

Annual Meetings 2013

Baltimore, MD  November 23–26

Hosted by the American Academy of Religion



American Academy of Religion

In This Issue

THE COUNTDOWN IS ON!

The 2013 Annual Meeting is only weeks away! Get ready to join some 10,000 of your friends and colleagues in beautiful Baltimore, Maryland for an exciting Annual Meeting. This e-mail is packed with useful information on how to navigate Baltimore and the Annual Meeting itself. You may want to keep a copy of it nearby for when you arrive in Baltimore.

AAR FULL PAPER SUBMISSION PILOT PROGRAM

The full text of papers for [several sessions](#) is being made available to AAR members in advance of the 2013 Annual Meeting. During these sessions, presenters will only briefly summarize their arguments, with the bulk of the time given over to discussion. These papers are available only for the few weeks leading up to the Annual Meeting. After **November 26**, they will be removed from the website. These pages and documents are inaccessible to search engines such as Google, so please do not share these files elsewhere.

Sessions already listing their papers are below, and more are to come!

A24-209 Arts, Literature, and Religion Section

Theme: *"Has Fiction Lost Its Faith?": A Response to the New York Times Book Review*

A24-214 Women and Religion Section and Gay Men and Religion Group and Lesbian-Feminist Issues in Religion Group and Men, Masculinities, and Religion Group and Womanist Approaches to Religion and Society Group and Women of Color Scholarship, Teaching, and Activism

Theme: *Teaching "Straight" Sexuality and Gender in Religious Studies*

Table of Contents

1. [Full Papers Online](#)
2. [Hotels Update](#)
3. [Getting Around Baltimore](#)
4. [Program Books and More](#)
5. [Mobile App](#)
6. [Exhibit Hall and Giveaways](#)
7. [Program Updates](#)
8. [Special Services: Accessibility and Sabbath Observance](#)
9. [Lounges](#)
10. [For Your Convenience: Food and More](#)
11. [Special Events](#)

[825 Houston Mill Rd. NE](#)
[STE 300](#)
[Atlanta, GA 30329-4205](#)

- [Tel: 404-727-3049](#)
 - [Fax: 404-727-7959](#)

- [www.aarweb.org](#)
 -

A25-209 Study of Islam Section

Theme: *On Normativity in the Field of Islamic Studies*

A25-302 Arts, Literature, and Religion Section

Theme: *Muslim Identity through the Arts, Literature, and Performance*

A25-322 Liberal Theologies Group

Theme: *Liberalism after Neoliberalism: Revitalizing the Tradition*

A25-332 Religions, Medicines, and Healing Group

Theme: *Drawing Boundaries: The Ethics of Negotiating Spiritual and Medical Frameworks*

A26-105 Arts, Literature, and Religion Section

Theme: *Reflections on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Death of C. S. Lewis*

HOTEL UPDATE

The AAR hotel blocks are now **sold out**, but if you still need to make your hotel reservation, please call 1-800-632-1696 or [follow this link](#) for more information. The hotels and rates on this site are **not** those negotiated by AAR, and AAR is only providing transportation from the hotels within the original block.

GETTING TO AND AROUND BALTIMORE

Plan your Travel to the Annual Meeting

Most attendees are coming into Baltimore by airplane and we have negotiated discounted flight information, airport transfer options, and general getting around the city information [here](#).

Annual Meeting Shuttles

For the convenience of those attendees staying at hotels that are not within walking distance of the Convention Center (i.e., the Admiral Fell Inn, Courtyard Marriott, Embassy Suites, Fairfield Inn, Hilton Garden Inn, Homewood Suites, Home2 Suites, Marriott Waterfront, Mount Vernon, Pier 5, and Wyndham Peabody Court), the AAR and SBL have arranged shuttles in the mornings and evenings. Please see the [shuttle schedule](#) for more information.

Name Badges & Registration

Registration is located in the **Baltimore Convention Center, Charles Street Lobby**.

- Name badges are in the mail for preregistrants. Bring your name badge to Registration and pick up a badge holder, lanyard, and your tote bag. With those in hand, you can head directly to sessions and exhibits.
- Lost name badge? Did the post office not come through with the mail? Replacements are available at the Name Badge Reprint booth at Registration.



AAR PANEL DISCUSSION
of Jim Wallis's
On God's Side

Sunday, Nov. 24,
5:30–7 PM;
M24-302



ON GOD'S SIDE
JIM WALLIS

FEATURING:

Ron Sider
Danny Carroll
Diana Butler Bass
Jim Wallis



WABASH
CENTER

Accepting
Applications

2014-2015

PROGRAM BOOKS AND MORE

Program Books were mailed to everyone who registered before September 15 and did not check the "Do not send me a *Program Book*" box. Thank you to the **15%** of AAR registrants who checked that box and helped us make the Annual Meeting greener!

PLEASE BRING YOUR *PROGRAM BOOK* TO BALTIMORE WITH YOU, AS WE HAVE A LIMITED SUPPLY.

- If you registered after September 15 or checked the "Do not send me a *Program Book*" box, you may pick up your *Program Book* at Registration.
- AAR and SBL programs can be found in the *At-A-Glance* and the Mobile App, available to all attendees. (see below).
- *Annual Meetings At-A-Glance* is stuffed into all attendees' tote bags contains brief session information on all AAR, SBL, and additional meetings.

MOBILE APP

Access the free Annual Meetings app! AAR and SBL introduce the use of Mobile Meeting Guide technology to provide members with a technically reliable, intuitive, and functional meeting solution. The app will provide attendees with:

- The entire event program, including both AAR and SBL programs and Additional Meetings
- Exhibitor info, including an interactive Exhibit Hall map
- Maps of conference hotels
- Create and customize your own schedule, make notes about sessions, and share information and your schedule with colleagues and friends via built-in social networking
- Because the solution features an intuitive offline program that is native to Android, iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch devices, no Internet connection is needed!
- Schedule changes are downloaded in the background when Internet access is available.
- New this year—you can create an account on the App which will allow you to sync your schedule, notes, and contacts across multiple devices!

Don't have a smart phone? Don't worry! A similar [web-based solution](#) is accessible via your computer, laptop, or Blackberry.

The app is available in the App Store and Google Play. Simply search for **AARSBL13AM** or use the links below. An introductory guide to the app is [here](#). You will also find a Mobile App HelpDesk in the registration area in the Baltimore Convention Center. You can send questions via email to rwilliams@aarweb.org.

Workshops

Colloquies
Grants
Consultants

Celebrating 17 years
of supporting
teaching & learning

[Click here for more information](#)

Download the app to your mobile device from [Google Play](#) and the [App Store](#) now, use the web version of the app that is available here, or scan the QR code that will be displayed on signage throughout the meeting. We hope you will find the app useful!



VISIT THE EXHIBIT HALL!

A priority for anyone attending the Annual Meetings is a visit to the [Exhibit Hall](#)! The Exhibit Hall is located in the Baltimore Convention Center, Halls A-C. Why visit?

- Publishers feature the newest, latest, and greatest publications within the field.
- Publishers often offer deep discounts off list prices at the meeting!

Search It Out!

Looking for a specific book or publisher? Look no farther than the Search It Out kiosk in the front of the Exhibit Hall. This kiosk offers a searchable database of books, authors, and publishers. The results will appear on a map of the exhibit floor, highlighting the name and location of the publisher.

The kiosk can also display the exhibit hall map with a complete list of publishers for reference. You can find a list of exhibitors and an Exhibit Hall map in the *Program Book, At-A-Glance*, and in the mobile app.

Enter to Win in the Exhibit Hall!

Plan to visit the AAR booth (#1601) and drop off your business card to enter four drawings:

- Books Under Discussion at the 2013 AAR Annual Meeting
- The 2013 AAR Award Winning Books
- Free 2014 AAR membership
- Free 2014 Annual Meetings registration in San Diego

PROGRAM AND SESSION UPDATES

Look for program updates or changes at:

- [Online Program Book](#)
-

ANNUAL MEETING SPECIAL SERVICES

Accessibility Information

AAR members with disabilities or any attendees who may have difficulty getting around the Annual Meeting are encouraged to visit the [new Annual Meeting Accessibility page](#). Attendees will find information on getting around the Annual Meeting and Baltimore, Program accessibility, and the new Status of People with Disabilities in the Profession Committee.

For attendees with accessibility concerns, we offer the following assistance:

- An ADA Mini Shuttle will be available on an on-call basis, whenever the standard shuttle is in operation. Please call the Transportation Desk at 410-649-6118 at least 30 minutes prior to your desired pick up time to arrange for service. If you have questions about this service, please contact Soraya Shahrak at sshahrak@aarweb.org.

Information for Sabbath-Observant Jewish Attendees

Jewish sabbath meals and services will be available at nearby Congregation B'nai Israel, a short walk from the conference center and most hotels. Advanced reservation and pre-payment is required for meals; please contact joseph.weinstein@alum.mit.edu for more information. Friday dinner will be followed by a panel discussion on the interplay between academic Biblical studies/archaeology and religious tradition.

LOUNGES

- **Prayer Room, Convention Center-304** - For people of all faiths who need a moment of prayer, quiet reflection, or meditation.
- **Women's Lounge, Sheraton Inner Harbor-Severn I** Featuring special programming sponsored by the Women's Caucus. Nursing mothers may find it a welcome private space.
- **Students Lounge, Sheraton Inner Harbor-Severn II-III** Special programming sponsored by the Graduate Student Committee.
- **International Members Lounge, Renaissance Harborplace-Mt. Washington**

SERVICES AND CONVENIENCES

Hungry? Food at the Annual Meeting

Baltimore has a ton of great places to eat! Ask at your hotel concierge for recommendations, or check out the lists that we have compiled:

[Eating in Baltimore - by name](#)

[Eating in Baltimore - by cuisine](#)

If you are looking for something quick and easy, visit the food concessions area in the back of the Exhibit Hall in the Baltimore Convention Center, Halls A-C. Sandwiches, drinks, and snacks will be available during Exhibit Hall hours Saturday through Tuesday.

Internet Access

Need to check your e-mail or use the web? Free wifi is available at two hotspots in the Baltimore Convention Center — at the Fresh Market Cafe and at the Starbucks. If you need a computer, the Cyber Cafe offers computers with Internet connections at the back of the Exhibit Hall.

Child Care

Childcare registration for the Annual Meeting is now open! KiddieCorp childcare is a service subsidized by the AAR and SBL for members with families attending the Annual Meeting. You may register [online](#).

Look Who's Coming

You can Look Who's Coming to the Meeting on the [AAR website](#) or on the [Mobile App](#) to see if your friends and colleagues are attending.

Contribute to the Annual Meeting Soap Drive!

At the Annual Meeting in Baltimore, we are collecting **unused/unopened** hotel soaps, shampoos, conditioners, and any other products listed here that families and homeless in need might find useful. More information about this initiative can be found [online](#).

SPECIAL EVENTS

Welcome Reception

Join your colleagues for a reception on **Friday, November 23, 7:00-9:00 pm** in the **Baltimore Convention Center-314-315**. Jazz and a relaxed atmosphere makes it a great place to catch up with friends new and old.

AAR Annual Business Meeting

Join the AAR Board of Directors for a brief business meeting, **Saturday - 6:30 PM-7:30 PM** at the **Sheraton Inner Harbor-Chesapeake III**. This is a critical place to engage and envision a better scholarly community and a portion of the meeting will be given over to discussion with Board members and Officers.

Performances and Exhibits

- **Music and Religion Group and Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group:**
Hearing Images: Film Music, Meaning-Making, and Lived Religion
Sunday - 1:00 PM-2:30 PM
Convention Center-303

Featuring live musical performances of well-known film music, this 90-minute panel addresses the ways in which these inter-related disciplines might develop a thoroughly audiovisual approach toward the cinematic event and its significance for theological reflection, lived religion, and emerging spiritualities. Comprised of scholars who represent both the Religion, Film and Visual Culture group and the Music and Religion group, the range of topics includes the methodological difficulties that arise from an irreducibly multi-disciplinary endeavor; formal considerations of the position and function of music in film; an examination of what film music does to audiences and what audiences do with film music in the midst of the cinematic event; and how the notion of a 'soundtrack' (used in literal and metaphorical senses) is to be interpreted in the way that people construct personal narratives (religious or not) with reference to music. The panel will use two books as its touchstone: Kutter Callaway's *Scoring Transcendence: Contemporary Film Music as Religious Experience* (Baylor University Press, 2013), and Clive Marsh and Vaughan Robert's *Personal Jesus: How Popular Music Shapes Our Souls* (Baker Academic, 2013).

- **Lady Parts: Biblical Women and *The Vagina Monologues***

Sunday - 8:00 PM-10:00 PM

Convention Center-303

What would happen if women from the Bible encountered Eve Ensler's controversial play, *The Vagina Monologues*? Undergraduate authors from Alma College and Barton College powerfully answered this question, drawing from both scholarly exegesis and personal experience. Their professors, Kathryn D. Blanchard and Jane S. Webster, were so impressed that they recruited several more contributing authors, including theologians, pastors, and biblical scholars. The collection, *Biblical Women and The Vagina Monologues* (2012), is now available from Wipf and Stock. This arts session will include performances of five monologues, followed by three scholarly responses, and time for questions with the authors, respondents, and coeditors.

TOURS

The following Annual Meeting tours still have space available:

- Baltimore City Tour (Friday, 1:00 pm-5:00 pm)
- Jacob Lawrence's Genesis Series at the Walters Art Museum (Saturday, 10:00 am-12:00 pm)
- Washington D.C. Transportation (Saturday, 12:00 pm-5:00 pm)
- Fell's Point Ghost Walk (Saturday, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm)
- Washington D.C. Transportation (Sunday, 12:00 pm-5:00 pm)
- Historic Religious Architecture Tour of Baltimore (Monday, 1:00 pm-5:00 pm)

Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. To sign up for a tour, fax in the form on page 12 of the *Program Book* or email reg@aarweb.org. Sorry, no refunds.

Register for our new Manuscript Tour at the Freer Gallery

We have a new tour that just opened: *The Peacock Room Comes to America: Exhibiting Freer's Bibles* at the Freer Sackler Museum of Asian Art on Sunday, November 24, 12-5 p.m. You may sign up for this tour by emailing reg@aarweb.org to add it to your registration record. The cost is \$30 and description below.

Participants will board a bus at the Baltimore Convention Center and travel to Washington DC to the Freer Sackler Museum of Asian Art. The Curator of the Freer Gallery will give a private tour of the Whistler and the Peacock Rooms, with the special added bonus of seeing Freer's Bibles.

In November 1912, museum founder Charles Lang Freer put two rare biblical manuscripts on public view in his Detroit home. This special installation showcases those antique works—a parchment codex of Deuteronomy and Joshua, and the so-called Washington Codex, the third oldest parchment manuscript of the Gospels—in the unexpected setting of James McNeill Whistler's Peacock Room.

The tour will begin at 2:15 p.m. and last approximately one hour. You will have free time to explore the museum and the Mall on your own as well.

Preconference Workshops

The following Pre-Annual Meeting Workshops still have space available:

Religion and Media Workshop: Persuasion's Power: How Religion Makes Its Publics

11:00 AM–6:00 PM

CC-316

Religion and Ecology Workshop: Mapping the Field of Religion and Ecology: Theories, Methods, and Future Directions

1:45 PM–5:00 PM

CC-317

Theological Education Workshop: Teaching Theology in a Global and Transnational World

1:45 PM–5:00 PM

CC-327

Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis. To sign up for a workshop, fax in the forms on pages 62, 64, or 65 in the *Program Book*, or email reg@aarweb.org.

Other Exciting Sessions in Baltimore

We are excited about the tremendous lineup of scholarly sessions on the program this year in Baltimore. Some of the many highlights include the following sessions:

PLENARY ADDRESSES

Karen Armstrong: The Science of Compassion

Saturday, 11:45 AM–12:45 PM
CC-307-308

Pope Francis and the State of Global Catholicism

Saturday, 4:00 PM–6:30 PM
CC-307-308

A Lifetime of Learning: An Interview with Diana Eck

Saturday, 8:30 PM–9:30 PM
CC-307-308

Presidential Address: John Esposito

Sunday, 11:45 AM–12:45 PM
CC-307-308

Plenary Panel: Public Understanding of Religion and Issues of Religious Pluralism

Monday, 11:45 AM–12:45 PM
CC-307-308

FOCUS ON EMPLOYMENT

Job Market Realities, Strategies, and Opportunities

Saturday, 1:00 PM–3:30 PM
CC-321

Shifting Sands of the Academy: Examining Trends in Higher Education

Saturday, 4:00 PM–6:30 PM
CC-314-315

Effective Self-Marketing and Interviewing

Sunday, 9:00 AM–11:30 AM
MIH-Chesapeake

Career Opportunities in Two-Year Colleges and/or Community Colleges

Sunday, 1:00 PM–2:30 PM
MIH-Chesapeake

"Alt-Ac Jobs": What It Means and How to Get One

Sunday, 4:00 PM–6:30 PM
MIH-Chesapeake

The Ins and Outs of Adjunct, Part-time, and Contingency Employment

Monday, 9:00 AM–11:30 AM
MIH-Grand Ballroom West

From CV to Resume

Monday, 1:00 PM–3:30 PM

MIH-Grand Ballroom West

OTHER SESSIONS OF NOTE

Grants and Application Strategies from the National Endowment for the Humanities

Saturday - 9:00 AM–11:30 AM

HB-Key 8

Social Theory and Religion Cluster and Religion and Ecology Group

Theme: *Querying Natural Religion: Immanence, Gaia, and the Parliament of Lively Things*

Saturday, 1:00 PM–3:30 PM

CC-307-308

Academic Relations Committee

Theme: *Survey of the Long Term Impacts of Liberal Education on Religious Studies Majors*

Sunday, 1:00 PM–2:30 PM

SIH-Potomac

International Connections Committee

Theme: *The Partnership between the AAR and the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR) - How It Can Benefit You*

Sunday, 3:00 PM–4:30 PM

CC-313

The Marty Forum: Wendell Berry

Sunday, 3:00 PM–4:30 PM

CC-307-308

Conversation with Meredith Monk, Winner of 2013 Religion and the Arts Award

Sunday, 3:00 PM–4:30 PM

CC-332

Conversation with the 2013 AAR Excellence in Teaching Award Recipient Carolyn Medine

Sunday, 3:00 PM–4:30 PM

CC-328

Honoring the Legacy and Life of Otto Maduro (1945–2013)

Sunday, 3:00 PM–4:30 PM

RH-Baltimore Ballroom B

Out of Many: Integrating the Study of America's Religious Diversity into Classrooms Across the Humanities

Sunday - 3:00 PM–4:30 PM

CC-340

Arts, Film, Literature, Media, Popular Culture, Visual Culture, and Religion Cluster

Theme: *The Gothic*

Sunday, 5:00 PM–6:30 PM

CC-340

Remembering Robert N. Bellah (1927–2013)

Sunday, 5:00 PM–6:30 PM

CC-307-308

Templeton Prize Lecture

Theme: *Exploring the Spiritual Relevance of Ubuntu: The Legacy of Archbishop Tutu*

Sunday, 7:00 PM–8:00 PM

CC-307-308

**Theology and Religious Reflection Section and Theology and Continental
Philosophy Group**

Theme: *Judith Butler's Parting Ways (Columbia University Press, 2012)*

Monday, 4:00 PM–6:30 PM

CC-307-308

**Third Sector Academy: A Special Briefing for Baltimore-Area Nonprofits on the
National Study of American Religious Giving**

Monday, 5:00 PM–6:30 PM

HB-Paca

See you in Baltimore!