

Conference Schedule

Anabaptist Roots in North American Landscapes: The Plain People Today

July 2 – 4, 2015 at Leuphana Universität Lüneburg, Germany



Thursday, July 2, 2015 (Glockenhaus in Downtown Lüneburg, Glockenstraße 9)

- 5:00 p.m. Registration | Coffee & Tea
- 6:00 p.m. Welcome Address by the Conference Organizers and Vice President of Leuphana University, Burkhard Funk
- 6:30 p.m. **Screening of *Silent Light (Stellet Lijcht)***, a 2007 film starring Miriam Toews (with the dialogue in Plautdietsch, the language of the low-German Mennonites)
- 8:15 p.m. Reception



Friday, July 3, 2015 (Glockenhaus in Downtown Lüneburg, Glockenstraße 9)

- 9:00 a.m. Late Registration | Coffee & Tea
- 9:30 a.m. **PANEL 1** (Moderator: Micha Edlich)
- “From Plain People to Plains People: Mennonites on the Canadian Prairies”
Martin Kuester (Philipps-Universität Marburg) and Julia Michael (Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen)
 - “Towards ‘New Memoir’: Ira Wagler’s Ex-Amish Life Narrative *Growing Up Amish*”
Sabrina Voelz (Leuphana Universität Lüneburg)
- 11:00 a.m. **Keynote Address** (Introduction: Maryann Henck)
- “North American Amish and Mennonites in the Quandary of Modernity”
Donald B. Kraybill, Distinguished Professor and Senior Fellow
(Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies, Elizabethtown College, PA)
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break
- 13:30 p.m. **PANEL 2** (Moderator: Eoin Ryan)
- “The Amish from the 19th Century to the Present: An Economic Perspective”
Martin Lutz (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
 - “Anabaptist Thinking in North American Life: Where it came from, where it’s been and where it might go next”
David A. Gilland (University of Aberdeen / Leuphana Universität Lüneburg)

3:00 p.m. Coffee Break

3:30 p.m. Tour of Lüneburg (optional / tickets available at the information desk)

3:30 p.m. **Teachers' Roundtable**

“Teaching Amish Life Narratives in Upper Secondary Schools”

- Moderators: Claudia Lillinger (Gymnasium Oedeme, Lüneburg) and Inga Dwenger (Leuphana Universität Lüneburg / Hansa-Gymnasium Bergedorf)

7:00 p.m. **Reading with Ira Wagler**, ex-Amish and bestselling author of *Growing up Amish*



Saturday, July 4, 2015 (Leuphana University / Scharnhorststr. 1, Building 12, Room 1)

9:00 a.m. **PANEL 3** (Moderator: Anna Trebits)

- “Dinosaurs in the Garden and the Amish at the Creation Museum: Implications and Threats”
Susan Trollinger and William Trollinger (University of Dayton, OH)
- “An American Dilemma: Preserving Amish Freedom of Religion While Managing the Market”
Joy Kraybill (National Health Department, Washington D.C.)
- “Recreating a North American-Based Religious Separatism in a Global Context: Beachy Amish-Mennonite Communities on Three Continents”
Cory Anderson (Ohio State University) and Jennifer Anderson (independent scholar)

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 a.m. **PANEL DISCUSSION** “The Future of the Plain People” (Moderator: Maria Moss)

- Donald Kraybill, Susan Trollinger, Ira Wagler

1:00 p.m. **Celebrating North American Studies at Leuphana (Leuphana, Library Grounds)**
Welcome: Manfred Strack, Amerikazentrum Hamburg

1:30 p.m. BBQ with the “The Lady of Gospel, Jazz, and the Blues,” Janice Harrington