

# UPPER MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION  
SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE

AND WELCOMING COLLEAGUES FROM THE  
AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH

APRIL 25-26, 2003

LUTHER SEMINARY  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

[HTTP://UMW-AARSBL.ORG](http://umw-aarsbl.org)

## Friday, April 25

1:00 - 2:30 AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION ADDRESS                      AUDITORIUM  
"How God Became a Problem in Modern Thought (and What an Answer  
Might Look Like)."  
Philip Clayton, Claremont Graduate University

### FIRST SESSIONS

2:45 - 4:15 HEBREW BIBLE / OLD TESTAMENT I                      Room 230  
President: Rolf Jacobson, Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN  
"When God Does Not Feed"  
L. Juliana Claasens, St. Norbert College, De Pere, WI  
"The Hebrew Bible and Repentance in Early Jewish and Christian  
Literature"  
Guy Nave, Luther College, Decorah, IA  
"Daniel's Portrait of Antiochus IV: Echoes of the Persian King"  
Paul Niskanen, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN

2:45 - 4:15 NEW TESTAMENT I                      Room 231  
President: Jeannine Brown, Bethel Seminary, St. Paul, MN  
"Expectation of the Political Restoration of Israel in Luke-Acts"  
Henry W. Morisada Rietz, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA  
"Trouble in the Family: Mapping the Social Upheaval Implied from Luke  
8:1-3"  
Daniel J. Scholz, Saint Francis Seminary, St. Francis, WI  
"The Company We Keep. Metaphor and Metonymy in Acts 4:1"  
Judith Anne Jones, Wartburg College, Waverly, IA

2:45 - 4:15 RELIGION AND POPULAR CULTURE I                      Room 232  
President: Lori Brandt Hale, Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN  
"Spielberg and Kubrick's 'A.I.': The Soul in the Machine"  
John Neary, St. Norbert's College, De Pere, WI  
"Knights of Baltimore: A Theological Model of 'Homocide: Life on the  
Street'"  
Jessica De Cou, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA  
"Filling in the Blanks: Absence and Presence in the Works of Charles  
Sheldon"  
John C. Waldmeir, Loras College, Dubuque, IA

2:45 - 4:15 PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION AND SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY I AUDITORIUM  
Presider: Tatha Wiley, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, New Brighton, MN

"The Imperfection of Perfection: A Critique of Perfect Being"

Kenneth Reynhout, Bethel Theological Seminary, St. Paul, MN

"Heroic Sinners: Virtue and Its Implications"

Joseph Bush, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, New Brighton, MN

"Locke and Wesley on 'Persons': Implications for Theosis, Deification, and Mariology"

Eric Manchester, Viterbo University, La Crosse, WI

2:45 - 4:15 WOMEN AND RELIGION ROOM 210 CONFERENCE ROOM

Presider: Susan E. Hill, The University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA

"Potential for Transformation: Intersecting Views of Feminism and Interreligious Dialogue"

A. Brenda Anderson, Luther College, University of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada

"Asceticism and Bridal Mysticism in the Poetry of the Ninth Century

Tamil Alvar Antal"

Michelle Folk, University of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada

"Beyond Xena: Courage and Vulnerability"

Sandra Gines, Milwaukee, WI

2:45 - 4:15 RELIGION IN THE ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL WORLDS ROOM 243

Presider: Glen W. Menzies, North Central University, Minneapolis, MN

"Oneiric Hermeneutics: Dreaming with Aelius Aristides"

Leonard Thompson, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI

"Politics and Theology in the Homoian Controversy: Hilary's Relationship with Athanasius"

Mark Weedman, Crossroads College, Rochester, MN

"The Elder Son of God: The Place of Satan in Bogomilism"

Julie Thompson, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

2:45 - 4:15 ETHICS ROOM 142

Presider: Lake Lambert, Wartburg College, Waverly, IA

"Noble Lies and Open Secrets: Plato on Moral Choice and the Ethics of Concealment and Revelation in Public and Private Life"

Twyla Gibson, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

"Jazz, Hospitality, and Solidarity: Christian Community as Musical Performance"

Thomas E. Reynolds, St. Norbert College, De Pere, WI

"Spiritual Music: Religion and Music in Schleiermacher's Early Writings"

Steven Fink, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

2:45 - 4:15 AFRICAN AMERICAN RELIGION Room 251

Presider: Anthony B. Pinn, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN

"Chariot Stop: A Biblical Figure and an Experiment in Criticism"

Allen Callahan, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN

"Womenist Praxis and the Prophet Noble Drew Ali: Female Leadership in a Divinely Patriarchal Movement"

Debra Mubashshir, Beloit College, Beloit, WI

"Womanist Reflections on Agape: Is there More to Say?"

Rosetta Ross, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, New Brighton, MN

2:45 - 4:15 SCIENCE AND RELIGION Room 240

Presider: Gregory Peterson, South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD

"Temporality and Causality: Converging Themes in Natural Science and the Reformed Doctrine of God"

F. LeRon Shults, Bethel Theological Seminary, St. Paul, MN

"Pneuma and Anicca: Pneumatological Insights into the Science-Buddhist-Christian Dialogue"

Amos Yong, Bethel College, St. Paul, MN

"Minding God-First Appraisals"

Dennis Bielfeldt, South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD

2:45 - 4:15 OPEN PAPERS SESSION I ROOM 200 (CHAPEL)

Presider: tba

"Drunk and Disorderly: The Role of Intoxication in the Book of Esther"

Trisha Wheelock, North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD

"Cultural Remnants and Liturgical Resonances in 'Daughters of the Dust'"

Jann Cather Weaver, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, New Brighton, MN

4:15 - 4:30 BREAK

## SECOND SESSIONS

### 4:30 - 6:00 HEBREW BIBLE/OLD TESTAMENT II Room 230

Presider: Bernard Levinson, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

"Retribution and Mercy in Psalm 107"

Elaine Rietz, Brookings, SD

"Honoring Nehemiah: Text, Context and Hermeneutic"

Ken Stenstrup, Winona, MN

"The Israelite Intelligentsia"

David Penchansky, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN

### 4:30 - 6:00 NEW TESTAMENT II Room 231

Presider: Terrence Kevlen, Central College, Pella, IA

"Paul's Problem with Angels: the Rhetorical Function of Angels in Romans, Galatians and I Corinthians"

Philip A. Quanbeck II, Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN

"The Promise of the Spirit"

Walter D. Ray, The St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity, St. Paul, MN

"Echoes of Isis, Whispers of Apuleius: Genre and Audience in the Fourth Gospel"

Donald Rappe, Mount Mary College, Milwaukee, WI

### 4:30 - 6:00 PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION AND SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY Room 240

Presider: Dean Seal, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, New Brighton, MN

"Jonathan Edwards' Epistemology, Ontology, and Divine Ideas"

Steven Studebaker, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI

"Can Faith be Saved in a Culture of Religious Pluralism?"

Verna Ehret, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

"On Becoming a Feminist Theologian of the Cross"

Deanna Thompson, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN

### 4:30 - 6:00 RELIGION AND SEXUALITY AUDITORIUM

Presider: Linda Maloney, Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN

"Women, Prostitution and Martyrdom: Witnesses from the Eastern Christian Tradition"

Cornelia Horn, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN

"In Discussion with Early Christian Views of Marriage and Virginity" (undergraduate)

Alice Olson, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN

"Resolutions to the Tension Between Homosexuality and Christianity Experienced by Gay and Lesbian Christians" (undergraduate)

Stacey M. Brunbraugh, St. Cloud State University, MN

4:30 - 6:00 WORLD RELIGIONS IN INTERACTION Room 251

- Presider: James B. Robinson, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA  
"Tombs of Saints: Medicine, Ritual and Healing Space Shared by Hindus and Muslims in India"  
Eric Rothgery, University of Iowa, Des Moines, IA  
"Manjusri: in The Lotus Sutra and the Popular Beliefs in China"  
Yuan Ren, University of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada  
"Islam and Violence: the Challenge of the Public Forum"  
Brian McCarthy, Madison, WI

4:30 - 6:00 RELIGION AND POPULAR CULTURE II Room 232

- Presider: Greg Petersen, South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD  
"A Grammar of Transformation: Language Used by Non-Religiously Affiliated College Students in Describing Life Changing Experience"  
Lucy Forster-Smith, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN  
"The Identity Project: Studies of Conversion"  
Murray Haar, Eric Ohrtman, and John Anderson, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD  
"Crossing Lines of Race and Religion: the Search for the Catholic Saint of Interracial Justice, 1920-1940"  
Paul Schadewald, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN

4:30 - 6:00 RELIGION IN THE MODERN WORLD Room 243

- Presider: John Davenport, North Central University, Minneapolis, MN  
"English Theological Indigenoussness: Propositional Scriptural Perspicuity in the Thought of John Wyclif and Martin Luther"  
Richard M. Edwards, Calvary Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Cedar Grove, WI  
"Why Political Theology Ignores Parliamentary Democracy"  
Ramon Luzarraga, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI  
"Lessons from Lessing: Contextual Theology in Context"  
Timothy T. Stoller, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

4:30 - 6:00 RELIGION AND ART Room 142

- Presider: Larry Harwood, Viterbo University, La Crosse, WI  
"Iconoclasm Then and Now: A Comparative Exposition of Interpretive Models"  
J. Sage Elwell, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA  
"The Religious Impulse of Grace in Faulkner's Vision of Despair"  
Nathan G. Castillo, Trinity International University, Deerfield, IL  
"Music, Time and God: Bebgian Notions of Theological Purview"  
Corey Nuffer, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD

**4:30 - 6:00 TEACHING AND LEARNING: BIBLE AND RELIGION ROOM 200 (CHAPEL)**

Presider: Mary Solberg, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN

"Disturbing the Canon: The Use of New Historicism for Teaching the Bible in a Church-related College"

Robert F. Shedinger and Kristin Swanson, Luther College, Decorah, IA

"Toward an Eastern Christian Curriculum: Integrating Eastern Christian Texts in the Classroom"

Robert R. Phenix, Jr., Institute for the Christians of the Orient, St. Paul, MN

"Embodiment and Inter-Textuality: It's Not Just Bible Stories Anymore"

Richard W. Swanson and Amanda Johnson, Augustana College, Sioux Falls, SD

**4:30 - 6:00 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SESSION ROOM 210 CONFERENCE ROOM**

Presider: Rhoda Schuler, Concordia College, Moorhead, MN

"Citizen Beware: Apocalyptic Rhetoric in the Speeches of Presidents George W. Bush and Ronald Reagan"

Andrew Evenson, Concordia College, Moorhead, MN

"Snake Symbolism in Voudoun"

Larry Troyer, University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, WI

"The Curriculum as a Narrative of Initiation: Reflections from an Undergraduate"

Nathan Williams, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA

"Protesting Hunger: Eating Problems Through an Apocalyptic Lens"

Elizabeth Lerohl, Concordia College, Moorhead, MN

**6:00 - 6:30 REFRESHMENTS**

**6:30 - 8:00 SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE ADDRESS AUDITORIUM**

"Concepts of Wisdom in Israelite Wisdom Literature"

Michael V. Fox, University of Wisconsin

## Saturday, April 26

8:00 - 9:30 BREAKFAST REFRESHMENTS

### THIRD SESSIONS

8:30 - 9:55 NEW TESTAMENT III Room 231

Presider: Daniel J. Scholz, Saint Francis Seminary, St. Francis, Wisconsin  
"As Many As Came Were Healed": Assessing the Role of Healing in the Spread of Early Christianity  
Martin C. Albl, Presentation College, Aberdeen, SD  
"The Transfiguration of Christ in Luke 9:22-36"  
Terrence Kleven, Central College, Pella, IA  
"Circumcision, Pork, and the Sabbath: An Examination of Matthew"  
Robert L. Mowery, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL

8:30 - 9:55 SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION III Room 230

Presider: Deanna Thompson, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN  
"Religion and Nietzsche"  
Larry D. Harwood, Viterbo University, La Crosse, WI  
"Barth as an Aesthetic Thinker"  
Phil Stoltzfus, St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN  
"Pre- and Post-Holocaust Theodicies"  
Elizabeth Galbraith, St Olaf College, Northfield, MN

8:30 - 9:55 RELIGION IN THE MODERN WORLD II Room 243

Presider: Dan Armstrong, North Central University, Minneapolis, MN  
"The Controversy that Surrounded Jonathan Edwards and John Wesley from 1738-1743 in Contrast with Historical Implications"  
Dana Smith, Wartburg College, Waverly, IA  
"Jansenism in America"  
Monique Gamache Venne, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, New Brighton, MN  
"Bethlehem Baptist Church: Who Is Our Neighbor?"  
Stephen Huebner Gloege, St. John's University, Collegeville, MN

8:30 - 9:55 AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH Room 232

Presider: Mark Chavalas, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, WI  
"Toward a Chronology of Ashurbanipal's Campaigns Against Humban-Haltash III"  
Matt Waters, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI  
"The Sacred Dead: Burial and Veneration in Byzantine Churches in Palestine"  
Mark Schuler, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN  
"Weaving, Designing, Thinking, Counting: A Word Study (Heb:'hsb') and an Archaeo-Linguistic Interpretation"  
Alice Maung-Mercurio, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN

8:30 - 9:55 MEET THE AUTHOR – NEW BOOKS FROM THE REGION ROOM 142  
Harold Kasimow, *Beside Still Waters: Jews, Christians, and the Way of the Buddha*  
John Merkle, *Faith Transformed: Christian Encounters with Jews and Judaism*  
Greg Peterson, *Minding God: Theology and the Cognitive Sciences*  
others to be announced

10:00 - 11:15 JOINT AAR/SBL DISCUSSION AUDITORIUM  
"On Teaching Islam in the Post 9/11 World: Non-Muslim Perspectives and Muslim Responses"  
Prsider: Hany Atchan, Director, CAIR-Minnesota (Council on American-Islamic Relations)  
Panelists:  
Elizabeth Burr, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN  
Mark Berkson, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN  
Mark Swanson, Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN  
Respondents:  
Fatma Reda, University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, MN  
Khalidoun Samman, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN  
Nahid Khan, University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Minneapolis, MN

11:15 - 12:00 BUSINESS MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETIES

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION ROOM 230  
Barbara DeConcini, Executive Director, AAR  
Election of officers: Regional Director, V.P., and Program Chair

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE ROOM 231  
Election of Officers  
Program Planning

AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH ROOM 232  
Relationship to Region  
Election of Officers

12:00 - 1:00 LUNCHEON OLSON CAMPUS CENTER

## FOURTH SESSIONS

### 1:00 - 3:00 TEACHING WORKSHOP: FEMINIST PEDAGOGY ROOM 243

#### Facilitators:

Susan E. Hill, The University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA

Deanna Thompson, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN

Has feminism been so integrated into the content of what we teach and how we teach that it is no longer necessary to highlight feminist issues? What does it mean to teach from a feminist perspective or use a feminist pedagogy? Are there particular challenges in and/or rewards for using a feminist pedagogy in the religious studies/theology classroom? Do liberatory pedagogies such as Paulo Friere or bell hooks address the particularities of teaching religious studies/theology? Are there reasons to avoid feminist pedagogy?

### 1:00 - 3:00 HEBREW BIBLE ROOM 230

Presider: William Barnes, North Central University, Minneapolis, MN

"A Conversation with Michael V. Fox"

### 1:00 - 3:00 PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION AND SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY IV ROOM 232

Presider: Joseph Bush, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, New Brighton, MN

"Hume and Miracles"

Kaiya Ansorge, Emory University, Atlanta, GA

"The Pacifist's Burden of Proof"

Myron Penner, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

"Pride as a Means of Grace"

Don Schweitzer, St. Andrew's College, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, CA

"Reviving the Christian Left"

Dean Seal, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, New Brighton, MN

### 1:00 - 3:00 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SESSION ROOM 231

Presider: Tom Renolds, St. Norbert College, De Pere, WI

"Interpreting Outside the Lines: Reading Mark 5:1-20, The Gerasene Demoniac, from Alternative Cultural and Religious Perspectives"

Angela Foster, Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN

"St. Antony and Freud"

Jacob Rhoads, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA

"Metaphor and Self-Identity"

Christopher Vena, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI

"Women's Ordination: More Resonant with the Theological Tradition of the Catholic Church than the Current Position"

Rebecca Otte, St. Norbert College, De Pere, WI

## NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Program updates will be available at the region's web site:

<http://umw-aarsbl.org>

### SESSIONS

All sessions will be held in Northwestern Hall of Luther Seminary on the corner of 1501 Fulham, St. Paul, MN. Luther Seminary is the new, officially shortened name of the former Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary.

### ABSTRACTS

Abstracts for most of the sessions will be available in digital format on the region's web site after April 1.

### MEALS

Registration includes refreshments prior to the Friday address, breakfast items (coffee, juice, rolls) on Saturday morning, and a Saturday luncheon. Participants are on their own for their Friday evening meal following the address at a variety of restaurants within two or three miles.

### 2004 REGIONAL MEETING

The Upper Midwest Regional AAR/SBL meeting for 2004 is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 16 and 17 in accordance with our traditional practice of meeting on the weekend following Easter. The Program Committee welcomes your suggestions for new consultations or seminars at the conference. These may be sent to Mark Schuler (SBL) or Lynne F. Lorenzen (AAR).

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Societies express their gratitude to Luther Seminary for once again hosting our annual Regional Meeting and providing us with the use of their facilities at minimal expense.

### ATTENTION AAR MEMBERS

Barbara DeConcini, the Executive Director of The American Academy of Religion will be our guest at this year's meeting. She will provide us with an update on exciting news from the AAR at our business meeting. Since she lives in Atlanta, site of our next Annual Meeting, she can answer questions about that venue as well.

#### FEATURED SPEAKERS:

##### PHILIP CLAYTON

Philip Clayton holds a PhD in both philosophy and religious studies from Yale University. He has taught at Haverford College, Williams College, and the California State University, and has just been named to the Ingraham Chair at the Claremont School of Theology. Clayton has been guest professor at the Divinity School, Harvard University, Humboldt Professor at the University of Munich, and Senior Fulbright Professor, also at the University of Munich. He is a past winner of the Templeton Book Prize for best monograph in the field of science and religion and a winner of the first annual Templeton Research Prize. Clayton is the author of *The Problem of God in Modern Thought* (Eerdmans, 2000), *God and Contemporary Science* (Edinburgh University Press, 1997); *Explanation from Physics to Theology: An Essay in Rationality and Religion* (Yale University Press, 1989).

##### MICHAEL V. FOX

Michael V. Fox, the Jay C. and Ruth Hall-Bascom Professor of Hebrew at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, holds a PhD in biblical studies from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, with earlier studies at the University of Michigan and Hebrew Union College. He taught at Haifa University, Ben-Gurion University, and Hebrew University before joining the faculty at UW-M. A recipient of numerous honors, awards, and grants, Fox is a pillar particularly within the world of Wisdom Literature. Recent books include *Proverbs 1-9* (Anchor Bible Series 18A; Random House-Doubleday, 2000), *A Time to Tear Down and a Time to Build Up: A Rereading of Ecclesiastes* (Eerdmans, 1999), and *Character and Ideology in the Book of Esther* (2nd ed.; Eerdmans, 2001). Commissioned works include commentaries on Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Job.

#### 2002-2003 UPPER MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICERS

##### American Academy of Religion

President: Dennis Bielfeldt, South Dakota State University,  
Brookings, SD  
Vice-President: Deanna Thompson, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN  
Program Committee: Chris Johnson, Gustavus Adolphus, St. Peter, MN  
Regional Secretary: Lynne F. Lorenzen, Augsburg College  
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##### Society of Biblical Literature

President: Glenn Menzies, North Central University, Minneapolis,  
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Vice-President: Gary Long, Bethel College, St. Paul, MN  
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