

THE JOURNAL OF PLAIN ANABAPTIST COMMUNITIES



*Amish home in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, with laundry suggesting a large family.
(Photo courtesy of Dennis L. Hughes Photographs of the Amish, Hess Archives, Elizabethtown College)*

VOLUME 3
ISSUE 2
2023

THE JOURNAL OF PLAIN ANABAPTIST COMMUNITIES

Editorial Team

Joseph F. Donnermeyer, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Donald B. Kraybill, Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA

Mark L. Loudon, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, WI

Cynthia L. Nolt (managing editor), Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA

Steven M. Nolt, Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA

Marcus A. Yoder, Amish & Mennonite Heritage Center/Ohio Amish Library, Millersburg, OH

Focus and Scope

The Journal of Plain Anabaptist Communities (JPAC) is a peer-reviewed journal dedicated to publishing both empirical and theoretical work related to Plain Anabaptist communities, including, among others, the Amish, conservative Mennonites, Amish-Mennonites, Apostolic Christians, Brethren, Bruderhof, and Hutterites. *JPAC* articles may include emerging issues associated with Plain Anabaptist communities, diverse theoretical perspectives, and methodological approaches to the study of Plain Anabaptist groups, and significant research findings about Plain Anabaptist populations. *JPAC* is a jointly sponsored journal of the Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, the Amish & Mennonite Information Center, Berlin, Ohio, and The Ohio State University Libraries.

JPAC's predecessor at OSU was the *Journal of Amish and Plain Anabaptist Studies (JAPAS)*. Articles from volumes 1–6 of *JAPAS* can still be accessed, free of charge, in the Knowledge Bank of the OSU Libraries: <https://kb.osu.edu/handle/1811/54888>.

Content

JPAC publishes *full-length articles* focused on theory and research about Plain Anabaptist communities, generally in the range of 6,000–12,000 words inclusive of references, tables, figures, and appendices. *Shorter-length articles* of 3,000–6,000 words are generally narrower in focus or report preliminary research findings and emergent theoretical discussions about Plain Anabaptist communities. *Reviews* of a single book or scholarly work are 1,000–3,000 words in length. Reviews of multiple works range between 3,000–7,000 words. Other forms of scholarship also may be published in the *Journal of Plain Anabaptist Communities*. However, authors should consult with the editors in advance to ascertain the appropriateness of a submission other than an article or a review.

Publication

JPAC is a biannual publication, and all content is published under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International license, unless other indicated. Manuscripts may be submitted in one of two citation styles: Chicago Manual of Style (17th edition) or American Psychological Association (APA) style (7th edition). Prospective authors and readers can register for *JPAC* and access additional detail about the journal, including author guidelines, at <https://plainanabaptistjournal.org/about>.

THE JOURNAL OF PLAIN ANABAPTIST COMMUNITIES

Contents

v Editors' Introduction

Articles

- 1 **A Demographic Profile of the Greater Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, Amish**
JOSEPH F. DONNERMEYER
- 35 **Buy That Stamp! Letter Writing and Amish Research: A Personal Reflection on a Research Technique**
KAREN M. JOHNSON-WEINER
- 48 **Old German Baptist Brethren: Plain but Different, Part 1**
TONY WALSH, JEFF BACH, and SAM FUNKHOUSER

Conference Presentations

- 79 **Tacit Tribes and Soft Allegiances in American Life**
CARL DESPORTES BOWMAN
- 89 **Epidemics and Echo Chambers: What the Pandemic Teaches Us About Beliefs, Behaviors, and Community**
RACHEL E. STEIN
- 105 **Plain Politics: Assessing Old Order Amish Voter Participation in the 2014, 2016, and 2020 Presidential Elections**
KYLE C. KOPKO

Research Note

- 127 **Survey of Researchers Who Study the Amish and Related Groups**
RACHEL GROVE ROHRBAUGH

Review Symposium

- 139 **Lindsay Ems, *Virtually Amish: Preserving Community at the Internet's Margins***
GERALD J. MAST, BENUEL RIEHL, and ERIK WESNER

Review

- 147 **Dirk Eitzen, *Fooling with the Amish: Amish Mafia, Entertaining Fakery, and the Evolution of Reality TV***
Reviewed by SUSAN L. TROLLINGER

