

EUROPE TO AMERICA: THE ANABAPTIST MENNONITE STORY

APRIL 26 & 27, 2019

Fort Wayne, Indiana

The Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana, Inc.

and

The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library

join in proudly presenting these special two days for genealogists seeking information on their Anabaptist Mennonite ancestors. This special event is sponsored by the Doug and Joni Lehman Charitable Foundation. All events will be at the Allen County Public Library in downtown Fort Wayne, Indiana

EIGHT LECTURES ON GENEALOGY AND STORY OF ANABAPTIST MENNONITE

“Menno Simons Essentials: Who are these Mennonites?”

Peggy Goertzen

This presentation is an introduction to the Mennonite Anabaptist beginnings, distinctives, history and genealogy.

“Anabaptist Mennonite Materials in Print and Online in The Genealogy Center”

John D. Beatty

This presentation will highlight some of the rich resources available in The Genealogy Center for those interested in Anabaptist and Mennonite research.

**“Swiss Roots and Beaver Branches: Ohio Anabaptist-Mennonite Stories from
a Bluffton Perspective”**

Carrie Phillips

This presentation will offer perspectives of these two stories as the presenter has come to know them through her work with the manuscripts, artifacts, and other collections owned by Bluffton University’s Musselman Library in the Swiss Mennonite community of Bluffton, Ohio.

“What They Brought and What They Left Behind”

Adam Barrone

This presentation explores the nineteenth-century Bernese Anabaptist immigrants. The Strahms and Kipfers founded Apostolic Christian congregations in Indiana and Kansas. Documents and oral history shed light on their circumstances, traditions, and their journey from Switzerland.

“Patterns, Persecution and Faith: Why are we moving?”

Peggy Goertzen

This presentation will highlight some significant migration patterns, influences and personalities in the Mennonite Anabaptist story across Europe to North American.

“Berne Mennonites – A Man – A Mission”

Max Haines

This presentation will discuss the Swiss Mennonite movement to Berne, Indiana. Also included will be a review of J. A. Sprunger and his Light and Hope Movement.

“Where can I find.....? Resources for Anabaptist-Mennonite Research”

Joe Springer

This presentation is an overview of Anabaptist-Mennonite-Amish resources available at Goshen College, the world’s largest such collection. Special attention will be given to resources useful for family and community research.

**“Brothers Helping Brothers: The Swiss, Prussian and Dutch Low-German
Mennonites in the 1870’s.”**

Peggy Goertzen

This presentation will cover Prussian Russian Mennonite history, culture and genealogy, with emphasis on settlement in Canada and United States prior to the turn of the twentieth century.

SCHEDULE FOR THE SEMINAR

On **Friday, April 26**, there will be four lectures:

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| 9:45 | “Menno Simons Essentials: Who are these Mennonites?” | Peggy Goertzen |
| 10:45 | Break | |
| 11:00 | “Anabaptist and Mennonite Materials in Print and Online in
The Genealogy Center” | John D. Beatty |
| 12:00 | Lunch on your own Map of Restaurants sent in your confirmation e-mail | |
| 1:30 | Swiss Roots and Beaver Branches: Ohio Anabaptist-Mennonite Stories
From a Bluffton Perspective” | Carrie Phillips |
| 2:30 | Break | |
| 3:00 | “What They Brought and What They Left Behind.” | Adam J. Barrone |

On **Saturday, April 27**, there will be four lectures:

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| 9:45 | “Patterns, Persecution and Faith: Why are we moving?” | Peggy Goertzen |
| 10:45 | Break | |
| 11:00 | “Berne Mennonites – A Man – A Mission” | Max Haines |
| 12:00 | Lunch on your own Map of Restaurants sent in your confirmation e-mail | |
| 1:30 | “Where can I find....? Resources for Anabaptist-Mennonite Research” | Joe Springer |
| 2:30 | Break | |
| 3:00 | “Brothers Helping Brothers: The Swiss, Prussian and Dutch Low-German
Mennonites in the 1870’s” | Peggy Goertzen |

Librarians: These seminar sessions are eligible for LEUs.

REGISTRATION TABLE

The Registration Table will be located in the lobby of the Theater. Take the elevator on the west end of the atrium in the main library to the Theater Level. The registration Table will open at 9:00am. Please note that the library does not open until 9:00am.

PARKING

PARKING GARAGE:

There is a parking garage under the library that opens at 8:45am. The entrance to the parking garage is at 351 West Wayne Street. A ticket is issued at the time of entrance. To pay for the parking, go to the kiosk in the atrium of the library as you are ready to leave.

PARKING LOTS:

There is a library parking lot across the street on the south side of the library with entrance on Webster Street. A ticket is issued at the time of entrance. To pay for the parking, go to the kiosk in the atrium of the library as you are ready to leave. There are other parking lots available in the area, but check with attendant about payments.

ON-STREET PARKING:

There is limited on-street parking which is strictly patrolled, and tickets are issued. On-street parking is free on Saturday.

MAP OF DOWNTOWN FORT WAYNE

A map of downtown Fort Wayne is available in a separate attachment in this mailing.

LODGING

There are two hotels within two blocks of the library which is within easy walking distance. Ask if they have a “Genealogy Discount” available. The hotels are as follows:

Courtyard by Marriott	1150 South Harrison Street, Fort Wayne	260-490-3629
Hilton Hotel	1020 South Calhoun Street, Fort Wayne	260-420-1100

LUNCH

There are many restaurants within walking distance of the library. (See attachment)

BREAKS

There will be a break in the morning and in the afternoon. Snack may be purchased in the Dunkin’ Donuts shop, but they may not be taken into the Theater or The Genealogy Center.

FOOD AND BEVERAGES NOT PERMITTED

Food and beverages, including water bottles, are not permitted in either the Theater or The Genealogy Center.

THE GENEALOGY CENTER

The Genealogy Center is located on the second floor of the downtown Allen County Public Library. To learn about The Genealogy Center, go to www.genealogycenter.org. There is an introductory video and other information provided. The Genealogy Center hours are as follows:

	Sunday	12:00 – 5:00
Monday-Thursday	9:00 – 9:00	
Friday & Saturday	9:00 – 6:00	

ABOUT THE GENEALOGY CENTER

The Genealogy Center is a remarkable family history destination located in the Allen County Public Library in downtown Fort Wayne, Indiana. Truly a world-renowned research collection The Genealogy Center is the largest public library genealogy collection in the country, sporting an extensive collection of more than 490,000 printed volumes and 661,000 microtext items. More than 67,000 compiled family histories. All the serials indexed in the Periodical Source Index—and many more. Large collection of directories and yearbooks, including more than 60,000 R. L. Polk Directories. Access to the largest genealogy websites, including American Ancestors, Ancestry, FindMyPast, Fold3, and Newspapers.com. Growing collection of free databases at GenealogyCenter.org. Large collection of published military histories and records. Expert staff interested in engaging you in discovering your family story. For more information, contact The Genealogy Center with any questions at genealogy@acpl.info or 260-421-1225

PRESENTERS FOR THE SEMINAR



ADAM J. BARRONE

Adam J. Barrone is on the staff of The Genealogy Center since 2004 working on Periodical Source Index (PERSI). He is also the Webmaster for the Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana, Inc. Adam discovered his Anabaptist roots as a young genealogy researcher. From 1999-2002, he served as the coordinator of the OMII Genealogical Association, now known as the Swiss Anabaptist Genealogical Association (SAGA). He is the author of the *Strahm Family History* and has done archival work for three congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ in Fort Wayne.

JOHN D. BEATTY

John D. Beatty, CG, has been a reference librarian in The Genealogy Center since 1984 and also serves as its principal bibliographer. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of Michigan and a Master of Arts degree in History and Library Science also from the University of Michigan. He became a Board-certified genealogist in 2014. He is the author of sixteen books on local and family history including works on German and early American families.



PEGGY GOERTZEN

Peggy Goertzen, Director of the Center for Mennonite Brethren Studies at Tabor College, Hillsboro, Kansas since 1992, is an archivist, author, historian, and speaker. She has researched and written histories of Mennonite and Mennonite Brethren congregations, communities and families, compiled collections of German and English newspaper extracts and census data, edited several historical newsletters, and presented and taught on various historical topics including Mennonites in south central Kansas.

MAX HAINES

Max Haines was an elementary teacher for twenty-eight years and then served as an associate pastor at First Missionary Church in Berne, Indiana for eighteen and one-half years. He is a graduate of Fort Wayne Bible College and Saint Francis University in Fort Wayne. Max has a long-time interest in history and especially in J.A. Sprunger, his Mennonite roots, and his charitable work.



CARRIE PHILLIPS

Carrie Phillips has been the Archives and Special Collection Librarian for Bluffton University for fourteen years. She is the chair-elect of the Ohio Preservation Council. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bluffton University and a Master of Library and Informational Science degree from the University of Washington.

JOE SPRINGER

Joe Springer has been the Curator at the Mennonite Historical Library at the Goshen College in Goshen, Indiana for over thirty years. He has master's degrees in history and library science from Catholic University of America. He recently completed a two-volume sourcebook of documents and genealogical data for Amish Mennonites in France and their North American descendants.

