

# YOUNG CENTER

# News

THE YOUNG CENTER FOR ANABAPTIST AND PIETIST STUDIES AT ELIZABETHTOWN COLLEGE



## Center schedules multidisciplinary conference on the Amish

“HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN AMISH SOCIETY” TO BE HELD JUNE 6-8, 2019

Registration is now open for “Health and Well-Being in Amish Society.” Hosted by the Young Center, cosponsored by WellSpan Health, and open to the public, the conference focuses on health, healing, health care, and individual and community welfare and well-being in Amish life.

Joseph B. Martin, Edward R. and Anne G. Lefler Professor of Neurobiology, Emeritus at Harvard Medical School, will deliver the keynote address, “Ancestral Antecedents of Illness: Opportunities for Assessment and Amelioration.” Martin, whose research was instrumental in identifying the genetic underpinning of Huntington’s disease and other disorders, will describe today’s rapidly developing landscape of medical genetics, focusing on the power of genetics to identify inherited disorders and the promise of new treatments.

The conference will include three plenary sessions. In “The Amish as Healthcare Consumers,” Katherine Hempstead will discuss the unique role of the Plain community as health care consumers: they shop for care, negotiate directly with providers, and engage in medical tourism. Further, they receive extremely transparent information about health care service prices, the very type of information that providers generally take great pains not to release. Hempstead is a senior policy adviser at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, where she works on health care issues, mostly related to coverage, cost, and access.

Martha King will present “Medicine and the Modern Amish,” a discussion of how Amish group identity, understandings of the body, and bodily practice contrast with many

of the presumptions of biomedicine. King is a teaching assistant professor in the department of anthropology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Melissa Thomas will discuss the cultural components of successful public health outreach efforts in “Understanding the Why: Engaging Amish and Plain Communities in Addressing Health Disparities.” Thomas is an assistant professor in the family medicine department at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine. She has worked on addressing health disparities through community-engaged research and outreach models for over 20 years, with a specific emphasis in rural and Appalachia Ohio.

In addition, scholars and researchers will present their work during paper sessions; seminar speakers from the Clinic for Special Children and the University of Maryland Amish Research Clinic will discuss recent findings and ways patient care is affected by genomic advances; and workshop presenters will address practical issues related to mental

health care, hospice care, alternative medicine, and barriers to care.

Three pre-conference tour options—health care, business, and agriculture—are available to attendees for an additional fee. Highlights of the health care tour include a visit to a health care center for Plain people, a stop at a center for women’s health that serves women from Plain communities as well as women in the broader Lancaster County area, and conversation with a physician who uses some alternative health therapies. Participants on the business tour will visit with Amish entrepreneurs, including the owner of a metal fabrication shop and a snack food vendor. The agriculture tour will include Amish farms with traditional or innovative ventures, including a dairy farm and an herb farm. Each tour’s itinerary includes lunch in an Amish home.

For more information and to register, visit [www.etown.edu/amish2019](http://www.etown.edu/amish2019), call 717-361-1470, or send an e-mail to [amish2019@etown.edu](mailto:amish2019@etown.edu). Register by May 1 to receive a discount.



Joseph B. Martin



Katherine Hempstead



Martha King



Melissa Thomas



## From the Director

This semester we begin our second full year in our expanded building with several new events. We have already welcomed our new administrative assistant, Rose Fisher. We will celebrate the renovated building and new Bowers Interpretive Gallery with a dedication event on March 14.

We have some other new experiences this semester. Our Amish conference features a new hybrid pattern of presentations that includes a forum for more presentations by and for health care practitioners who work with the Amish.

Another new enterprise is a course that I am team teaching with Susan Asbury, who works in our residence life office and is a candidate for a Ph.D. in American Studies. The course is supported by the Mellon grant the college received. We will work with the artifacts of the Young Center's special collections, assisted by college archivist Rachel Grove Rohrbaugh. Students will practice creating curatorial files and interpretive essays similar to what they might do if they worked in small museums or archives.

In another new venture, Steve Nolt, Edsel Burdge, and I are developing a training unit for government employees working in conservation who interact with farmers in Plain communities. The unit gives the conservation workers more insight into values of people in Plain communities related to family life and farming.

This year's Durnbaugh Lectures feature a new format. The Elizabethtown College concert choir will assist Christopher Herbert by performing some of Herbert's new transcriptions of music from the historic Ephrata community. Herbert will combine spoken word with the choir's performance to interpret new research about music composed about 250 years ago.

We are thankful for the support that has made our expanded facility and our new programing possible. Details about our events appear in this newsletter and on our website. I hope that you can join us for our new adventures!

Jeff Bach  
Director

# Christopher Herbert to serve as this year's Durnbaugh Lecturer

The Young Center is pleased to announce that Christopher Dylan Herbert will deliver the Durnbaugh lecture and seminar on Thursday and Friday, March 14 and 15.

Herbert holds a B.A. in music from Yale University, an M.A. in Middle Eastern studies from Harvard University, and a D.M.A. in voice from the Juilliard School. He is an assistant professor at William Paterson University, where he heads the voice program.

As a vocalist, Herbert performs throughout the Americas, Europe, and Asia. He has soloed with the San Francisco Symphony, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, International Contemporary Ensemble, and the Choir of Trinity Wall Street, and regularly presents *Winterize*, an outdoor adaptation of *Winterreise* with transistor radios. Herbert is also the baritone in the critically acclaimed ensemble New York Polyphony.

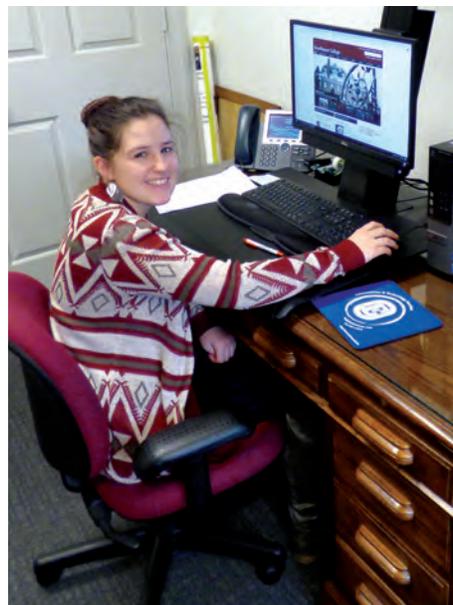
Herbert worked with Young Center director Jeff Bach in summer 2017 to research Ephrata music for his dissertation. His presentation on that music will be held on March 14 at 7:30 p.m. in Leffler Chapel. The Durnbaugh seminar will be held on Friday, March 15, 10:00 a.m. to noon, in the Young Center's Bucher Meetinghouse.

Herbert will also be in the area on February 17 and 18, when New York Polyphony presents Gregory Spears' *The Bitter Good*, based on the earliest hymn tunes in America from the Ephrata community, at the Trust Performing Arts Center in Lancaster. Visit the Trust's website for tickets and details.

The Durnbaugh lecture series was established in 1993 to commemorate the scholarship of Don and Hedda Durnbaugh. It brings a noted scholar of Anabaptist or Pietist studies to campus annually.

## Center welcomes new staff member

In October, the Young Center welcomed Rose Fisher as its new administrative assistant. Fisher graduated from Millersville University in May 2018 with a bachelor's degree in German and psychology and a minor in history. She was born into an Amish family—her parents chose to leave when she was eleven years old—and is a native Pennsylvania Dutch speaker.



Fisher's background was a large part of the job's appeal for her, given the nature of the center's work. "I have found the Young Center to be an extremely warm and welcoming atmosphere, Fisher said. "I enjoy what I do, and I enjoy interacting with people who share many of my interests. Most of all, I enjoy learning more about my own Anabaptist background."

## New publication

*Simply Amish*, by senior fellow emeritus Donald Kraybill, was published by Herald Press last summer. A small volume intended to be an introduction to the sect, the book explains



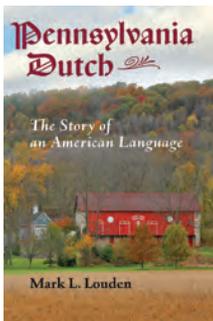
Amish history, theology, and culture in short sections using plain language. Kraybill also addresses growth and diversity as well as popular misconceptions and common questions the "English" have about the Amish.

## Brethren Historical Committee meeting

The Brethren Historical Committee held its annual meeting at the Young Center on November 2, 3, and 4. The committee, which serves an advisory function to the director of the Brethren Historical Library and Archives (BHLA), chose to meet in Elizabethtown in order to see the newly expanded Young Center and the Hess Archives. The weekend meeting included a visit to Brethren sites in Germantown and worship with the Germantown Church of the Brethren congregation. The committee members and associated visitors are, from left, Terry Barkley, Maddie McKeever (BHLA archival intern), Kelley Brenneman, Bill Kostlevy (archivist at BHLA), and Dawne Dewey. (Committee member Jeff Bach is not pictured.)



## Pennsylvania Dutch receives Brown Book Award



The Dale W. Brown Book Award, named for noted author and theologian Dale Brown, is given annually to an outstanding book in Anabaptist and Pietist studies published during the previous three years. *Pennsylvania Dutch:*

*The Story of an American Language* by Mark L. Louden is the 2017 recipient.

The book was published by Johns Hopkins University Press in 2016, and has been commended by reviewers. Writing in the *Journal of American History*, Kate Burridge of Monash University, Clayton, Australia, said, “This book abounds in marvelous historical and cultural details, together with language examples and linguistic curiosities that

are sure to delight.” And Michael T. Putnam, of Pennsylvania State University, called the book a seminal work, saying, “Louden successfully weaves a complex tapestry that provides an exhaustive historical account of this language and its speakers and is easily accessible to multiple audiences.”

The book award judges selected *Pennsylvania Dutch* from a pool of 22 nominees. They praised its originality and creativity, organization and clarity, and significance and importance. One noted that “new understandings emerge from the primary sources in practically every chapter.” Another said, “Louden makes an important contribution not only to Anabaptist Studies, but to our understanding of the relationship between language, culture, religion, and lived faith.”

Mark Loudon is the Alfred L. Shoemaker, J. William Frey, and Don Yoder Professor of Germanic Linguistics and director of the Max

Kade Institute for German-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He holds bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees from Cornell University. Loudon will present a lecture about his work in fall 2019 at the Young Center.

Nominations for the 2020 book award will be accepted until December 10, 2019. Visit [www.etown.edu/youngctr](http://www.etown.edu/youngctr) for details.



The Young Center’s new peace pole, a gift from the Peace Studies Institute and Religious Life Program at Manchester University (Ind.), was installed in September 2018. The text reads “May peace prevail on earth” in English, German, Hausa, and Chinese. It was given in gratitude for the center’s help with visitors from Manchester last January.

## Work underway on interpretive gallery

David Heltzel and Dick Hoff from Phoenix Design are working steadily with Young Center staff and college archivist Rachel Grove Rohrbaugh to create text and select photos and artifacts that will go into the new Bowers Interpretive Gallery. Made possible by a generous donation from Ken and Rosalie Bowers, the gallery will feature exhibits

that explain the origins, characteristics, and spread of Anabaptist and Pietist groups, with a special focus on the Amish. Rare books and clothing items related to Anabaptist and Pietist groups will be among the objects on display, and the gallery will include an area where visitors can listen to portions of music from selected Anabaptist and Pietist groups.

# Heritage Festival and reopening events

Crafts, food, musical performances, quilting, ribbon cutting, and presentation of gifts: Saturday afternoon, October 20, was a busy time at the Young Center!

The Brethren Heritage Festival kicked off at noon with children's crafts under the tents by the Lake Placida entrance, popcorn, homemade apple butter, bread, and bicycle-churned ice cream under the tent by the peace pole, a quilting demonstration in the lobby,



and music in the Bucher Meetinghouse. A ribbon-cutting ceremony took place at 1:30 near the new front entrance, and special gifts given to the center and the college by Chinese artists were unveiled at 3:00.

Throughout the afternoon, visitors had the opportunity to tour the building, learn about the college's Brethren heritage and the center's history, listen to more music, and chat with Young Center staff.



Top left: Children create cornhusk figures, one of several craft activities at the festival.

Top right: Days of Old, a country gospel music group, performs in the Bucher Meetinghouse.

Bottom, from left: Jim Shreiner, chair of the college's Be More Inspired campaign; John Holsinger and Janice Holsinger, cochairs of the Young Center campaign committee (Janice is also a trustee); Kristi Kneas, dean for academic affairs and faculty development; Jeff Bach, director of the Young Center; Erin Kelley, High Construction project manager who oversaw the expansion project; Carl Strikwerda, president of Elizabethtown College; Bonnie Martin, director of church relations; Barry Shaw, supporter and donor; Robert Dolan, president of the college's board of trustees; Steve Nolt, senior scholar at the Young Center; Bob Walleit, vice president for administration and finance; Rick Barton, architect from Marshall Craft Associates, the firm that designed the expansion.

# Josh Brown named Kreider Fellow for 2019

Joshua R. Brown, associate professor of German and linguistics at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire, has been named the Young Center's Kreider Fellow for 2019.

Brown received his Ph.D. in German from the Pennsylvania State University in 2011 and has been teaching at UW–Eau Claire since that time. He recently coedited *Pennsylvania Germans: An Interpretive Encyclopedia* with Simon Bronner, a volume in the Young Center's series with Johns Hopkins University Press. Brown's current research interests are linguistic change among settlements, language shift among Amish-Mennonites and Mennonites, and preserving heritage language letters and diaries for open access research.

During his semester as the Kreider Fellow, Brown will revisit his dissertation work among the Amish-Mennonite groups in Kishacoquillas "Big" Valley, Pennsylvania. He also plans to look at daughter and grand-daughter settlements from Big Valley to see patterns of cultural and linguistic change.

"I'm excited to have access to the collections at the Young Center as well as onsite experts in the field to bounce ideas off of. It's also great to use the center as a 'home base' while I set out for fieldwork across Pennsylvania," Brown says.

He will present a talk about his work on March 28 in the Bucher Meetinghouse.

The Kreider fellowship and lecture are named for Ken and Carroll Kreider, whose generous gift endowed them. Visit [www.eto.edu/youngctr](http://www.eto.edu/youngctr) for information about the Young Center's fellows programs.

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## Doctoral research

Simon H. Sun, a Ph.D. candidate in American Studies at Harvard University, will spend a month at the Young Center in late summer. Sun's dissertation project is titled "Thomas Jefferson's *Hau Kiou Chooan*: Rethinking Early America in Chinese Perspective." While at the center, Sun plans to look at whether Anabaptists and Pietists in eighteenth-century Pennsylvania consumed Chinese commodities (tea and porcelains) or read about China.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## LECTURE

**"I Just Want a Red Convertible":  
Surprising Stories from 30 Years of  
Research and Publishing Amish Life**

**DONALD KRAYBILL**

**Thursday, February 7, 7:00 p.m.**

**Bucher Meetinghouse**



Donald Kraybill will share untold stories, backstage dramas, and humorous events from his 30 years of fieldwork among the Amish. He will also describe working with publishers and the media.

Kraybill is senior fellow emeritus at the Young Center. He is the founding editor of Young Center Books in Anabaptist and Pietist Studies and the author or coauthor of numerous books on Anabaptist groups.

## DEDICATION CEREMONY

**Thursday, March 14, 4:00 p.m.**

**Bucher Meetinghouse**

The dedication ceremony for the expanded Young Center will feature a presentation by Jonathan Stayer, supervisor of reference services at the Pennsylvania State Archives. Elizabethtown College president Carl Strikwerda and Young Center director Jeff Bach will also give remarks. An open house will precede the dedication, beginning at 3:00 p.m.

## RECEPTION

**Thursday, March 14, 5:00–6:30 p.m.**

**2nd floor of Leffler Chapel**

A reception featuring light fare will follow the dedication ceremony.

## DURNBAUGH LECTURE

**Forgotten Sounds: Researching,  
Transcribing, Performing, and  
Reimagining the Music of the  
Eighteenth-Century Ephrata Cloister**

**CHRISTOPHER HERBERT**

**Thursday, March 14, 7:30 p.m.**

**Musser Auditorium, Leffler Chapel**



During the past two years, Christopher Herbert has worked with Ephrata music manuscripts. In collaboration with the Elizabethtown College concert choir, he will present this music, heard for one of the first times since the American colonial period.

Herbert holds a doctorate from the Juilliard School. He is an assistant professor at William Paterson University and the baritone in the critically acclaimed ensemble New York Polyphony.

## DURNBAUGH SEMINAR

**Voices in the Pennsylvania Wilderness: An  
Examination of the Music Manuscripts, Music  
Theory, Composition, and (Female) Composers of  
the Eighteenth-Century Ephrata Cloister**

**Friday, March 15, 10:00 a.m.–noon**

**Bucher Meetinghouse**

Founded in 1732 by Conrad Beissel, the Ephrata Cloister was a celibate, ascetic, German-speaking, Sabbatarian commune in the wilderness of Pennsylvania. Its residents produced a large corpus of hymns and motets, and also published the third music treatise written in what is today the United States of America. Christopher Herbert's presentation will focus on the music theory and composition practices of the community, examining specific manuscripts held in various collections throughout the Northeast.

## KREIDER LECTURE

**Amish Identities in Changing  
Context**

**JOSHUA R. BROWN**

**Thursday, March 28, 7:30 p.m.**

**Bucher Meetinghouse**



Kreider Fellow Josh Brown will discuss how various aspects of Amish identities are changed as groups move to daughter and granddaughter settlements. Much is known about diversity among the Amish, but the links of those diverse changes within related groups are not studied much.

Brown is an associate professor of German and linguistics at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire.

## SNOWDEN LECTURE

**Mental Health Treatment in the  
Plain Communities**

**CHARLES JANTZI**

**Thursday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.**

**Bucher Meetinghouse**



Charles Jantzi will explore the current thinking about mental health issues and treatment approaches within the Plain communities. His exploration will include both outside professional and Plain community peer-to-peer treatment approaches.

Jantzi, who was the Young Center's 2018 Snowden Fellow, is a professor of psychology at Messiah College. This talk was rescheduled from last November due to inclement weather.



# THE YOUNG CENTER FOR ANABAPTIST AND PIETIST STUDIES

ELIZABETHTOWN COLLEGE

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## Special gifts from China

Several pieces of artwork from Pingding, China, were unveiled at the reopening celebration for the expanded Young Center in October. The pieces were given to the study tour group of Elizabethtown College students and Church of the Brethren members led by Jeff Bach and David Kenley in May 2018.

Zhang Xiuyun used the traditional Chinese art form of paper cutting to create the Liao Chou Church of the Brethren (*right*), the only building left in China that was built by the Brethren. It was presented to the tour group by Hongqing Liu. Artist Guo Xiufeng presented “Lotus Pond in Summer” (*below*) to

the group for the college as a gift of friendship with wishes for peace. And Mr. Sun, another Pingding artist, presented the group with a painted scroll depicting peonies (not pictured).



SPRING 2019

## YOUNG CENTER *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. For e-mail notification and a link to each new issue of *Young Center News*, send an e-mail message to [youngctr@etown.edu](mailto:youngctr@etown.edu).

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