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JAPAS Editors

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR PAPERS
“GENDER-FOCUSED RESEARCH IN AMISH AND PLAIN ANABAPTIST STUDIES”

The Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies is planning a special issue for late 2020 addressing the subject of gender in Amish and plain Anabaptist research.

A growing body of recent scholarship has identified either a lack of attention to gender in Amish and/or plain Anabaptist studies or a need to revisit some prevailing paradigms. We welcome submissions from both the sciences and humanities that further our understanding of gender in plain Anabaptist life.

Fields of interest include the social sciences, health and safety, history, gender studies, and others, as well as practitioner work. Publications may include original work or new findings from analyzing previously studied data through a gender lens.

JAPAS publishes a wide range of article types, including full length articles, research notes, research briefs, service provider reports, review essays, and plain people’s research. We especially welcome work from advanced undergraduate and graduate students in addition to experienced scholars.

We recommend submitting a 100- to 150-word summary with tentative title by Tuesday, March 30, 2020 or as soon as feasible (send to editor@amishstudies.org).

Submissions are due by Monday, July 20, 2020, and will be peer reviewed in anticipation of our autumn 2020 issue. Visit https://ideaexchange.uakron.edu/amishstudies/ to access the JAPAS submission portal.

In preparation, JAPAS is providing an important resource for potential authors, a list of nearly 50 Amish/plain Anabaptist gender-themed publication citations and abstracts. Although not comprehensive of every mention of gender in the literature, the list will help expedite authors’ efforts to ground their work in existing scholarship. Visit http://www.amishstudies.org/gender.html to view the list.

For this issue, editorial board members Katherine Jellison (Ohio University) and Natalie Jolly (University of Washington) will be joining the JAPAS lead editors, Cory Anderson and Steven Reschly, as guest co-editors. Email editor@amishstudies.org with questions.

THE 2020 FOURTH ANNUAL APASA CONFERENCE

Hotel Millersburg and
The University of Akron-Millersburg

Tuesday, July 14, 1pm to Wednesday, July 15, 5pm

Overview

The ongoing growth of the plain people—the Amish, Hutterites, German Baptists, Apostolic Christians, Swiss Mennonites, Low German Mennonites, and others—means that more people are encountering these religious groups in the public sphere. Those who specifically study or work with the plain people must continue advancing our bodies of knowledge through critical evaluation of old knowledge and introduction of new ideas. The goals of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies Association (APASA) conferences are to disseminate advances in research and practice, spark new ideas through conversation, and broaden professional networks.

Invitation

The conference planning committee extends a welcome to professors and scholars in the social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities; service providers, including those in health care, education, social work, agricultural extension, law, planning, and others; and affiliates of plain Anabaptists religious groups. Such an eclectic mix offers a unique opportunity to compare insights and learn from one another. Thought-provoking conversations, presentations, and panels, all within a collegial context, are characteristic of APASA conferences, and this year will be no exception.
Submit a Proposal

The conference committee will continually review and offer decisions on submissions until Monday, June 1, 11:59pm, or when the program is filled, whichever comes first.

Submissions may include paper presentations (20 minutes) and organized paper sessions, panels or workshops (80 minutes), posters, and program/vendor booths.

Sessions are 80 minutes with three 20-minute presentation slots and 20 minutes for discussion.

Sessions topics are determined based on submissions, although attendees can also apply to a feature topic. This year’s feature topics are: (1) public policy, (2) gender, (3) health and well-being, (4) dress and appearance, and (5) cultural competency/practice-oriented strategies.

Submit your proposal at the APASA website (www.amishstudies.org) or contact the program committee if web access is not readily available.

Registration

APASA member: $65
APASA member, need-based reduced rate: $40
Non-member: $90
Non-member, need-based reduced rate: $70

Registration will include a full, formal supper. For lunch, attendees can explore one of several local restaurants that operate within two blocks of the conference hotel.

While there is no registration deadline, space is limited to 60 people.

The need-based reduced rate is especially for students, service providers paying out of pocket, and anyone on a tight budget.

Registration requires two steps:
(1) Fill out the registration form on the APASA website (or contact the committee for a form)
(2) Submit payment

We accept credit card (includes small service fee) and check. Checks may be made out to “APASA” and sent to:

APASA
7010 State Route 241
Millersburg, OH 44654

The Holmes County, OH, area

The conference is located within the sizeable Holmes County Amish community. The greater Holmes County area provides many opportunities for research and leisure. Of special note, the Amish-coordinated Family Farm Field Day takes place in nearby Fryburg that Friday evening and all day Saturday. The event includes many talks, booths, activities, and displays promoting family farming, especially among plain people. The event is free and open to the public.

For Service Providers

“WHAT CAN I EXPECT TO GET OUT OF ATTENDING THE APASA CONFERENCE?”

1. Gain awareness of important trends among the plain people, which can inform the nature of your service work
2. Meet others who work with the Amish and Mennonites in a variety of services (e.g., social work, agriculture, conservation, education, tourism, health, and governance) as well as scholars with new perspectives and data that can inform your outreach work.
3. Join discussions about service-specific topics from a variety of panels.
4. Learn more about the Amish and plain Anabaptist faith and culture.

Continuing Education Credit Hours

We welcome professionals who are seeking continuing education credit. Check with your employer to ensure that this event qualifies for credit. We can furnish a certificate of attendance for those attending the entire conference.

Lodging: Limited Space

APASA has a reduced rate for lodging at the beautiful, historic Hotel Millersburg in downtown Millersburg. Address: 35. W. Jackson St., Millersburg, OH 44654; Phone: 330-674-1457.

Hotel Millersburg is listed on the U.S. Department of Interior’s National Register of Historic Places and is located in the Millersburg National Historic district.
APASA will hold its main sessions in the Hotel Millersburg. The rates are a real bargain and available for a limited time. Mention “Amish Conference” when calling to receive the discounted rates. You must call to receive these rates; rates will not be honored for internet reservations.

Rates are available for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday night:

- Single occupancy: $79
- Double and greater occupancy: $69 per person

Don’t delay in booking a reservation! Hotel Millersburg is an in-demand hotel and fills up quickly during the summer months.

**Travel**

Area airports include Akron-Canton (1 hour), Cleveland (1.5 hours), and Columbus (2 hours). Amtrak has stations in Alliance (1 hour) and Cleveland (1.5 hours). Greyhound services Wooster (25 minutes) and Shreve (15 minutes). For participants seeking transportation from these terminals, contact the conference committee to make arrangements.

**Parking**

Free on- and off-street parking is available in downtown Millersburg within one to three blocks of the hotel. More information will be provided as the event nears.

**Contact**

For questions about the APASA conference, contact Cory Anderson at editor@amishstudies.org; 717-330-1766; 7010 SR-241, Millersburg, OH 44654; or visit the Amish & Plain Anabaptist Studies Association’s website for more information: www.amishstudies.org