

Resource person

Loren L. Johns

Associate Professor of New Testament, AMBS

Loren Johns serves the AMBS community and the church through his teaching ministry. He has published numerous articles and edited several books. His primary areas of research include New Testament Greek, the letters of Paul, the Johannine Literature, the Dead Sea Scrolls, the development of the biblical canon, and eschatology. Prior to coming to AMBS in 2000, he served as a pastor in Allegheny (PA) Mennonite Conference, theology book editor for Herald Press, and a professor of religion at Bluffton (Ohio) University.



“I want to be a part of a community that is dedicated to seeking the truth about, proclaiming, and participating in the activity of God in this world through Jesus and the continuing witness of the Spirit. All three of these tasks are essential in the life and work of AMBS and all require the full array of intellectual, spiritual, and relational gifts that God has given us. The heart of the seminary’s calling is to prepare women and men for a life of faithful living, faithful ministry, and faithful inquiry.”

Session Description—This series of presentations and discussions will focus on the role of the Bible in the Mennonite Church today, especially with regard to its interpretation. What did the sixteenth-century Anabaptists emphasize in their interpretations of the Bible? What significant developments have subsequently shaped today’s church? How do we think about the continuing usefulness of those emphases? How would we reaffirm, revise, nuance, and/or repudiate those emphases today? Is there a formula or a set of principles that can or should control the church’s use of the Bible for ethical guidance today? If so, what might such a formula or set of principles look like? How can we make sure that we are hearing the leading of the Holy Spirit accurately and faithfully?

Central Plains Mennonite Conference

Pastors' & Spouses'



Gathering

Biblical Interpretation in the Mennonite Church Today

April 9 - 11, 2010

St. Benedict Center
Schuyler, NE

Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Email _____

Phone (____) _____

Special Needs _____

Cost of \$125/person (double occupancy)

Includes: 2 nights *lodging & 5 meals* plus *admission* to the “Haunted by God” drama

{ \$140/person single occupancy room }

{ \$30 day fee - no overnight/no drama }

{ add drama to day fee - \$10 - must let us know you wish to attend }

Number of persons registering

_____ x \$ _____ = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to:

Central Plains Mennonite Conference
and write *P/S Gathering* in the Memo line.

Send this form and payment to:

Central Plains Mennonite Conference
PO Box 101
Freeman, SD 57029-0101

Registrations are due by *March 22, 2010*

Misc. info.

If you will arrive after 9:00 pm on Friday, please note this on your registration form, or let Ed know, so that someone can be at the door to let you in!

Bed & bath linens, soap, shampoo and lotion are provided. Toothbrushes and toothpaste, Tylenol and Advil and candy are available for purchase. All rooms have private baths.

Address and phone # of St. Benedict Center:

1126 Rd I, PO Box 528
Schuyler, NE 68661-0528
Phone: (402) 352-8819

Directions to the site: Schuyler is 60 miles west of Omaha at the junction of US Hwy 30 and Nebraska Hwy 15. St. Benedict Center and the monastery are located 4 miles north of town from the intersection of Highways 15 and 30.

What to bring

- Snacks to share
- Puzzles, table/board games
- Biblical Interpretation in the Anabaptist Tradition (by Stuart Murray) (if you have a copy) resource material for session 1.
- Essays on Biblical Interpretation (by Willard Swartley) (if you have a copy) resource material for session 1
- Hymnal—A Worship Book

Drama “Haunted by God—The Life of Dorothy Day”

Tonight’s inspiring one-woman show is a moving dramatic portrait of Dorothy Day. The masterly production incorporates all the wit and prophetic grit of this courageous woman’s own words about war, peace, American society, compassion, and protest in the Spirit of Jesus. A message of hope.

Admission to the 7:00 pm performance is included in the price of the weekend registration. This is a St. Benedict special event.

If you have questions, call Ed Kauffman at (605) 925-4463 or email him at edkauffman@centralplainsmc.org

Central Plains Menn. Conf. office
Phone (605) 925-4463
Fax—(605) 925-7293
Email—office@centralplainsmc.org

Schedule

Friday, April 9

7:00 pm Arrival and settle in

8:00 Gathering/Worship
Snacks following

Saturday, April 10

7:30 am Breakfast

9:00—10:00 Worship
10:30—noon -Session 1 - ”Anabaptist Interpretation”

12:15—Lunch

Afternoon—Free Time, or informal discussions.
People will be given a chance to form discussion groups, if desired.

4:00—5:30—Session 2 -
”Rethinking Anabaptist Interpretation”

6:00—Supper

7:00—Drama—
”Haunted by God—The Life of Dorothy Day”

9:00—snacks

Sunday, April 11

7:30 am Breakfast

9:00—10:30—Session 3 - ”Putting it Together”

11:00—12:00—Closing worship

12:15—Lunch

Worship will be led by
Darvin & Martha Yoder and Wilbur & Helen Yoder.
For more detailed descriptions of the sessions, see the
CPMC website: www.centralplainsmc.org