# THE SIDER INSTITUTE FOR ANABAPTIST, PIETIST AND WESLEYAN STUDIES

The Schrag Lectures are sponsored by Messiah University's Sider Institute for Anabaptist, Pietist and Wesleyan Studies. Named in honor of professor emeritus E. Morris Sider and his wife Leone, the Sider Institute facilitates the exploration and interpretation of Anabaptism, Pietism and Wesleyanism through a variety of educational opportunities and scholarly programs. These three theological traditions have long shaped the personality of Messiah University's founding denomination—the Brethren in Christ Church—and continue to inform the University's educational mission.

The objectives of the Sider Institute include the following:

- To support programming that encourages and promotes a greater understanding of Anabaptism, Pietism and Wesleyanism
- To promote the understanding and exploration of Brethren in Christ history and contemporary life
- To promote peace and conflict studies (PACS) and to oversee the PACS program at Messiah University, especially the peace and conflict studies major and minor in the Messiah University curriculum

Messiah University has created endowments to support the work of the Brethren in Christ Historical Library and Archives, the Sider Institute and the Schrag Lectures, and to provide scholarship assistance to Brethren in Christ students at Messiah University.

Persons interested in contributing to any of these endowments should contact:

Messiah University Office of Development One University Ave Suite 3013 Mechanicsburg PA 17055 717-691-6019 Die University Ave Suite 4033 Mechanicsburg PA 17055 Address Service Requested

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# A Virtual Anabaptist Book Festival

**April 2021** 



SPONSORED BY



THE E. MORRIS AND LEONE SIDER INSTITUTE FOR ANABAPTIST, PIETIST AND WESLEYAN STUDIES

# **SCHRAG LECTURES**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on large, in-person gatherings, the Schrag Lectures are looking a bit different this year!

The Virtual Anabaptist Book Festival will highlight recently published books by Anabaptist authors on a variety of topics: biblical pacifism, antiracist activism, Christian hope and more. Each webinar will feature a conversation with the author about their work and a virtual Q&A session with the audience. The event is free, but pre-registration is required.

## **FESTIVAL SCHEDULE**

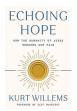


#### "Who Will Be a Witness?"

## A conversation with Drew G. I. Hart

Monday, April 5 at 7 p.m. EST

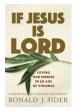
Hart will discuss his work as a public theologian and social activist, and will discuss his latest book, "Who Will Be a Witness?: Igniting Activism for God's Justice, Love, and Deliverance" (Herald Press, 2020).



# "Echoing Hope"

#### A conversation with Kurt Willems

Thursday, April 8 at 7 p.m. EST
Willems will discuss his new book
'Echoing Hope: How the Humanity of Jesus
Redeems Our Pain" (WaterBrook, 2021).



#### "If Jesus is Lord"

#### A conversation with Ronald J. Sider

Thursday, April 22 at 7 p.m. EST
Sider will discuss his recent book, "If Jesus is
Lord: Loving Our Enemies in an Age of Violence"
(Baker, 2019), and reflect on his long career as
a prolific writer, teacher, speaker and founding
president of Christians for Social Action.



# **REGISTER ONLINE**

Visit messiah.edu/siderinstitute and click on the "Register" link.

### ABOUT THE FESTIVAL SPEAKERS



Drew G. I. Hart is assistant professor of theology at Messiah University. He is also an activist, speaker, and writer with experience in pastoral ministry. He holds a master of divinity degree from Biblical Theological Seminary and a PhD

from Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.



Kurt Willems is a pastor, BIC church planter and writer. He is also the host of the "Theology Curator" podcast. He has a master of divinity degree from Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary and a master of arts in comparative religion from the

University of Washington. He and his wife, Lauren, have two daughters and reside in Seattle, Washington.



Ronald J. Sider is distinguished professor emeritus of theology, holistic ministry and public policy at Palmer Theological Seminary of Eastern University (St. Davids, Pa.) and the founder and president emeritus of Evangelicals for Social

Action (now Christians for Social Action). Born and raised in the Brethren in Christ Church, Sider is a widely known evangelical speaker and writer who has spoken on six continents and published more than 40 books and scores of articles.

### PREVIOUS SCHRAG LECTURERS

2020 Meghan Larissa Good 2019 Donald B. Kraybill 2018 Duane C. S. Stoltzfus 2017 Greg Boyd 2016 Molly Worthen 2015 J. Nelson Kraybill 2014 David R. Swartz 2013 David W. Shenk 2012 James Forbes 2011 Ronald J. Sider 2010 Nathan Emerson Yoder

2009 June Alliman Yoder
2008 Martin Mittelstadt
2007 Barry L. Callen
2006 Keith A. Graber Miller
2005 Ben C. Ollenburger
2004 Susan L. Biesecker-Mast
2003 Nancy R. Heisey
2002 Tom Yoder Neufeld
2001 Alan and Eleanor Kreider
2000 Myron S. Augsburger
1999 John D. Roth

## IN HONOR OF THE SCHRAGS



The Schrag Lectures are named to honor Martin Schrag (1919–2002), professor emeritus of church history at Messiah University, and his wife Dorothy Schrag (1918–2017), assistant professor emerita of music. Both

were also active in the Brethren in Christ Church.

Martin was an outstanding scholar of Anabaptist history and theology. His best-known publication was "The European History (1525-1874) of the Swiss Mennonites from Volhynia" (1974), in which he traced his ancestors' journey from Switzerland to Russia and then to the United States. With co-author John K. Stoner, he also wrote "The Ministry of Reconciliation" (1973). His last book, "Christian Lesher: Nineteenth-Century Brethren in Christ Bishop" (2003), was in press at the time of his passing. Martin's biography is one of three that is featured in "Embracing Scholarship, Piety and Obedience" (2009), published by the Brethren in Christ Historical Society.