



2013 Upper Midwest Regional Meeting

**April 5–6, 2013
Luther Seminary
Saint Paul, Minnesota, USA**

Submitting A Proposal:

This year, we are using the Oxford Abstracts Registration Program. You may access the link to submit your proposal on our [Region's website](#) . All presenters at the Regional Meeting (excluding undergraduate students) should be a member (whether student or full) of one of the three participating societies.

The submission deadline is December 15, 2012.

For Master's Students:

The Region encourages MA students to present outstanding papers. Paper proposals from MA students must be accompanied by the nomination of a faculty advisor. Please include the name and contact information of the faculty advisor in your submission.

For Undergraduates:

The meeting includes undergraduate papers, reflecting the preponderance of undergraduate institutions in the region. The Region welcomes the full scholarly participation of undergraduate members in the meeting. We request that undergraduates submit paper proposals for the Undergraduate Research Sessions only. Faculty members should nominate student papers, with a limit of two submissions per institution. Undergraduate students should complete the online submission form in the Oxford Abstracts Registration Program. Include the name and e-mail address of the faculty sponsor at the end of the paper abstract. The Undergraduate Research Sessions are convened by Bruce Forbes, Morningside College.

Joint AAR/SBL Sessions:

Asian/Asian American Theology and Religious Studies

Sharon Tan, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, and Bernon Lee, Bethel University

This Section welcomes any papers relating to Asian/Asian American perspectives on religious studies, theology, ethics, history, and biblical studies.

Martin Luther Study Group

Bill Russell, Augsburg College

This Section invites investigations of Luther's Biblical exegesis, with particular attention to how his understanding of the Bible both influenced and was influenced by other religious groups/traditions. The Section also welcomes papers with a historical focus, as well as papers that connect Luther's exegesis and understanding of "the other," with contemporary interreligious and intercultural issues.

Multicultural Perspectives on Theology, Religion, and Biblical Interpretation

Jim Carlson, Carroll University

This Section seeks papers that address theology, religion, or the Bible from diverse racial, ethnic, and demographic perspectives in conversation with analysis of other forms of difference.

Teaching the Bible and Religion

Suzanne Hequet, Concordia University

This Section welcomes proposals on topics that explore pedagogical issues specific to the teaching of religion, theology, and the Bible in undergraduate, graduate, or seminary settings. Analyses of educational theory, teaching practices, and the ways in which values affect teaching and learning are encouraged. In addition to papers, presentations may include

opportunities to engage participants in activities or discussion.

Undergraduate Research

Bruce Forbes, Morningside College

The Regional Meeting includes undergraduate papers reflecting the preponderance of undergraduate institutions in the Region. Members nominate outstanding papers. Each institution is allowed up to two submissions.

Women, Religion, and Sacred Text

Susan Myers, University of St Thomas, Saint Paul, MN

This Section is open to a wide range of topics but particularly encourages proposals that engage in a feminist, womanist, or mujarista perspective. For example, papers may deal with feminist perspectives on history or scripture, but also keeping in mind teaching challenges for women in the Upper Midwest region. Different forms of presentation are welcome, including performance.

AAR Sessions:

Ethics

Mary Gaebler, Gustavus Adolphus College

This Section welcomes papers from both practical and analytical perspectives on the effect of faith in the lives of individuals (agent ethics) and the impact of religion on the common good (social ethics).

Historical Perspectives on Religion

Jim Kroemer, Marquette University

This Section seeks papers dealing with the theological, cultural, intellectual, and institutional history of all religious traditions. Submissions using traditional historical or interdisciplinary methods are equally welcome.

New Religions

Murphy Pizza, Saint Catherine University and Minneapolis College of Art and Design

This Section seeks papers relating to religious movements less than 150 years old, as well as recent sects and movements emerging from historical traditions worldwide from a wide range of disciplinary approaches.

Philosophy of Religion/Systematic Theology

Courtney Wilder, Midland Lutheran College

This Section invites papers that examine the interface between philosophy and religion. Approaches can include both philosophical positions within religion and philosophy of religion more generally, as well as constructive theological work in dialogue with both historical traditions and aspects of the contemporary context.

Religion and Ecology

George Tsakiridis, South Dakota State University

Submissions are welcome on any aspect of the study of religion and ecology, including issues related to politics, globalization, environmentally-related legal decisions, and religious responses to natural disasters. Submissions on the historical treatment of the environment by religious persons and/or groups are especially encouraged.

Religion and Science

Greg Peterson, South Dakota State University

This Section welcomes papers that analyze the various ways that science and religion intersect. Topics may include — but are not limited to — historical analyses, theological/religious reflection on the implications of scientific theories and methods, scientific theories of religion, and examinations of social and political forces that shape the intersection of science and religion in contemporary culture.

Religion, Art, and Culture

Kim Vrudny, University of Saint Thomas

Submissions are welcome on all topics examining the relationships between religion and cultural ideas, including — but not limited to — music, literature, and all forms of art, as well as the ways in which religion shapes and is shaped by culture.

Religion, Gender, and Sexuality

C. Neal Key, College of Saint Scholastica

Submissions are welcome on all topics that explore the intersections between religious ideas and constructions of gender and/or sexuality. This Section consolidates the Women and Religion Section and the Religion and Sexuality Section.

Religions in North America

Murphy Pizza, Saint Catherine University and Minneapolis College of Art and Design

This Section seeks proposals analyzing religious traditions, practices, and communities in North America from a wide range of disciplinary perspectives.

World Religions

Michael Baltutis, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh

Submissions are welcome on any topics related to religious traditions other than Judaism and

Christianity, or topics that involve comparative reflection on more than one religious tradition.

SBL Sessions:

Archaeology and Excavation Reports (sessions cosponsored by ASOR)

Mark Schuler, Concordia University

This Section welcomes all topics pertaining to the archaeology of the ancient Near East, including excavation updates and summaries of work in progress.

Early Christianity

Mark DelCogliano, University of Saint Thomas

This Section welcomes papers on any topic dealing with the history, literature, thought, and practices of early Christianity, broadly conceived, from the first century through the post-Nicene era.

Early Judaism and Judaic Studies

Alex Jassen, University of Minnesota

This Section concerns itself with the literatures, histories, and cultures of ancient Judaism. The breadth of the Section's description is intentional and serves as an invitation to those in collateral fields to join in interdisciplinary interaction and scholarship regarding virtually any aspect of ancient Judaism.

New Testament

Daniel Scholz, Cardinal Stritch University

This Section welcomes exegetical studies of specific texts, theological or thematic examinations, and methodological proposals of the New Testament.

Old Testament/Hebrew Bible

Bernon Lee, Bethel University

This Section welcomes exegetical studies of specific texts, theological or thematic examinations, and methodological proposals of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible.

Religion in the Ancient World

Glen Menzies, North Central University

This Section welcomes general or specific studies of the practice of religion in Mediterranean and Near Eastern antiquity.

Multiple Submissions

Scholars may submit only one paper proposal to one session of the regional meeting.

Questions and Other Topics

Questions about the upcoming meeting or submitting proposals to the appropriate Section should be directed to Amy Marga, Luther Seminary, [This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it](#) . Proposals for papers or topics not listed in the call for papers are also to be brought to her attention.

Travel Grants for Graduate Students

The Region is pleased to announce the availability of travel scholarships in the amount of \$100 and \$250 for graduate students whose papers are accepted for presentation at the Regional Meeting. A limited number of these scholarships are available and they will be awarded on a competitive basis. Please send a request for details to Jeannine Brown, Bethel Seminary, [This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it](#) after you have submitted your proposals.

Notice to SBL Members: Regional Scholars Program

This year the Region will again participate in the Regional Scholar Program of the Society of Biblical Literature. Beginning scholars (less than four years from receiving a terminal degree) may request information on this program by e-mailing Jeannine Brown, Bethel Seminary, This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it

Upper Midwest Regional Officers

American Academy of Religion

President: Bruce Forbes, Morningside College

Vice-President: William Russell, Collegeville Institute

Program Committee: Courtney Wilder, Midland University

Regional Coordinator: Amy Marga, Luther Seminary, This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it

Society of Biblical Literature

President: Karoline Lewis, Luther Seminary

Vice-President: Philip Sellew, University of Minnesota

Program Committee: David Penchansky, University of Saint Thomas

Regional Coordinator: Jeannine Brown, Bethel Seminary, This e-mail address is being protected from spambots. You need JavaScript enabled to view it