

Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies

Volume 9
Issue 2 *Special Issue: Agriculture, the
Environment, and Plain People*

Article 16

2021

Announcements for JAPAS 9(2)

JAPAS Editors

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JAPAS Editors. 2021. "Announcements for JAPAS 9(2)." *Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies* 9(2):237-39.

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Announcements

CALL: SPECIAL ISSUE OF *JAPAS*

“Sociocultural Aspects of Health & Medicine among the Plain People”

Autumn 2022

The unique culture and genetic background of plain Anabaptist populations—including the Amish, Mennonites, Hutterites, and others—has inspired a large body of research on the health of these populations. Genetic studies, for example, have identified mutations responsible for many common diseases as well as newly identified recessive disorders. Applied and cultural research has addressed ways people shape health practices, notably plain people’s attraction to alternative and complementary treatments. Taken as a whole, plain Anabaptists have offered many opportunities and challenges for health research and practice. Yet, despite this plethora of medical and applied studies, gaps in theory and knowledge remain, especially with regards to plain people’s interactions with the health system, their practice of and views about preventive medicine, and variations in attitudes about health in general.

Responding to this need, *JAPAS* guest editors Dr. Rosanna Hess (Malone University) and Dr. Braxton Mitchell (University of Maryland) invite researchers to submit papers for a *special issue* that will address sociocultural aspects of health and medicine among plain Anabaptist people. This special issue, to be published in Autumn 2022, is only the second of its kind in any journal ever devoted to plain Anabaptists and health, the first being 25 years ago. As such, this new compilation represents an important milestone in knowledge development and will be an ideal place to make your work widely accessible.

Areas of interest may include, but are not limited to:

- Attitudes and perceptions of plain people and health care
- Genetic screening/genetic medicine
- Mental health
- Special needs children and adults
- Complementary and alternative medicine

- Vaccinations / immunizations
- Pregnancy-related issues
- History of health and medical care among plain people
- Care for the aged

Please send letters of intent and inquires to Drs. Hess (rhess@malone.edu) and/or Mitchell (bmitchel@som.umaryland.edu). The deadline for manuscript submission is June 1, 2022. Visit the *JAPAS* website to access information about submission types, guidelines, and the submission portal.

ROLLING SUBMISSIONS WELCOME: *JOURNAL OF AMISH & PLAIN ANABAPTIST STUDIES*

Published twice a year, the *Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies* is run by a diverse group of 18 international scholars from a variety of disciplines and inclusive of several plain Anabaptist adherents. We welcome submissions on a rolling basis and offer the following publication categories:

- Research articles, notes, and briefs
- Service provider reports
- Symposiums and review essays
- Book reviews
- Research from plain people
- Letters to the editor

Why publish with *JAPAS*? *JAPAS* is a carefully edited journal that offers the latest in unique, original, and focused research and perspectives. We are particularly interested in honed research questions, new data/information, fresh insights, and nuanced field reports. Our diverse and well accredited editorial staff consist of experienced researchers, energetic young scholars, and plain Anabaptist adherents who are interested in engaging new scholarship and nurturing a long-term vision for this journal.

All manuscripts may be submitted through the *JAPAS* submission system at <https://ideaexchange.uakron.edu/amishstudies/> or mailed to the editor.

JAPAS ARTICLE OF THE YEAR FOR 2020

The APASA Scholarship Committee has established an award for all research content published in the *Journal of the Amish & Plain Anabaptist Studies* for a given year. The award includes an invitation to present at the annual APASA Café-JAPAS Award Lecture, a free year of membership in APASA, and a conference registration fee waiver.

Scholarship committee members have reviewed all articles from 2020 (Vol 8 Issues 1 and 2). After deliberation that noted the quality of JAPAS publications, the committee is pleased to announce **Vlatka Škender** as the winner for her article “**Flesh, Freundschaft, and Fellowship: Towards a Holistic Model of the Amish Kinship System.**” Read the article at <https://ideaexchange.uakron.edu/amishstudies/vol8/iss1/2/>

We also extend an honorable mention to Amy Harris-Aber for her article “Claiming a Piece of Tradition: Community Discourse in Russian Mennonite Community Cookbooks” (Vol. 8 Issue 2).

Members of the Scholarship Committee, as well as ad hoc reviewers as needed, evaluate articles. Criteria for an award include: (1) Innovation: the topic/content is original and/or addresses a gap in the literature; (2) Background: The article is properly contextualized, either theoretically or practically; (3) Methodology: The study progresses from the research question(s) to finding(s) and/or result(s); (4) Data sources: The article is empirical/data-driven and/or reliant on primary sources; and (5) Interdisciplinary: Even if well situated in a particular discipline, the article carries implications for a diverse audience.

APASA CAFÉ SPEAKER SERIES

The APASA Scholarship Committee continues its new webinar/teleconference series, APASA Café. Talks are held on fourth Fridays of most months at 12pm EST. Registration is required and web links or teleconference phone numbers are available on request. Those who do not receive notices on APASA email lists can request a link or phone dial-in number by contacting Andrea Waksmunski at axw360@case.edu

APASA Cafe 2022 Schedule

January 07: “Sociocultural Aspects of Health & Medicine among the Plain People”—Rosanna Hess (Malone), Braxton Mitchell (Maryland), and Cory Anderson (Penn State)

January 28: “Agriculture, the Environment, and Plain People”: Panel discussion about JAPAS 9(2), autumn 2021—Caroline Brock (Missouri) and guests

February 25: Topic and Speaker TBA

March 25: Topic TBA—Jonathan Haines (Case Western Reserve)

Save the Dates

April 29

May 27

June 24: Panel discussion about JAPAS 10(1)

July 29

August 26

September 30

October 28

December 2

THE SIXTH ANNUAL APASA CONFERENCE (2022)

*Hotel Millersburg
Millersburg, Holmes County, Ohio*

Thursday, July 7, 1pm to Friday, July 8, 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 to both attend and share your research, projects, and perspectives. 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 Tuesday, May 31, 11:59pm, or when the program is filled, whichever comes first.

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

Session topics are determined based on submissions, although attendees can also apply to a feature topic. For more details or to submit a proposal, visit the conference website (<http://amishstudies.org>)

Registration: Opens June 1, 2022

APASA Regular Member: \$65

APASA Student/Need-Based Member: \$40

Non-members may attend the conference by joining APASA. Current annual rates are \$30 for regular membership and \$15 for student/need-based membership. While there is no registration deadline, space is tentatively limited. Register online or send personal information to the address below

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.

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 present during the entire conference or for the required hours needed.

Lodging

APASA has a reduced rate for lodging at the beautiful, historic Hotel Millersburg in downtown Millersburg. 35. W. Jackson St, Millersburg, OH 44654. 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.

For rates and details, call the hotel or visit the conference website.

Contact

For questions about the APASA conference, contact Cory Anderson at editor@amishstudies.org or write to APASA, 7010 State Route 241, Millersburg, OH 44654.