



Young Center

The Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies at Elizabethtown College

Spring 2014

News

Archives and special collections project underway

Facility will provide needed space for rare books, scholarly materials, and the college archives

Space at the Young Center for its growing collection of research resources has been an expanding need since the center's founding in 1986. The number of fellows, visiting scholars, students, and members of the public has grown significantly as people turn to the Young Center to learn more about the history, life, culture, and beliefs of Anabaptists and Pietists.

With the support of the board of trustees, the college has devised a two-step plan to address this need for increased and improved space to house the rare materials and provide interpretation to the general public. First, existing space within the High Library will be converted into the Earl H. and Anita F. Hess Archives and Special Collections. Second, the Young Center will be expanded to provide space for visiting scholars, program activities, and exhibits.

The Hess Archives and Special Collections will house the Young Center's rare books and manuscripts. These materials include the Durnbaugh Collection and the Biting Collection of rare Pietist and Anabaptist books as well as individual volumes of interest given by other donors. The Falkenstein Collection includes diaries, correspondence, and stereoscopic slides from G. N. Falkenstein. The papers of Brethren historians Donald F. Durnbaugh and Roger S. Sappington provide significant scholarly research materials. Along with these items, two illustrated Ephrata-

related music books and two books of manuscript letters from an Ephrata brother will be housed in the climate-controlled space. The facility will also house Elizabethtown College's Archives and the collections currently located in High Library's Brethren Heritage Room.

The former microfilm storage area in the lower level of High Library will be the site of the archives and special collections facility. It will feature moveable shelving in the storage area, allowing twice the amount of storage space than is needed for current holdings. The storage area will have temperature and humidity control and a state-of-the-art fire suppression system. Additionally, the new facility will include a processing room for acquisitions, an office for an archivist, and a reading room for researchers and students. The Earl H. and Anita F. Hess Archives and Special Collections will provide secure preservation for the distinctive collections of the Young Center and the college. Scholars and students for generations to come will be able to use these materials for research.

Supporters have already responded generously to the project, with a lead gift from Anita F. Hess. "As lifelong members of the Church of the Brethren, my late husband, Earl, and I have had a strong commitment to the Anabaptist tradition," Mrs. Hess notes. "When I heard about the opportunity to be a part of preserving the history of the Anabaptists, I knew it was something Earl would have wanted to support."

For more information, please contact Marty Thomas-Brumme (mail: Office of Advancement, Elizabethtown College, One Alpha Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022; phone: 717-361-6493; e-mail: brummem@etown.edu). Checks may be sent to Thomas-Brumme or the Young Center, made payable to Elizabethtown College and marked for the Hess Archives and Special Collections. ■



Anita F. and the late Earl H. Hess

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Children and youth in the Young Center were one of the highlights of last summer and fall for me. On two occasions, elementary school-age children visited. Their families included both German and American parents. I was delighted to watch some of the children read the title page of our 1743 Sauer Bible and begin to realize the significance of this milestone of both print and religious culture, created in America by and for religious minorities. The children were also interested in the meetinghouse and the artifacts we have for communion and love feast services. Earlier in the summer visiting junior high youth and young adult groups from Church of the Brethren congregations came to learn more about the Anabaptist and Pietist movements.

The children and youth were a bonus to our usual stream of academic visitors. Through their youthful eyes I saw again the importance of our center for interpreting to future generations the international significance of Anabaptist and Pietist groups, past and present. They reminded me that we interpret Anabaptist and Pietist groups existing in many cultures around the world today, along with their historical roots. The primary focus of our mission at the Young Center remains to serve adult scholars and college students. However, the young visitors impressed on me the importance of building a future to inform the public and train new students and scholars.

The Earl H. and Anita F. Hess Archives and Special Collections project brings excitement these days as we anticipate this new space. It will help the Young Center to serve children and youth, adult scholars, and students by preserving unique resources and interpreting Anabaptist and Pietist groups to future generations. Whatever your age, I wish for all of us the gift of youthful vision and discovery to understand the rich legacy of our research. I hope you can join us for our programs in the coming semester.

Jeff Bach
Director



Recent donations and acquisitions

Several recent donations and acquisitions have expanded the Young Center's special collections. Last summer, Donna Steiner, the college's former director of church relations, gave the center a collection of musical instruments from Nigeria. She also donated decorative mats, bowls, and small sculptures. Steiner acquired these items during the time she worked in Nigeria as a teacher.

Love feast items used by Brethren congregations in southeastern Pennsylvania during the nineteenth century were also donated this past year. Three tin bowls used to serve soup at the love feast were given to the center along with two forks and two knives with bone handles.

Lancaster physician Dr. David Fuchs donated a copy of Johanna Eleonora Petersen's book *Das ewige Evangelium der allgemeinen Wiederbringung aller Creaturen* ("The Eternal Gospel of the Universal Restoration of All Creatures"), published anonymously in 1698. Petersen, an early German Radical Pietist, wrote extensively on the return of Christ and on universal restoration. Dr. Fuchs is active with the historical committee of the Atlantic Northeast District of the Church of the Brethren.

Larry Etzweiler donated a copy of the 1776 edition of the Bible printed by Christopher Sauer II. This was the third and final edition of the Bible printed by the two Christopher Sauers (father and son) in Germantown. Etzweiler, a retired attorney from New Jersey, is a volunteer at the Young Center.

The center also purchased several Radical Pietist books using funds from the NEH challenge grant completed in 2008. One volume is *Die Verklärung Jesu Christi in der Seele* ("The Transfiguration of Jesus Christ in the Soul"), a book of sermons by Gottfried Arnold. Another is a book predicting the return of Christ, *Die Sieben letzten Posaunen oder Wehen* ("The Seven Last Trumpets or Woes"). Published in Reading in 1820, it was attributed to Heinrich Jung Stilling on the title page, although the author is actually Christian Armbrüster. The Young Center also acquired a small book of prayers by Johann Habermann.

The books enrich the center's collection of significant Radical Pietist works. The artifacts represent part of the past of the Brethren, as well as their international presence. We are grateful to the donors and to the NEH for these additions. ■

Fall visitors to the Young Center

Last fall the Young Center hosted a number of guests. On September 12, two Buddhist monks from the Longquan monastery near Beijing, China, visited Elizabethtown College and the Young Center. They traveled in the United States to visit various institutions where people work for peace. At the Young Center they

learned about the Anabaptist commitment to peace. Later in September a group of adults from the Hagerstown Church of the Brethren in Maryland visited the Young Center to learn about Brethren heritage and then traveled to the Ephrata Cloister with Jeff Bach. Business students from the Technical College of Constance,

Germany, came to Elizabethtown College for a tour of Amish businesses, led by the Young Center director. In October Congresswoman Constance Morella, who was the college's Woodrow Wilson Fellow, visited the center to learn more about its research. The mix of international and regional guests provided opportunities to interpret the past and present influence of Anabaptist and Pietist groups. ■



Vi Dutcher and Cory Anderson serve as Kreider Fellows

Center Fellows and Doctoral Fellow pursue research related to the Amish

Vi Dutcher and Cory Anderson have been named Kreider Fellows for Spring 2014. The Young Center is hosting two fellows this spring because the 2012 Kreider Fellow was unable to fulfill his appointment.

Vi Dutcher is professor of rhetoric and composition and director of the writing program at Eastern Mennonite University, where she teaches writing, speech, and ethnic literature courses. Her research interest is in literacy practices, particularly within the Amish and broader Anabaptist communities.

Dutcher's current project is a book manuscript that examines literacy practices within Amish communities. The project is an ethnographic study of the ways in which Amish women in north-eastern Ohio make meaning in their world and how this meaning shapes them into knowledge-making, literate women, essential to their communities. Dutcher is investigating the women's rhetorical practices and literacies previously unoffi-

cial and private, voices previously silent and silenced, and stories previously untold.

During her time as a Kreider Fellow, she will complete research in selected publications located

in the Young Center archives and draft several chapters of her manuscript. She will also interview Amish women, some of whom write columns in local newspapers, and observe Amish classrooms.

Cory Anderson is a doctoral candidate in rural sociology at Ohio State University. During the past several years, he has been tracking down social science and humanities research about the Amish and summarizing the findings. From this literature, he has developed a multidimensional theory that addresses the overarching question in Amish studies: Why (and how) have the Amish survived? During his time as a fellow, Anderson will refine this theory and conduct a citation network analysis that will be the basis for an article-length history of Amish studies. If time permits, he will also develop a synthesis of methodological approaches to studying the Amish. While working on these projects, he will edit his summaries with the goal of producing an annotated bibliography of Amish studies.

Being at the Young Center, Anderson notes, will give him the focus and support to advance his work as well as a collection of materials relevant to his literature review and access to the experience and



Vi Dutcher



Cory Anderson




Vlatka Škender

knowledge of Donald Kraybill, Jeff Bach, and Edsel Burdge.

Vlatka Škender is the Young Center's doctoral fellow for Spring 2014. Škender is a doctoral candidate in social anthropology at the Institute of Ethnology, University of Münster, Germany. Her doctoral project, under supervision by Prof. Dr. Josephus D. M. Platenkamp, deals with permutations in ritual and social-religious constructs of femaleness in the Amish social system.

While at the Young Center, Škender will do extensive research on the primary written sources relevant to her doctoral project and conduct the first phase of her fieldwork, a comparative overview of the Amish communities in Lancaster and Mifflin Counties and an observation of interactions between the Amish and the broader American society. The Young Center fellowship will help in this work, she says, because it will allow her to collaborate with experts in the field of Amish studies and to gather current ethnographic data.

The Young Center invites nominations and applications for Snowden, Kreider, and doctoral fellows. Visit the center's website for details. ■


Young Center
Spring 2014 News

- 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

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

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Salim Munayer, founder and director of Musalaha Ministry of Reconciliation in Jerusalem and professor of theology at Bethlehem Bible College, will present a lecture on Palestinian-Israeli reconciliation on Tuesday, February 25, at 7:00 p.m., at the Young Center.

Musalaha builds relationships, trust, and understanding between people who have been taught to distrust each other. The organization coordinates youth camps, women's retreats, and young adult leadership conferences, and leads expeditions into the backcountry regions of Israel and Jordan.

Conference on prophetic speech set for June

The Young Center will host a conference, "Privileged Speech: Prophecy, Pietism, and Beyond," June 5-7, 2014. The event will examine inspired speech in Christianity since the early modern era, especially among Pietists, Anabaptists, and other minority groups and individuals, including the Community of True Inspiration, Ephrata, Harmonists, Shakers, Quaker speakers, and others. The claim of divine inspiration has created special status for speakers as well as spoken and written words among these groups and prophets. Conference presentations will assess the significance of receiving and transmitting divinely inspired messages.

Patrick Erben will give a major address related to efforts to understand inspired speech and writings across languages in early Pennsylvania. Erben, an associate professor of English at the University of West Georgia, received the 2013 Dale Brown Book Award for *A Harmony of the Spirits: Translation and the Language of Community in Early Pennsylvania*.

Other presentations will examine the phenomenon of "sleeping preachers" in one Anabaptist group; a remarkable vision by John Herr of the Reformed Mennonites; and the nineteenth-century Quaker minister Ann Branson, who represented the inspirationist perspective among traditional Quakers. The Community of True Inspiration (now the Amana Church Society of Iowa), which celebrates its three hundredth anniversary this year, also will be among the paper topics, as will Conrad Beissel's claims of receiving prophecy at Ephrata.

The conference opens Thursday afternoon, June 5, and concludes at noon on Saturday, June 7. Program and registration information will be available on the Young Center website by early February and in a forthcoming brochure.

Paper proposals are being accepted through March 14. For the call for papers, see the events page of the Young Center website, www.etown.edu/youngctr. ■

Janneken Smucker named Durnbaugh Lecturer for 2014

The Young Center is pleased to announce that Janneken Smucker will present the 2014 Durnbaugh Lectures. Smucker is an assistant professor of history at West Chester University, where she teaches courses on American and global cultural history, digital history, and material culture.

Smucker coauthored *Amish Abstractions: Quilts from the Collection of Faith and Stephen Brown* and *Amish Crib Quilts from the Midwest: The Sara Miller Collection*, and she wrote *Amish Quilts: Crafting an American Icon*, which was published by the Johns Hopkins University Press last fall. In collaboration with staff at the International Quilt Study Center and Museum, she is helping to curate a new online project, World Quilts: The

American Story, to disseminate content on the history of quilts to a wide, international audience. Smucker is also on the board of Quilt Alliance, a national nonprofit dedicated to documenting, preserving, and sharing the stories of quilts and quiltmakers.

Established in 1993 to commemorate the scholarship of Don and Hedda Durnbaugh, the Durnbaugh lecture series brings a noted scholar of Anabaptist or Pietist studies to campus annually. This year's presentations will be held on April 3 and 4. See page 6 for details. ■



Donald B. Kraybill discusses forgiveness in Northern Ireland

In April 2013 documentary filmmaker Paul Moorehead from Northern Ireland came to Lancaster County to interview Senior Fellow Donald B. Kraybill and several other people for a film on forgiveness. Moorehead wanted to tell the Nickel Mines Amish story along with others about forgiveness in a film titled *A Step Too Far? A Contemplation on Forgiveness*. The 70-minute documentary, which includes forgiveness stories from Northern Ireland, was shown the first evening of "Moving On," a conference held November 20-22, 2013, in the town of Lurgan, about thirty miles southwest of Belfast.

Kraybill and David Weaver-Zercher (a coauthor of *Amish Grace*) were invited to make presentations and lead workshops at the conference. The attendees were high school teachers, civic leaders, religious leaders, and peace-building activists. Lurgan was the site of many atrocities during "the Troubles" in Northern Ireland in the last quarter of the twentieth century. Despite the Good Friday peace agreement in 1998, the peace remains tenuous and



Lurgan remains a very segregated town with schools and residents separated into Catholic and Protestant. Conference planners said that some of the people who attended would not have agreed to be in the same room two years earlier.

"The conflicts in Northern Ireland are extremely complicated," Kraybill notes. "They are centuries old and involve religion, national identity, economics, and strong feelings about independence from Great Britain. Forgiveness becomes very complicated in a civic arena that involves many offenders and victims on all sides of a conflict that has gone on for many years." ■

UPCOMING EVENTS

Amish Women's Literacies

VI DUTCHER

Thursday, February 20 ■ 7:30 p.m.

In this presentation, Vi Dutcher will discuss the literacy practices of female members of one northeastern Ohio Amish community. Whether writing as a scribe for a newspaper column, making cards to send to shut-ins, handing down time-honored recipes to younger women, contributing to a circle letter, writing poetry for friends and family members, or writing a letter to the *Blackboard Bulletin* editor in order to impart wisdom to a young Amish woman teaching school, a northeastern Ohio Amish woman practices literacy that is both public and private and always sacred. These women use literacy tools they have inherited and selected, shaping them to meet their needs while, in turn, meeting church-appointed communal needs.

Dutcher is a professor of rhetoric and composition and the director of the writing program at Eastern Mennonite University.

Desert Safaris for Palestinian-Israeli Reconciliation

SALIM MUNAYER

Tuesday, February 25 ■ 7:00 p.m.

As a Palestinian Christian, Salim Munayer learned about reconciliation from his father. Twenty years ago he took his first group of Israeli and Palestinian Christians on a camelback safari in the desert. His ministry of peace-making and reconciliation flows out of a lifetime of learning. In this talk, Munayer will discuss his experiences and his ministry.

Munayer is the founder and director of Musalaha Ministry of Reconciliation in Jerusalem, a nonprofit organization promoting reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians, and a professor of theology at Bethlehem Bible College.

■ Thursday, February 20, 7:30 p.m.

KREIDER LECTURE

Amish Women's Literacies

Vi Dutcher

■ Tuesday, February 25, 7:00 p.m.

LECTURE

Desert Safaris for Palestinian-Israeli Reconciliation

Salim Munayer

■ Thursday, February 27, 7:30 p.m.

LECTURE

Narrating the Harrowing Journey of Four Hutterites During the Great War

Duane Stoltzfus

■ Thursday, March 20, 7:30 p.m.

KREIDER LECTURE

Why Have the Amish Survived? A Synthesis

Cory Anderson

■ Tuesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.

LECTURE

9/11 and the Heroes of Flight 93

Mal Fuller

■ Thursday, April 3, 6:00 p.m.

(Reception at 5:30)

Annual Young Center Banquet

■ Thursday, April 3, 7:30 p.m.

DURNBAUGH LECTURE

Abstract Art or Country Craft? The Quilts of the Amish

Janneken Smucker

■ Friday, April 4, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

DURNBAUGH SEMINAR

Cloth, Commerce, and Collecting

Janneken Smucker

Narrating the Harrowing Journey of Four Hutterites During the Great War

DUANE STOLTZFUS

Thursday, February 27 ■ 7:30 p.m.

Four Hutterite men were chained in the dungeon at Alcatraz when they refused to perform military service during World War I. The experiences of David, Joseph, and Michael Hofer, and Jacob Wipf came to be regarded as exhibit A among accounts of prisoner abuse during the war. Duane Stoltzfus will present

highlights of the story and also describe the research process that led to his recent book, *Pacifists in Chains*, including visits with descendants of the four men and a tour of the basement cells at Alcatraz.

Stoltzfus is a professor of communication at Goshen College and copy editor for the *Mennonite Quarterly Review*.

Why Have the Amish Survived? A Synthesis

CORY ANDERSON

Thursday, March 20 ■ 7:30 p.m.

The persistence of the Amish has attracted scholars' attention for over seventy years. Those working in the social sciences and humanities have published hundreds of studies that contribute answers to the question: Why have the Amish survived? Cory Anderson has synthesized all known academic Amish-focused publications since 1942 and will present a theory that integrates the diverse foci of this research question.

Anderson is completing a PhD in rural sociology at Ohio State University. He is a founding coeditor of the new *Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies*.

9/11 and the Heroes of Flight 93

MAL FULLER

Tuesday, March 25 ■ 7:30 p.m.

As an air traffic control watch supervisor at Pittsburgh International Airport, Mal Fuller participated in the shutdown of the nation's airspace after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Fuller will discuss the events of 9/11, the heroes of Flight 93, and the crash outside of Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

Fuller, now retired, is a member of the board of directors of Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial.

This talk is cosponsored by the Center for Global Understanding and Peace-making and the Bowers Writers House.



Elizabethtown College

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UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

Young Center Banquet

Thursday, April 3 ■ 6:00 p.m.

(Reception at 5:30 p.m.)

Susquehanna Room of Myer Hall

The annual Young Center dinner gives faculty, staff, students, church leaders, and other friends of the Young Center an opportunity to socialize and learn about the center's activities and programs.

A reception for Durnbaugh Lecturer Janneken Smucker will be held at 5:30, preceding the dinner.

Cost for the banquet is \$20, and reservations are required by March 20.

2014 DURNBAUGH LECTURES

Abstract Art or Country Craft? The Quilts of the Amish

JANNEKEN SMUCKER

Thursday, April 3 ■ 7:30 p.m.

Susquehanna Room of Myer Hall

In 1997, art critic Robert Hughes called Amish quilts "America's first abstract art." At the same time, these country crafts help attract tourists to "Amish country" where they were eager to take home a souvenir of their visit. Janneken Smucker will explore these and other paradoxes of this material manifestation of Amish culture.

Janneken Smucker is an assistant professor of history at West Chester University and the author of numerous works on Amish quilts, including

Amish Quilts: Crafting an American Icon (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013). She serves on the board of the national nonprofit Quilt Alliance.

Cloth, Commerce, and Collecting

JANNEKEN SMUCKER

Friday, April 4 ■ 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In this hands-on, participatory session, attendees will hone their skills in identifying characteristics of Amish quilts, consider the relationship of these objects to consumer culture, and analyze material culture, including quilt-related objects made for the consumer market.

Lunch is included with the seminar. Cost is \$10, and reservations are required by March 20.