



# Unlearning Protestantism: Sustaining Christian Community in an Unstable Age

*Gerald W. Schlabach*

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"Well written and perspicaciously framed, *Unlearning Protestantism* represents a stimulating contribution to ecumenical dialogue. Gerald Schlabach lifts up the practice of stability and the virtue of fidelity for Christian ecclesial communities with characteristic hospitality and humility. His own story of becoming a Mennonite Catholic provides a hopeful model for the sort of virtuous empathy he recommends to Christians as they plumb the depths of their own traditions while engaging in dialogue across ecclesial traditions."--**Margaret Pfeil**, University of Notre Dame

"Many of us Protestants are not Catholic enough to know what we are protesting. This book is a unique celebration of the stability of Catholicism while also recognizing that the church needs a revolution every few hundred years. A monumental step toward the unity Jesus dreamed of as he prayed that the church would be one as God is one."--**Shane Claiborne**, author and activist, [www.thesimpleway.org](http://www.thesimpleway.org)

"In this fascinating, scintillating book, Schlabach shows how absolutely crucial the practice of stability and the virtue of fidelity are for sustaining Christian communities today. Perhaps most important is Schlabach's claim that loyal dissent, far from being a threat to a community and its traditions, is rooted in a community's traditions and aims to enrich them. Thoughtful, insightful, and refreshingly challenging, Schlabach's *Unlearning Protestantism* is a gift for Christians whose impatience with imperfect communities tempts them to forget that God is present in the very ordinary--and often trying--circumstances of our lives."--**Paul J. Wadell**, St. Norbert College

"The question before Christians today is not whether the Reformation is over but, as Schlabach frames it so well, whether Protestants will be able to sustain faithful Christian communities over time apart from a serious engagement with the Catholic tradition. Written in an accessible and winsome style, this book needs to read by every scholar and layperson interested in the unity and witness of the church. In particular, Schlabach's treatment of the relationship between stability and dissent is nothing short of masterful."--**Barry Harvey**, Honors College, Baylor University

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