

Calvin Courier

H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies
Reformation, Research, Teaching, Community Outreach



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The Electronic Calvin Courier: Help us save trees and paper!

We now offer our Meeter Center newsletter in both digital and paper formats. If you would like to be included on our email list to receive your newsletter as a pdf attachment, please send an email to:
meeter@calvin.edu.

From the Director

As we move towards spring, signs of hope are slowly appearing. Some of the staff members at the Meeter Center received their first COVID vaccine in the third week of March. Fellowship recipients, deferred from last summer, are making plans to be in Grand Rapids beginning in July. As usual, each fellowship recipient will give a presentation on their research towards the end of their stay - watch for emails from the Center to find out more as we get closer to that time. We have had to adapt some of our plans - our Genevan paleography workshop, deferred from last summer, will now take place online this summer, allowing for full participation from the entire group, including colleagues in Europe. Overall we are looking forward to resuming some of our normal summer patterns.

We have been very pleased with the response to our online presence, including our weekly Facebook posts, our podcast interviews, and most especially our webinars. It has been encouraging to see so many Reformation scholars gathered in one spot to discuss key Reformation themes, including baptism, church discipline, worship, and trends in Reformation studies. We plan to continue offering these webinars for the foreseeable future.

We continue to develop the Meeter Center collection in various ways, including most recently via a very generous donation of commemorative medals of the Reformation, depicting Calvin, other Reformers, and key Reformation anniversaries. Turn to page 2 to find out more about this donation and to see pictures of several of the medals. We now have one of the world's strongest and most extensive collections of commemorative medals of John Calvin.

Finally, we are looking forward to our fall conference on the Puritans and their Impact (Friday Sept. 24 and Saturday Sept. 25, 2021). Held in the auditorium at Calvin Theological Seminary, and also available online for those living further away, this conference features engaging presentations from leading experts, considering not only the impact of Puritan thought and action in the seventeenth century, but also the Puritans' legacies in our own day. See p. 2 for more information on how to register. Do not miss it!

Karin Maag

Meeter Center Podcast Channel

The Meeter Center now has a podcast channel! *Reformations* features interviews with Meeter Center fellows, Calvin professors, and experts in the field of Reformation studies. To listen in, go to our Anchor.fm channel:

<https://anchor.fm/the-h-henry-meeter-center-for-calvin-studies>. You can also find us on Spotify, Google podcasts, Breaker, or Radio Public. Tune in and have a listen.

CURATOR'S CORNER: NUMISMATICS AND THE CENTER

The Meeter Center has a very fine collection of medals commemorating the life and work of John Calvin as well as important events in Calvinist history. As with many collections of this type, there is a story about how it came to be.

Several years ago Rev. Ray W. Teeuwissen gave his medal collection to the Meeter Center. On the day the medals were received and Teeuwissen was honored for his gift, a seminary student was part of the audience. This student was inspired to become a collector of all things related to John Calvin and some of Calvin's fellow Reformers. Twenty-five years later, the collection which grew out of that interest was presented to the Meeter Center as another gift. It is with deep gratitude to Robert (Bob) King that we thank him publicly for his generosity. An interview with Bob is available to view on the Meeter Center [YouTube](#) channel.

Bob loves all his pieces but has a few special ones, like this 1909 piece (see image on the left below) which is more of a mini-statue than a typically flat model.



A left-facing image of Calvin sits above a quill and the seal of Geneva. Under the plaque are three books which set the plaque on an angle and give the piece a three-dimensional perspective. The book on the left is open with "SAINTE BIBLE" inscribed at the top.

Another intriguing piece is again from 1909, but is a restrike of the original 1835 bronze medal (see above image on the right). The Numismatic Cabinet of Geneva produced only 73 copies from the original dies. Proceeds went to benefit the Hospital Gourgas in Geneva.

The Meeter Center Presents THE PURITANS AND THEIR IMPACT

September 24-25, 2021

Calvin Theological Seminary

<https://calvin.edu/centers-institutes/meeter-center/the-puritans-and-their-impact/>

Just over four hundred years ago, in 1620, the Mayflower arrived on the shores of Cape Cod. Many of those on board had left England first for the Netherlands and then embarked on the transatlantic voyage because they felt they could not live within the theological and liturgical framework of the established Church of England. Within the next decades, these dissenters, known as the Pilgrims, were joined by other Puritans, establishing colonies along the northeastern seaboard of North America.

Many aspects of this migration have become part of the fabric of the story of the United States, yet this legacy is complex and deserving of further reflection. To shed light on the Puritans and their impact, and to foster informed discussion, the Meeter Center is organizing a two-day conference on September 24 and 25, 2021, at Calvin Theological Seminary. All are heartily welcome. In plenary lectures and panel discussions, expert presenters will focus on the theological roots of Puritanism and on the history of Puritans' actions and legacies in North America, including their relations with Native American communities.

Speakers include Margaret Bendroth (executive director (ret.) of the Congregational Library and Archives), Richard Muller (emeritus, Calvin Theological Seminary), Matthew Tuininga (Calvin Theological Seminary), Chad Van Dixhoorn (Westminster Theological Seminary Philadelphia), Abram Van Engen (Washington University in Saint Louis), and Adrian Weimer (Providence College). Conference participants will also get a special tour of the Meeter Center's Puritan exhibit, with several rare books on loan from Puritan Reformed Seminary's extensive collection. Don't miss this outstanding opportunity!

Meeter Center Visiting Scholars Summer 2021

We welcome our fellowship awardees from 2020 who were not able to come last year due to pandemic restrictions. Each of the fellowship recipients will present on their research towards the end of their stay.

Meeter Family Fellowship:

Rev. Dr. Jennifer McNutt, Franklin S. Dyrness Associate Professor of Biblical and Theological Studies at Wheaton College, will work on a theological biography of John Calvin, for Oxford University Press's Christian Theology in Context series. Fellowship awarded in 2020.

Friends of the Meeter Center Research Fellowship:

Dr. Christine Kooi, who is the Lewis, Katheryn and Benjamin Price Professor of European History in the Department of History at Louisiana State University, will begin research for a major essay on the role of women in the Netherlandish Reformation. Fellowship awarded in 2020.

Faculty Fellowships:

Dr. Henk van den Belt, Professor of Systematic Theology at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, will explore the doctrine of providence in the formative period of the Reformed tradition. Fellowship awarded in 2020.

Dr. Amanda Eurich, Professor of History at Western Washington University, will continue her research on the Huguenot jurist Jean de Coras, and his role in radicalizing religious identity in sixteenth-century France. Fellowship awarded in 2019 and deferred from 2020 due to pandemic restrictions.

Student Fellowships:

Preston Hill, Ph. D. student at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, will use his time at the Meeter Center to write a chapter of his Ph. D. dissertation. The focus of his thesis is on Christ's descent into Hell in Calvin's theology. Fellowship awarded in 2020.

Jeannette Kreijkes, Ph.D. student in theology at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, will examine John Chrysostom's influence on John Calvin's work and thought, as part of her work for her dissertation. Fellowship awarded in 2020.

Emo Van Halsema Fellowships:

Dr. Max Rogland, Senior Minister of Rosehill Presbyterian Church, will work on his manuscript for an exegetical commentary on the book of Esther, under contract with Zondervan. He will also be doing research on Reformed understandings of the book of Ecclesiastes. Fellowship awarded in 2021.

continued in next column

Meeter Center Visiting Scholars, continued

Dr. Martin Klauber, Affiliate Professor of Church History at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, will read the unpublished correspondence of Huguenot pastors who served at Charenton. Dr. Klauber began his research at the Meeter Center in 2019, intending to return in 2020 to complete his fellowship. However, due to pandemic restrictions in 2020, he will return this summer instead.

Paleography Workshop Update

The Meeter Center Genevan paleography workshop has been moved to an online format for this summer. The workshop will be led by Dr. Thomas Lambert. Sessions will be live/synchronous on Zoom, and will be offered two mornings each week for five weeks, beginning at 10 AM Eastern Time.

Jonathan Baddley
(Ph.D. student, Vanderbilt University)

Madeleine Blackburn
(M.A. student, University of Pittsburgh)

Kaitlyn Emma Centini
(M.A. student, University of Arizona)

Jan Klok
(post-doctoral researcher, Ph.D. from the University of Tübingen)

Jonathan Liversedge
(M.A. student, Wheaton College)

Joey Low
(Ph.D. student, Brandeis University)

Jennifer Meissner
(Ph.D. student, University of California, Santa Barbara)

Emily Jane O'Brock
(Ph.D. student, New York University)

Daniel Ruppel
(Ph.D. student, Brown University)

Rebekah Sheats
(author and translator, Zurich Publishing)

Baptiste Werly
(Ph.D. student, Université de Genève)

Renew Your Friends Membership

We welcome members to the Friends of the Meeter Center. Friends' donations help provide funding for special programs, including fellowships, workshops, and community educational events.

Supporter \$50	Advocate \$500
Donor \$100	Partner \$1000
Promoter \$250	Benefactor \$5000

Donate to our Endowment or Rare Book Fund

Currently the Meeter Center owns approximately half of Calvin's works in original editions, and we expand our offerings each year. Donations to the Rare Book fund are used exclusively for adding rare books to the collection. Endowment Fund donations are also welcomed. We have a \$5 million endowment goal and are nearly half-way there, thanks to your generosity!

Donation checks may be made out to "Calvin University Meeter Center" and sent to 1855 Knollcrest Circle SE, Grand Rapids MI 49546. To donate online, go to: <https://calvin.quadweb.site/giving/meeter-center> Thank you!

Spring 2021 Online Reformation Series

This spring, the Meeter Center has continued to present a series of live Zoom sessions on Reformation topics. Each session features one or more scholars talking about their recent work.

On February 11th we hosted an online discussion of worship practices in the Reformation era. Meeter Center Director Karin Maag discussed her latest book, *Worshipping with the Reformers* (IVP 2021) with Dr. Graeme Murdock (associate professor in European History at Trinity College Dublin) followed by a moderated Q&A based on audience questions.

On April 12th at 1:00 p.m. EST we will host an event highlighting the work of Dr. Susan Karant-Nunn (emerita, University of Arizona). Dr. Karant-Nunn will speak on the main themes that have shaped Reformation historiography throughout her career. She will be joined by Dr. Beth Plummer (University of Arizona) and Dr. Victoria Christman (Luther College), who will talk about the themes of the volume of essays on the Reformation they edited in Dr. Karant-Nunn's honor. Sign up [here](#) to attend.

Recordings of these and other events in this series are made available for viewing on the Meeter Center Youtube channel one day after they occur.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCARZPtTRyQ_KzWon-6WlFWA