

# THE AMISH AND THEIR NEIGHBORS

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE



THE YOUNG CENTER  
FOR ANABAPTIST AND  
PIETIST STUDIES

ELIZABETHTOWN COLLEGE

717-361-1470

amish2022@etown.edu



Dennis L. Hughes Photographs of the Amish, Hess Archives, Elizabethtown College  
Photograph by Dottie Kauffmann (circle)

This conference will focus on interaction between Amish communities and wider society in areas such as public health, government regulation, business and economic development, charitable work, land use and environmental issues, tourism, and civic involvement. As the Amish and wider Plain Community population continues to grow and expand into new areas, interaction between these groups and their neighbors is increasing and often expanding into new domains. Conference speakers will discuss areas of cooperation and conflict, as well as ideas for building greater cultural understanding.

Keynote speaker Carl Bowman will examine the American cultural context of the early 21st century, especially as it pertains to the Amish. Jeanette Harder, Rachel E. Stein, and Kyle Kopko will deliver plenary addresses. Harder will present the findings of the qualitative research study she and a colleague conducted with Plain Community families from diverse affiliations and geographic settings who are involved with foster care and adoption. Stein will explore how the relationship between health officials and the Amish has developed over time and how public health directives were accepted (or not) in Amish communities during COVID-19. Kopko will present a comparative analysis of Amish voter registration and voter turnout across the 2004, 2016, and 2020 presidential elections.

In addition, scholars and researchers will present their work during paper sessions and panel discussions. Seminars led by practitioners and academics will explore issues related to public health, counseling, and child abuse prevention as these matters intersect with the Plain Community.

JUNE 2-4  
2022

[etown.edu/amish2022](https://etown.edu/amish2022)



Photograph by Joel Fath

## ABBREVIATED SCHEDULE

### THURSDAY, JUNE 2

<b>11 a.m.</b>	Registration begins
<b>1 p.m.</b>	Conference opens
<b>1:30 to 3 p.m.</b>	Concurrent Session
<b>3:30 to 5 p.m.</b>	Concurrent Session
<b>5:15 to 6:30 p.m.</b>	Dinner
<b>7 p.m.</b>	Keynote Address — Carl Desportes Bowman “Tacit Tribes and Soft Allegiances in American Life”
<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	Reception

### FRIDAY, JUNE 3

<b>7:45 to 8:15 a.m.</b>	Continental breakfast
<b>8:30 to 10 a.m.</b>	Concurrent Session
<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	Plenary Session — Rachel Stein “Epidemics and Echo Chambers: What the Pandemic Teaches Us About Beliefs, Behaviors, and Community”
<b>Noon to 1 p.m.</b>	Lunch
<b>1:15 to 2:45 p.m.</b>	Concurrent Session
<b>3:15 to 4:45 p.m.</b>	Concurrent Session
<b>5 to 6:30 p.m.</b>	Dinner
<b>7 p.m.</b>	Plenary Session — Jeanette Harder “Who is Caring for Our Children? Plain Communities’ Involvement in Foster Care and Adoption”
<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	Reception

### SATURDAY, JUNE 4

<b>7:45 to 8:15 a.m.</b>	Continental breakfast
<b>8:30 to 10 a.m.</b>	Concurrent Session
<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	Plenary Session — Kyle Kopko “Plain Politics: Assessing Old Order Amish Voter Participation in the 2004, 2016, and 2020 Presidential Elections”
<b>Noon</b>	Conference closes



**Carl Desportes Bowman, PhD**, is director of survey research at the University of Virginia’s Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture. He is the author of *Brethren Society: The Cultural Transformation of a “Peculiar People,”* *Portrait of a People: The Church of the Brethren at 300*, and coauthor, with Donald Kraybill, of *On the Backroad to Heaven: Old Order Hutterites, Mennonites, Amish, and Brethren*.



**Jeanette Harder, PhD**, is a professor of social work at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) and the founder and director of Support and Training for the Evaluation of Programs (STEPs), housed at UNO. Harder is also a cofounder of Dove’s Nest, whose mission is to “empower and equip faith communities to keep children and youth safe in their homes, churches, and communities.”



**Rachel E. Stein, PhD**, is an associate professor of sociology at West Virginia University. Her research focuses on community building and health in Amish communities. Her current work explores how Amish and Mennonite communities are experiencing the COVID-19 pandemic, how preventive health care decisions vary across Amish affiliations, how reproductive choices impact maternal health, and how visiting practices strengthen the Amish community.



**Kyle Kopko, PhD**, is an adjunct professor of political science at Elizabethtown College and executive director of the Center for Rural Pennsylvania, a legislative service agency of the Pennsylvania General Assembly. He is the author of more than 30 scholarly publications, and his research has been featured in national and international news outlets including the BBC, CNN, C-SPAN, and the New York Times.

# REGISTRATION FORM

**Register by May 1 to receive discount. Registration deadline is May 20.**

Name (as it should appear on name tag): \_\_\_\_\_  
Job title (for attendee list): \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization name (for attendee list): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## CONFERENCE FEE

**Full Conference Rates** (Full rates include all refreshments and meals)

- Registration by May 1: \$260                       Full-time student, registration by May 1: \$155  
 Registration after May 1: \$285                 Full-time student, registration after May 1: \$170

**Daily Rates** (Daily rates include all refreshments and meals)

- Thursday, June 2: \$105                       Full-time student: Thursday, June 2: \$63  
 Friday, June 3: \$150                          Full-time student: Friday, June 3: \$90  
 Saturday, June 4: \$70                         Full-time student: Saturday, June 4: \$42

*Members of Plain Communities may register at the student rate.*

*Conference attendees under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.*

## HOUSING

Limited housing is available on campus. Rates are per person and include one set of towels and one set of linens.

**Residence Hall room** (2 twin beds per room; common bathroom)

- Single occupancy: \$64 per night                       Double occupancy: \$54 per night

Name of roommate: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you choose to share a room and do not list a roommate, one of the same gender will be assigned.*

**Apartment** (2 bedrooms with 2 twin beds per room; 1 bathroom; and a living room)

- Entire bedroom: \$90 per night                       Share a bedroom: \$55 per night

Names of apartment mates: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you do not list apartment mates, persons of the same gender will be assigned.*

**Nights you wish to stay:**

- Wednesday, June 1                       Thursday, June 2                       Friday, June 3

See the conference website, [etown.edu/amish2022](http://etown.edu/amish2022), for off-campus lodging in the Elizabethtown area.

**SPECIAL NEEDS** (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Conference fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

On-campus housing  
(nightly rate x number of nights): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### REGISTRATION OPTIONS:

Register online at [etown.edu/amish2022](http://etown.edu/amish2022); fax this form to 717-361-1443 (credit card payment only); mail this form with payment to Amish Conference 2022, Young Center, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. You will receive confirmation of your registration.

**PAYMENT BY:**  Check payable to Elizabethtown College (enclosed)

VISA     Mastercard     Discover     American Express

Credit card number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV (3-digit code on back of card) \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's name \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's billing address and zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Full refunds will be given for cancellations made by May 1; a \$55 administrative fee will be deducted for cancellations made after May 1.*

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FOR DISCOUNT!

Photography by LNP | LancasterOnline

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A multidisciplinary conference focusing on interaction between Amish communities and wider society in areas such as public health, government regulation, business and economic development, charitable work, land use and environmental issues, tourism, and civic involvement. The three-day event held at Elizabethtown College in Elizabethtown, PA, is open to the public and features scholars from a variety of disciplines and professionals who serve the Amish.

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