



# Young Center

The Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies at Elizabethtown College

Fall 2012 *News*

## Dr. D. Holmes Morton to deliver Durnbaugh Lectures

**Morton will discuss his clinic's model of patient care and research and the value of its work for all Plain communities.**

Pediatrician D. Holmes Morton will present the Durnbaugh Lectures on November 8, 2012. Morton cofounded the Clinic for Special Children in Strasburg, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Caroline, and serves as its medical director.

After graduating from Trinity College, Morton studied medicine at Harvard Medical School and completed a residency in pediatrics at Children's Hospital in Boston. In 1986 he moved to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia to study biochemical genetics under Richard Kelley, and in 1988, he moved to Dr. Kelley's new laboratory at Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore to develop methods for diagnosis and treatment of the Amish variant of glutaric aciduria type 1 (GA1). His work at the institute—and his visit to the family of the first child he diagnosed with GA1 and subsequent house

calls to other Amish families in the Lancaster County area—led him to establish the Clinic for Special Children in 1989.

Morton is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Society for Inherited Metabolic Disorders. In 1993, he was awarded the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism, and in 2006 a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellowship.

The Clinic for Special Children is a nonprofit medical center that provides care for children with complex medical problems arising from inherited predispositions to disease. Although it is a local facility, it has become recognized internationally for innovative studies in the discovery and treatment of inherited disorders such as GA1, maple syrup urine disease, Crigler-Najjar syndrome, and other disorders that occur in Old Order Amish and Old Order Mennonite communities. The clinic's mission is to advance methods of newborn screening, improve follow-up services, develop better diagnostic methods, and further clinical research in order to improve treatment and outcomes for children who suffer from rare inherited disorders.

On November 8, Morton will deliver two lectures: one at 3:45 on the value of small-scale research and the practice of translational medicine and one at 7:30 on the impact of the clinic's work on medical outcomes and the economic value it provides for the Amish and Mennonite communities it serves. Both talks will be held in Esbenshade Hall's Gibble Auditorium, which can accommodate larger audiences than the Bucher Meetinghouse.

The Durnbaugh lecture series was established in 1993 to commemorate the scholarly work of Don and Hedda Durnbaugh. The endowment enables the Young Center to bring a distinguished scholar to campus each year for presentations related to his or her research. ■



Photo by Eugene Richards for *The New York Times*

D. Holmes Morton, M.D., at the Clinic for Special Children in Strasburg, Pennsylvania



## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Jeff Bach

Sometimes the treasures closest at hand are the hardest to appreciate. As Snowden Fellow Benjamin Neuberger and his wife, Belina, prepared to return to Israel in late June, they both commented to me on the sense of peace they experienced while in Elizabethtown. They also noted the beauty of the sky and clouds here. Their comments reminded me that I don't always appreciate the natural beauty around me, and the beauty of friendships here and among colleagues in the region.

At the auction where I acquired two manuscript books for the Young Center, I realized that not everyone would recognize the importance of dusty old books and papers. Yet these items tell much about religious life in Lancaster County 250 years ago.

These and other experiences this summer remind me to appreciate the treasures close at hand. We welcome a new staff person at the Young Center,

Edsel Burdge, even as our other staff members provide valuable work for projects and a friendly atmosphere. Soon we will welcome students back to campus to start a new semester with the faculty and we will welcome a new fellow this fall. Our Durnbaugh lecturer, Dr. D. Holmes Morton, will speak in November about how medical treatment and research in the Plain community contribute new insights to the field of medicine. All of these people are gifts to cherish.

Sometimes treasured experiences also come from farther away, as we experienced with Benjamin and Belina Neuberger and doctoral fellow Maja Štekovic last spring. Their study of the Amish widened their worlds, even as their insights, questions, and friendships widened our world. In November we hope to welcome Samuel Dali, president of the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria, to talk about religious tensions and work

for peace in his country.

The work of the Young Center helps to bring treasures into clearer view. Through our classes, students discover the rich diversity of religious groups in our area. Programs and exhibits at the Young Center inform the broader public about various aspects of Anabaptist and Pietist groups, past and present. Articles and books created by the Young Center staff spread research to broader audiences. All of these activities aim to help audiences near and far to see and understand more clearly the significance of Anabaptist and Pietist groups, especially those in our region.

Hopefully each of us will find opportunities to appreciate the treasures of people and activities nearby, and be open to new gifts from afar. I hope that you will take time to visit the Young Center this fall for our programs and to see what is new here. We look forward to welcoming you. ■

## Amish conference planned for June

The Young Center will host "Amish America: Plain Technology in a Cyber World" June 6, 7, and 8, 2013. This international conference will highlight the challenges of recent technology and its impact on manufacturing, family life, consumption, medicine, and leisure in Amish communities, and also cover other aspects of Amish life.

Scholars, researchers, extension educators, law enforcement personnel, government officials, health care professionals, and other service providers who work with members of Amish communities are invited to attend.

The conference screening committee will accept proposals for presentations and poster sessions through October 15. Visit [www.etown.edu/amish2013](http://www.etown.edu/amish2013) for details. ■



Students from West Virginia University came with their professor, Jane Donovan, to the Young Center for an intensive course on Amish, Mennonites, and Anabaptists May 23-28. One goal for the course was firsthand interactions with Amish and conservative Mennonites. The students traveled to different parts of Lancaster County with Director Jeff Bach and visited with some Amish people. They also attended a worship service of a Weaverland Conference congregation.

# Virginia Zickafoose named 2012 Snowden Fellow

Virginia Zickafoose has been named the Snowden Fellow for 2012. Zickafoose is a researcher, writer, and translator of source material on early modern Poland-Lithuania. She earned her doctorate in early modern European and American history from Georgetown University in 2006.

During her time at the Young Center, Zickafoose will continue analyzing the primary source research she has already conducted, a project that will result in two final products. One is a traditional book about the interaction of religious change, politics, and migration in Poland from the 1530s to the 1570s, a period during which Poland experienced a complex pluralism of religious views and diversity in its population. The other is a digital resource with the working title "Virtuous Crown,

Virtual Res Publica." The digital resource will include maps showing the concentrations of various religious groups, including Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Reformed, and Czech Brethren.

Zickafoose will also examine the Anabaptists, a minority among the multiple religious parties in Poland during the Reformation era, whose presence has often been neglected in research conducted among English-speaking scholars. She will analyze how the various religious groups and humanist influences shaped legal reform and implementation of laws in the interaction between the Polish monarchy and the two chambers of its representative assembly, the Sejm. The changes in religious and political identities resulting from migrations in and out of Poland will be an important part of

the project.

Zickafoose looks forward to her time as the Snowden Fellow and the support the Young Center will provide for her research. She will present a talk on her work on October 18 in the Bucher Meetinghouse.



Virginia Zickafoose

The Snowden fellowship and lecture are named for Lucille and Armon Snowden, whose generous gift endowed them. The Young Center invites applications for its fellows program. For details, visit [www.etown.edu/youngctr](http://www.etown.edu/youngctr). ■

## Research associate joins Young Center staff

The Young Center warmly welcomes Edsel B. Burdge Jr. to the position of research associate. The staff looks forward to his contributions to research on

Anabaptist and Pietist groups and to their network of friendships. Burdge says he appreciates the opportunity to "work in the field of Anabaptism and Pietism alongside people who are just as enthused about those subjects as I am."

Burdge received a B.A. in history from Eastern Mennonite College and an M.A. in history from Villanova University. Before coming to the Young Center, he worked on an eleventh grade United States history text for Christian Light Education, a Mennonite curriculum developer in Harrisonburg, Virginia, and previously taught for twelve years in Mennonite high schools. He coauthored, with Samuel L. Horst, *Building on the Gospel Foundation: The Mennonites of Franklin County, Pennsylvania, and Washington County, Maryland, 1730-1970* (2004), volume 42 of the *Studies in*

Anabaptist and Mennonite History series.

Burdge serves as a volunteer archivist for the Mennonite Historical Association of the Cumberland Valley and edits its quarterly publication, the *Conococheague Mennonist*. He also chairs the Eastern Mennonite Associated Libraries and Archives. His research interests include Mennonites in the Cumberland Valley, Plain Anabaptists in general, with a focus on the Reformed Mennonites, and Wilburite Friends.

He is married to Jennifer Coates and they are members of Shippensburg Christian Fellowship, an unaffiliated conservative Mennonite congregation, where he serves as a teaching elder. They have six children, ages fourteen to twenty-nine. ■



Edsel Burdge Jr.



### Young Center Fall 2012 News

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

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# Young Center acquires rare manuscripts

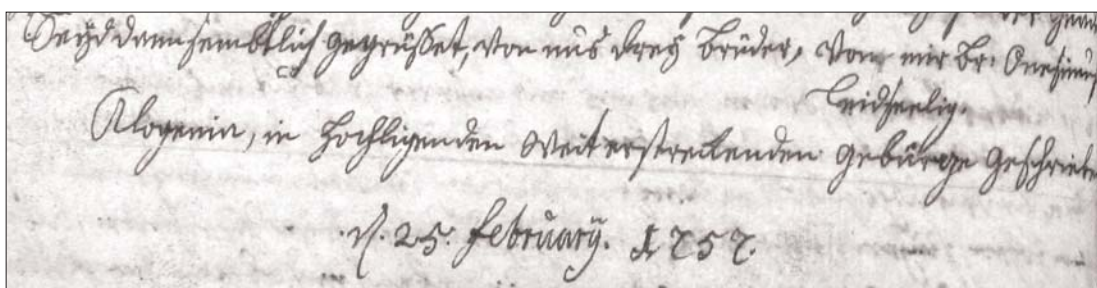
Over the summer the Young Center acquired three new items that significantly enhance its research collection. The first acquisition is a diary kept by Cyrus Bucher (1845–1921), a farmer in Lebanon County who moved to Astoria, Illinois, in 1882, where he was elected to ministry. Bucher kept a diary from 1862 to 1865 while a young man in Pennsylvania. He recorded details related to weather and the planting and harvesting of crops. He also mentioned baptisms, love feasts, and worship services he attended. Occasionally, he commented briefly on Civil War battles and political events.

The Center also acquired two small bound booklets, each containing a collection of letters and religious treatises in German written by Israel Eckerlin, the head of the celibate brothers at the Ephrata Com-

munity (now known as the Ephrata Cloister). Eckerlin and two of his brothers were expelled from Ephrata in 1745. The writings in the two booklets are copies made by various hands in the eighteenth century, except for one letter that is in Eckerlin's own hand. Some of the documents in the two books were written while Eckerlin was still at Ephrata. At least two of the letters were written from what is now West Virginia in the 1750s. Both of those were addressed to Maria Eicher, head of the celibate women at the Ephrata Community.

The two collections of Eckerlin writings are a major discovery. They greatly increase the amount of written material by Eckerlin, whose writings were thought have been destroyed after he left Ephrata.

Funds designated from the NEH endowment were used to obtain the items for the Young Center. Through the acquisition of the manuscripts, the Young Center and Elizabethtown College will preserve rare and valuable parts of the religious heritage of Pennsylvania for future generations of scholars. ■



The text, following the first comma in the top line, reads in English as follows: “from us three brothers, from me Br. Onesimus, compassionately. Written in the Alleghenies, in the high-lying, wide-stretching mountains, the 25th February 1757.” The text is from a letter written by Israel Eckerlin, signed with his spiritual name, Brother Onesimus. “Us three brothers” refers to Samuel and Gabriel Eckerlin, who lived with him in what is now West Virginia after they were expelled from the Ephrata Community. The letter was written to Maria Eicher, head of the celibate women at the Ephrata Community.

## Alexander Mack Jr. conference wrap-up

More than sixty-five people attended “Pietist and Anabaptist Intersections in Pennsylvania: The Life and Influence of Alexander Mack Jr.,” a conference hosted by the Young Center in June. The event drew participants from as far away as California, North Dakota, Kansas, and Wisconsin, as well as Germany and Nigeria. A variety of conference speakers addressed aspects of the life and context of Mack, the most important Brethren leader in eighteenth-century America.

Dale Stoffer provided an overview of Mack's life and theological contribution in the opening address. A highlight of the conference was Hedda Durnbaugh's examination of hymn and poetic texts written by Mack. She led the audience in singing some of his hymns in German.

Stephen Longenecker examined the broader context of religion in colonial Pennsylvania. William Kostlevy and Gerald McDonald explored differences between the Brethren and the United Brethren and Moravians, respectively. Jared Burkholder compared Mack's time at Ephrata with the departure of Joseph Mueller from the Brethren to the Moravians. Michael Showalter described the Ephrata Community during Mack's time there, and Jeff Bach explained Mack's translations of some *Martyrs Mirror* stories. Tanya Kevorkian and Karen Garrett discussed religious music and poetry during Mack's life.

Sam Funkhouser presented intriguing evidence about the first English hymnal of the Brethren and Mack's connections to it. Denise Kettering, Russell Haitch, and Dan

Ulrich analyzed Mack's theology for Brethren ordinances, and Frank Ramirez and Scott Holland assessed Mack's rhetorical styles. Carl Bowman summarized the contributions to scholarship about Mack and the Brethren that emerged during the conference, which concluded with a panel discussion and audience participation.

An optional bus tour before the conference included a visit to the Germantown Church of the Brethren in Philadelphia, a visit to the property owned by Alexander Mack Jr., and a tour of the Ephrata Cloister.

The conference offered new insights on a leader and a period in Brethren history that has not been extensively researched. Many of the papers will appear in a special volume of *Brethren Life and Thought* at a future date. ■

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **In the Line of *Duty*: Brethren and Their Early English Hymns**

SAM FUNKHOUSER

**Thursday, September 20 ■ 7:30 pm**

Funkhouser will explore the early English-language hymnbooks of the Brethren, beginning with *The Christian's Duty* (1791). He will discuss the sources used in the compilation of the book, and the questions they raise about Brethren worship, doctrine, and interdenominational relations at the turn of the nineteenth century, and also present an overview of the ways the hymns in *Duty* were retained, modified, or discarded in subsequent Brethren hymnbooks.

Sam Funkhouser recently received his M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary, where he wrote a thesis on early English-language Brethren hymnody. He is a licensed minister in the Church of the Brethren.

### **Reformation Poland: Conversion in the Civic Conversation**

VIRGINIA ZICKAFOOSE

**Thursday, October 18 ■ 7:30 pm**

Zickafoose, the Snowden Fellow for Fall 2012, will discuss the role of Radical Reformation views, religious pluralism, and alternative political models in sixteen-century Poland.

Virginia Zickafoose researches, writes, and translates source material on early modern Poland-Lithuania. She earned a doctorate in history from Georgetown University.

### **Transformations in Twentieth-Century Mennonite Peacemaking: J.R. Burkholder as Activist and Agent of Change**

KEITH GRABER MILLER

**Tuesday, October 23 ■ 7:30 pm**

The editor of the 2012 Brown Book Award winner, *Prophetic Peacemaking: Selected Writings of J. R. Burkholder*, will discuss J.R. Burkholder's influence as an ethicist, church leader, and social

■ Thursday, September 20, 7:30 pm

#### LECTURE

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#### LECTURE

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Keith Graber Miller

■ Thursday, November 8, 3:45 pm

#### DURNBAUGH LECTURE

### **Caring for the Patient in the Time of Genomics**

D. Holmes Morton

■ Thursday, November 8, 7:30 pm

#### DURNBAUGH LECTURE

### **Plain People and Modern Medicine**

D. Holmes Morton

■ Thursday, November 15, 7:30 pm

#### LECTURE

### **Peace in the Face of Religious Violence**

Samuel Dali

change agent, placing him within the context of twentieth-century shifts in Mennonite peacemaking. Burkholder will attend the lecture and offer comments after the talk. Copies of the book will be available for sale and signing.

Keith Graber Miller is a professor of Bible, religion, and philosophy at Goshen College. He is the author or editor of five books and the contributor of chapters in more than a dozen books.

### **Durnbaugh Lectures**

D. HOLMES MORTON, M.D.

Dr. D. Holmes Morton cofounded the Clinic for Special Children, a nonprofit medical center for children with inherited metabolic disorders, in 1989, and serves as its medical director.

### **Caring for the Patient in the Time of Genomics: Small Science at the Clinic for Special Children**

**Thursday, November 8 ■ 3:45 pm**

**Gibble Auditorium, Esbenshade Hall**

The Clinic for Special Children is a small medical practice by design—it has not adopted the modern medical system as its scientific or business model. It uses modern technology, but with a different focus: to do “small science,” basic research on a small scale, with the case study as the fundamental unit of work and a priority on spending time with the patient. Morton will discuss the benefits of this way of practicing medicine.

### **Plain People and Modern Medicine: The Clinic for Special Children as a Model for Health Care in North America's Plain Communities**

**Thursday, November 8 ■ 7:30 p.m.**

**Gibble Auditorium, Esbenshade Hall**

Morton will discuss the effects of the work of the Clinic for Special Children on medical outcomes and the economic value of the clinic's work for Plain communities at large.

### **Peace in the Face of Religious Violence**

SAMUEL DALI

**Thursday, November 15 ■ 7:30 pm**

Dali will examine the tensions between Christians and Muslims in northeastern Nigeria, which resulted from violent attacks on Christians by some radical Muslim extremists. He will describe efforts for peace by the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria (Ekklesiar Yan'uwa a Nigeria), including a program of microloans to help Muslims whose homes or businesses were destroyed when other Christians retaliated violently against attacks by Muslim extremists.

Samuel Dali is president of Ekklesiar Yan'uwa a Nigeria. He has a Ph.D. in history from the University of Birmingham (England) and is an ordained minister.



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## Keith Graber Miller receives 2012 Brown Book Award

*Edited volume of J.R. Burkholder's essays named outstanding book in Anabaptist and Pietist Studies*

*Prophetic Peacemaking: Selected Writings of J.R. Burkholder*, edited by Keith Graber Miller, has won the Young Center's 2012 Dale W. Brown Book Award. Published by Herald Press (with Institute of Mennonite Studies), the book is a collection of writings by Mennonite peace worker and author J.R. Burkholder, with an introduction "on being Burkholderian" and settings for each essay by Graber Miller.

The book award judges, scholars in the field of Anabaptist and Pietist studies, selected *Prophetic Peacemaking* from a pool of 25 books nominated for the award. One judge commented, "Miller's introduction presents the reader with his view of Burkholder's most significant contributions to Mennonite thought. The sections that follow are sandwiched between a prologue and epilogue—autobiographical reflections written by Burk-

holder. Miller nicely contextualizes each selection in an introduction that describes what Burkholder was doing when he wrote the piece and when and where it was published. While the style of presentation is personal and accessible, the footnotes and introductions represent sound, good-quality scholarship."

Keith Graber Miller is a professor at Goshen (Ind.) College, teaching primarily in the areas of ethics, theology, and religion and culture. He is the author or editor of several books and numerous book chapters, journal articles, and book reviews. He received his Ph.D. from Emory University and is also an ordained minister in Mennonite Church USA.

Graber Miller will present a lecture on the book on October 23, 7:30 p.m., in the Young Center's Bucher Meetinghouse. Burkholder will respond to the talk, and a reception will follow, with copies of

*Prophetic Peacemaking* available for purchase and signing.

The national award which recognizes an outstanding book in Anabaptist and Pietist studies published during the previous three years, was inaugurated in 2004. It honors the significant contribution of Brethren author and theologian Dale W. Brown, who served as a Young Center fellow in 1993.

Nominations for the 2013 Brown Book Award will be accepted until December 21, 2012. Visit [www.etown.edu/youngctr](http://www.etown.edu/youngctr) for details. ■

