The Sider Institute for Anabaptist, Pietist & Wesleyan Studies

The Schrag Lectures are sponsored by Messiah College’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 College’s founding denomination, the Brethren in Christ Church, and they continue to inform the College’s educational mission.

The objectives of the Sider Institute include the following:

• To support programming which 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 and to oversee the Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) program at Messiah College, especially the Peace and Conflict Studies major and minor in the Messiah College curriculum

Messiah College 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 College.

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

Messiah College
Office of Development
One College Avenue Suite 3013
Mechanicsburg PA 17055
717-691-6019


Dr. Molly Worthen
Parmer Cinema, Messiah College
March 17, 2016 at 7 p.m.
Dr. Molly Worthen is assistant professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She earned her B.A. (2003) and Ph.D. (2011) in religious history from Yale University.


At UNC Chapel Hill, Worthen teaches courses in global Christianity, North American religious and intellectual culture, and the history of politics and ideology. She is a contributing opinion writer for the New York Times and has also written about religion and politics for Slate, the Boston Globe, Foreign Policy and other publications.

IN HONOR OF THE SCHRAGS
The Schrag Lectures are named to honor Martin Schrag (1919-2002), professor emeritus of church history at Messiah College, and his wife, Dorothy Schrag, 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 are featured in “Embracing Scholarship, Piety and Obedience” (2009), published by the Brethren in Christ Historical Society.

PREVIOUS SCHRAG LECTURERS

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

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