benefit from supportive networks. But those congregation members who are willing to enter into new relationships will also be transformed through receiving the gifts and friendship of people with disabilities.

—**Erik Carter**, author of *Including People with Disabilities in Faith Communities*, Peabody College of Vanderbilt University

A Supportive Care group in a congregation, committed to both immediate crises and the long haul, has the capacity to preach and teach about the grace and love of God.

—**Bill Gaventa**, Director, Community and Congregational Supports, The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities, New Brunswick, New Jersey



**Mennonite  
Publishing  
Network**  
[www.mpn.net](http://www.mpn.net)



Preheim-Bartel/Neufeldt/Leichty/Guth

Supportive Care in the Congregation



Dean A. Preheim-Bartel, Aldred H. Neufeldt,  
Paul D. Leichty, and Christine J. Guth

## Supportive Care in the Congregation

Providing a congregational network of care  
for persons with significant disabilities