



# Young Center

The Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies at Elizabethtown College

Spring 2013

## News

## Center plans conference on Amish and technology

*“Amish America: Plain Technology in a Cyber World” to be held in June*

The Young Center will host “Amish America: Plain Technology in a Cyber World,” on June 6, 7, and 8, 2013. The international conference will highlight the challenges and impact of new technology on manufacturing, family life, consumption, medicine, and leisure for Amish and other Plain communities as well as a variety of other pertinent topics. Presenters will come from the United States, France, England, Italy, Canada, the Netherlands, Israel, Japan, Belgium, and South Africa.

The conference will feature four plenary sessions: “What the Amish Can Teach (and Learn From) Nerds and Geeks” by Kevin Kelly, co-founder of *Wired* magazine and widely read writer on the nature and impact of technology; “A Tale of Two Kitchens: Gender and Technology in Amish Communities” by Karen Johnson-Weiner, professor of anthropology at SUNY Potsdam; “Thrill of the Chaste: The Secret Life of an Amish Romance Novel” by Valerie Weaver-Zercher, writer and editor; and “Amish Participation in Medical Research: A Partnership of Trust and Mutual Benefit” by Alan Shuldiner, founder and director of the Amish Research Clinic.

Academic paper presentations will cover topics ranging from organic farming to the use of Facebook, medical treatments for burns to cancer screen-

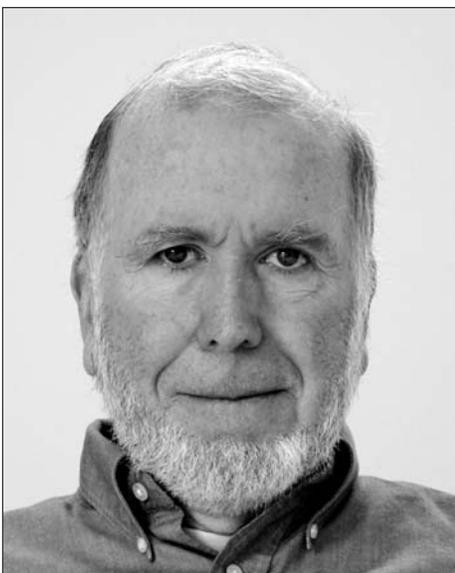
ing, household consumption practices to mood disorders, and singing practices and Amish spirituality. Panel discussions will cover a wide range of topics as well, including technology adaptations and changes, recent church-state conflicts, medical outreach programs, historic preservation, teaching of courses on Amish culture, and the prominence of Amish films in popular media.

In addition to panel discussions and paper presentations, participants will have the option of attending thematic seminars on topics such as changing attitudes toward mental health, healthcare practices, the rise and success of businesses, the Pennsylvania Dutch dialect, quilts in consumer culture and art, the growth and spread of new settlements, evolving trends in Amish technology, cultural competence in serving Amish clients, and genetic research. Two new books will be released at the conference: *Thrill of the Chaste*, an analysis of the rise Amish romance fiction, and *The Amish*, a benchmark study of Amish life in North America. A special conference session will cover the recent beard-cutting case in Ohio, which found 16 defendants guilty of federal hate crimes.

Conference registration begins at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 6, and the conference opens at 1:00 p.m. Two optional tours—Technology in Agriculture and Business; Health and Medical Services—are offered on Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The conference fee, which includes all meals, is \$210 for registration by May 1. The fee for students and members of Plain communities is \$110. Single-day registration is also available.

For details and registration information, visit [www.ETOWN.EDU/AMISH2013](http://www.ETOWN.EDU/AMISH2013), call (717) 361-1470, or send an e-mail to [AMISH2013@ETOWN.EDU](mailto:AMISH2013@ETOWN.EDU). ■



Plenary speaker Kevin Kelly



## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Jeff Bach

The events of superstorm Sandy may seem like a long time ago, but the impact continues. The loss of electricity, transportation, and communication demonstrated how dependent most of us are on electricity and technology. Yet much of the recovery effort was also powered by people near and far reaching out with labor and resources through person-to-person contacts.

Many of us live assuming that electricity, multiple communications networks, and transportation will be reliably available. Most of us seldom ask how much technology we really want or need. Rarely do we think about the effects that these technology interfaces have on us. At the Young Center we certainly depend on daily quick access to technology

and communications media.

In June the Young Center will host a major academic conference, “Amish America: Plain Technology in a Cyber World.” Scholars and participants from around the world and across the nation will examine the effects of technology on human life and how people might adapt their uses of technology based on their values.

Even as we plan for the conference, we at the Young Center are mindful of the many ways that person-to-person human interactions make the difference in how we go about our mission. Our volunteer workers assist with important work and help to welcome visitors. Generous donors put personal faces on the support that helps students and scholars

to learn more about Anabaptist and Pietist groups. Visitors who come here to learn more about the Amish and other groups interact with us, telling us about their lives and questions.

We could not do our work without the technologies that are so reliably available through the college’s infrastructure. We would not want to do our work without the human “connectivity” that is both a part of the Anabaptist and Pietist heritage, and the mode of our work and study that values people. I look forward to welcoming you to Young Center events and opportunities to study, including the conference in June. I hope that as we all reflect on our connections to technology, we will find ways to keep connected to personal relationships. ■

## Marie Dick to serve as Kreider Fellow

Marie Dick has been named the Kreider Fellow for Spring 2013. Dick is an associate professor at St. Cloud State University in St. Cloud, Minnesota, where she teaches mass communications.

During her time as the Kreider Fellow, she plans to further her work on the peace rhetoric of Chief Lawrence Hart. Hart, a revered traditional peace chief of the Southern Cheyenne and an ordained Mennonite minister, has been described as a “national treasure” and “the greatest living peace chief” in the United States for his dynamic way of preserving Cheyenne traditions and bridging Cheyenne and Christian religious and cultural practices.

Dick began collaborating on the project of Hart’s peace rhetoric with Susan Schulz Huxman, president of Conrad Grebel University, Ontario, and Raylene Hinz-Penner, English professor at Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas, and Lawrence Hart’s official biographer.

“It is my hope that time at the Young Center will provide me with an environ-

ment conducive to completing scholarly work related to the collected anthology of Hart’s speeches, and continuing work on a documentary film project dedicated to his life and work,” Dick says.

“I look forward to meeting and, hopefully, collaborating with faculty/staff at the Young Center and Elizabethtown College.”

Marie Dick will present a lecture about her work on Tuesday, March 12, in the Bucher Meetinghouse.

The Kreider Fellowship and lecture are named in honor of Ken and Carroll Kreider, whose generous gift endowed them. The Young Center invites nominations and applications for Snowden, Kreider, and doctoral fellows. Visit the Center’s web site for details. ■



Marie Dick



- DIRECTOR  
Jeff Bach, Ph.D.
- SENIOR FELLOW  
Donald B. Kraybill, Ph.D.
- RESEARCH STAFF  
Edsel Burdge Jr.  
Cynthia Nolt
- ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
Hillary Daecher

*Young Center News* is published twice each year for those interested in the work and events of the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies.

For e-mail notification and a link to each new issue of *Young Center News* as soon as it is available, send an e-mail to [youngctr@etown.edu](mailto:youngctr@etown.edu)

Comments and suggestions are welcome. Please direct correspondence to the address below.

Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies  
Elizabethtown College  
One Alpha Drive  
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-2298

Phone: (717) 361-1470  
Fax: (717) 361-1443  
E-mail: [youngctr@etown.edu](mailto:youngctr@etown.edu)  
Website: [www.etown.edu/youngctr](http://www.etown.edu/youngctr)

# Music book and communion cups from Snow Hill

In August the Young Center acquired several items from the Snow Hill congregation of the German Seventh Day Baptists. An auction was held at the site of the Snow Hill community near Quincy, Pennsylvania. The German Seventh Day Baptists, who are the surviving congregational remnant of the Ephrata community, sold the property and buildings of Snow Hill. Formerly a monastic community founded by Ephrata members in 1764, Snow Hill has been a congregation of families and married people since 1895. The auction was held to sell the last items remaining on the property.

The Young Center acquired several individual communion cups that had been used for love feasts at Snow Hill. The main acquisition, however, was a music book, found in a box of old books, containing music composed at the Ephrata community for their 1739 hymnal, *Zionitic Hill of Incense*. The compositions, created by Conrad Beissel, were

copied by the sisters at Ephrata probably between the 1740s and 1750s. The refined calligraphy is typical of their work. The book contains four floral illustrations in the style of the sisterhood. One page shows where an additional illustration was cut out of the book. Although somewhat damaged by water on the corners of some pages, the music book is in good condition.

The front fly leaf has two inscriptions: “Daniel Neagle 1791,” and an abbreviated form of the name “Obed Snowberger,” the last celibate at Snow Hill. This book was previously unknown in scholarly literature about Ephrata’s music. It is a great addition to the Young Center’s research collection, and its purchase was made possible by funds from the NEH endowment. Future generations of students and scholars will be



Illustrated page from the Ephrata music book

able to examine Ephrata’s music and folk art traditions up close at Elizabethtown College with the acquisition of this rare, previously unknown music book. ■

## INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

**Right:** Students and professors from Helmut Schmidt University in Hamburg, Germany, along with Jeff Bach and Edsel Burdge from the Young Center, spent September 10 visiting an Amish farm and Amish-run businesses. The students were in a course about politics and came to Pennsylvania to learn about the presidential election. In Lancaster County they learned about how the Amish live and relate to American politics.



**Left:** A delegation from Vnu University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Hanoi, Vietnam, visited the Young Center on October 15. They met with Donald Kraybill to discuss issues of religion and government, and how the Amish negotiate with local, state, and federal laws that affect them. The Institute for Global Engagement sponsored and arranged the visit.

# Alumni create new endowments

Virginia Wise Berninger '67 and her husband, Ron, have established a scholarship through the Young Center for Elizabethtown College students. The scholarship, known as the Young Center Fund for Student-Faculty Research in Conflict Resolution and Ecumenical Studies, is in tribute to Berninger's parents, Church of the Brethren leaders, and Elizabethtown College faculty members. The scholarship supports students who are researching peace and conflict studies, especially through ecumenical understanding, and also promotes student-faculty research.

Virginia (Ginger) Berninger is a professor of educational psychology and director of the University Brain Education and Technology Center at the University of Washington. Her research focuses on brain function and learning, especially how conflict and reconciliation are processed cognitively.

Berninger credits her parents, Oscar and Lucille (Fike) Wise, for exposing her to the importance of service and peacemaking in the context of the Church of the Brethren.

She also attributes her interest in peace to the influence of Donald F. Durnbaugh. She met Don and his wife, Hedda, while

he was a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania and attended Berninger's home congregation, Drexel Hill Church of the Brethren. (The Durnbaughs were two of the Young Center's founding fellows.) Berninger credits Hedda Durnbaugh for the inspiration to pursue scholarship at a time when such careers were much less accessible to women. At Drexel Hill, she also met Galen S. Young, M.D., who endowed the Young Center. In addition to highlighting the influence of her parents and church leaders, the Berningers' gift also acknowledges the guidance Ginger received as an Elizabethtown student from religion and philosophy professors Armon Snowden, Glenn Snowden, and Stanley Sutphin.

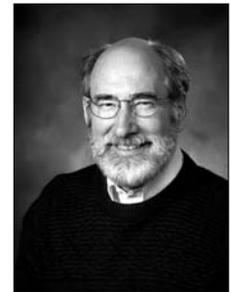
Ginger and Ron Berninger hope their scholarship will support students who work for peacemaking locally and globally and for understanding varieties of religions.

Harvey Kline '43 has established the Ruth Zimmerman Kline Young Center Endowed Fund to assist Young Center visiting fellows with housing needs and transportation for research. A long-time Brethren minister and administrator at Cross Keys Village, the Brethren retirement community in New Oxford, Pennsylvania, Kline named the fund in honor of his late wife, Ruth Zimmerman Kline '46, reflecting their commitment to education and Elizabethtown College as well as their interest in the heritage of the Brethren.

Virginia Wise Berninger and Ron Berninger and Harvey and Ruth Zimmerman Kline are inspiring supporters of the Young Center's mission of scholarship that brings together students and academic researchers in the quest to better understand the vision and influence of Anabaptist and Pietist groups. The Young Center staff, fellows, and future students can be grateful for the generosity of these visionary people. ■

# Donald Kraybill to speak at annual dinner

Distinguished College Professor and Senior Fellow Donald B. Kraybill will deliver "The Whisker War: Why the Beard Cutters Were Charged with Federal Hate Crimes" on April 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the Susquehanna Room of Myer Hall.

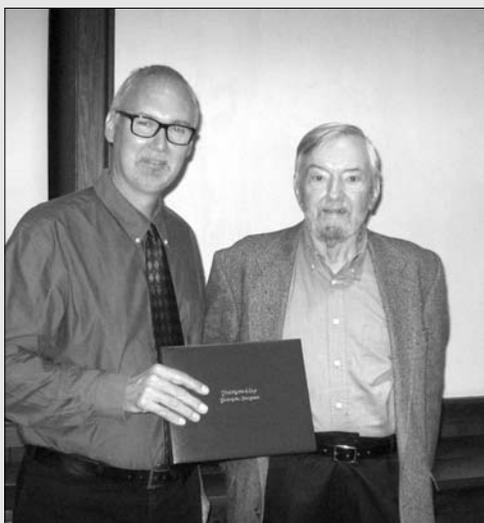


Donald B. Kraybill

Kraybill is internationally recognized for his scholarship on Anabaptist groups and is the author or editor of numerous books and dozens of professional articles. His research on Anabaptist groups has been featured in journals, magazines, and newspapers, and on radio and television programs across the United States and in many foreign countries.

In his talk, Kraybill will describe the Bergholz "Amish" sect and the events that led to the beard cutting attacks in Ohio in fall 2011. He will explain how renegade bishop Sam Mullet scuttled traditional Amish beliefs and practices, instigated novel rituals, and became highly critical of other Amish leaders. He will also show why Mullet and 15 of his followers were charged with federal hate crimes and on what basis the jury found them guilty. Kraybill served as a cultural expert witness at the three-week trial of the defendants in federal court in Cleveland last fall.

Kraybill's lecture will follow the annual Young Center banquet, which begins with a reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00, in the Susquehanna Room of Myer Hall. Both the dinner and the talk are open to the public. Reservations are required for the dinner (cost is \$18, payable by March 28); the lecture is free of charge and does not require reservations. ■



Keith Graber Miller received the 2012 Dale Brown Book Award for his book of edited essays, *Prophetic Peacemaking: Selected Writings of J. R. Burkholder*. Burkholder joined Graber Miller for his lecture on October 23.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Palestinian Refugee Return and Durable Peace Building**

ALAIN EPP WEAVER

**Tuesday, February 19 ■ 7:00 pm**

No solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is possible without a viable solution to the plight of Palestinian refugees. Epp Weaver will offer an analysis of peace-building actions supported by Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and carried out by Zochrot, an Israeli organization dedicated to “remembering the *Nakba* [catastrophe]” and to promoting constructive conversations within Israeli Jewish society about Palestinian refugee return as a critical component to durable peace building.

Alain Epp Weaver is director of the planning, learning, and disaster response department at MCC. He previously worked for 11 years in the Middle East, including as director of MCC’s programs in Palestine, Jordan, and Iraq. Epp Weaver holds a Ph.D. in theology from the University of Chicago and is the author or editor of eight books.

This lecture is cosponsored by the Center for Global Understanding and Peacemaking and the Peace and Conflict Studies program.

### **Speaking Peace: The Rhetoric of Lawrence Hart, Southern Cheyenne Peace Chief and Mennonite Minister**

MARIE DICK

**Tuesday, March 12 ■ 7:30 pm**

As a Marine jet fighter pilot during the Korean War, an ordained Mennonite minister, and a traditional Cheyenne peace chief, Lawrence Hart (1933-) has a gift for “enlarging the tribe”—reconciling and commemorating the often tragic history of U.S. government and Native American relations. For over 40 years, he has been widely sought as a speaker, mediator, and advocate for national Indian affairs. In

■ Tuesday, February 19, 7:00 pm

#### LECTURE

### **Palestinian Refugee Return and Durable Peace Building**

Alain Epp Weaver

■ Tuesday, March 12, 7:30 pm

#### KREIDER LECTURE

### **Speaking Peace: The Rhetoric of Lawrence Hart, Southern Cheyenne Peace Chief and Mennonite Minister**

Marie Dick

■ Tuesday, March 19, 7:30 pm

#### LECTURE

### **Born-Again Brethren in Christ: Religious Identity in an Age of Evangelicalism**

Devin C. Manzullo-Thomas

■ Thursday, April 11, 6:00 pm

### **Annual Young Center Banquet**

■ Thursday, April 11, 7:30 pm

#### LECTURE

### **The Whisker War: Why the Beard Cutters Were Charged with Federal Hate Crimes**

Donald B. Kraybill

her lecture, Dick will discuss Hart’s life and work as well as the rhetorical strategies he uses as tools to address the rhetorical dilemma of pacifism.

Marie Dick is an associate professor of mass communications at St. Cloud State University, focusing on health communication, risk/crisis communication, public communication, and media effects. Her academic preparation includes degrees in political science, rhetoric, and communication studies.

### **Born-Again Brethren in Christ: Religious Identity in an Age of Evangelicalism**

DEVIN C. MANZULLO-THOMAS

**Tuesday, March 19 ■ 7:30 pm**

Beginning in the mid-twentieth century, the Brethren in Christ Church transformed from a small, separatist religious society into a growing mainstream evangelical denomination. Central to this transformation was the church’s increas-

ing investment in the larger American neo-evangelical movement. This lecture will examine the ways Brethren in Christ members ratified or resisted the claims of the neo-evangelical movement in an effort to construct a new identity for their denomination.

Devin C. Manzullo-Thomas is assistant editor of *Brethren in Christ History and Life* and adjunct professor of interdisciplinary studies at Messiah College. He holds a master’s degree in history from Temple University.

### **Young Center Banquet**

**Thursday, April 11 ■ 6:00 pm**  
**(Reception at 5:30 pm)**

**Susquehanna Room of Myer Hall**

The annual Young Center dinner gives faculty, staff, students, church leaders, and other friends of the Young Center the opportunity to socialize and learn about the Center’s activities and programs. Cost for the banquet is \$18, and reservations are required by March 28.

### **The Whisker War: Why the Beard Cutters Were Charged with Federal Hate Crimes**

DONALD B. KRAYBILL

**Thursday, April 11 ■ 7:30 pm**

**Susquehanna Room of Myer Hall**

Kraybill will describe the historical and social factors leading to five beard-cutting attacks on Amish people in fall 2011 and explain why the defendants were charged and convicted of federal hate crimes.

Donald B. Kraybill served as a cultural expert witness at the three-week trial of 16 defendants in federal court in Cleveland last fall. He is senior fellow at the Young Center and the author or editor of numerous journal articles and books, including *The Amish*, which will be published by the Johns Hopkins University Press in 2013.



Elizabethtown College

YOUNG CENTER FOR ANABAPTIST  
AND PIETIST STUDIES  
ONE ALPHA DRIVE  
ELIZABETHTOWN, PA 17022-2298

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## New publications in the Young Center book series

This spring will see the release of three new titles in the Young Center series published by the Johns Hopkins University Press. All three—the eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth in the series—are expected to be available by the end of April.

*An Introduction to Pietism: Protestant Renewal at the Dawn of Modern Europe* by Douglas Shantz provides an up-to-date scholarly look at Pietism from early German radicalism and Orthodox Lutheran reformation to the contribution of German Pietism to the modern world. Shantz, professor of Christian thought at the University of Calgary, focuses on the features of Pietism that make it religiously and culturally significant while taking into account new discoveries in the field.

In *Thrill of the Chaste*, Valerie Weaver-Zercher examines the Amish ro-

mance novel, placing it in the context of contemporary fiction, religion, and popular culture. Combining research and interviews with readers, publishers, and authors, Weaver-Zercher traces the origin of the genre and analyzes this growing trend in romance fiction.

*The Amish*, by professors Donald Kraybill, Karen Johnson-Weiner, and Steven Nolt, is a definitive study of Amish society in North America in the twenty-first century. Drawing on archival material, oral history, and direct observations, the authors explore the diversity and evolving

identities within the Amish community, as well as its transformation and geographic expansion. They describe the pressures the Amish continually face to modify their cultural patterns and the creative ways they have negotiated with modernity, enabling them to thrive in America.

In addition to the three books, the Press is also preparing two digital shorts: “From Marriage to Rumspringa” and “The Amish and Technology.” Each e-book is a full chapter excerpt from *The Amish* and will be released about a month prior to the publication of the book. ■

