

**Call for Papers:  
Annual Central States Regional Meeting of the  
Society of Biblical Literature**

**Date: March 22-23, 2015**

**Location: St. Louis Marriott West, St. Louis, MO**

**Keynote Speaker for the 2015 Meeting:**

**Dr. Ross Wagner**

Associate Professor of New Testament at Duke Divinity School

“‘Beloved on account of Their Ancestors’ (Rom 11:28):  
Paul, Scripture and the Faithfulness of God”

J. Ross Wagner (Ph.D., Duke University) is Associate Professor of New Testament at Duke Divinity School. Specializing in Paul's letters and in Septuagint studies, he seeks to contribute to the recovery of theological exegesis through careful investigation of the ways scriptural interpretation shaped early Jewish and Christian communities. His publications include *Heralds of the Good News: Paul and Isaiah in Concert in the Letter to the Romans* (2002), *Between Gospel and Election: Explorations in the Interpretation of Romans 9–11* (coedited with Florian Wilk, 2010) and, most recently, *Reading the Sealed Book: Old Greek Isaiah and the Problem of Septuagint Hermeneutics* (2013).

The Central States Region Society of Biblical Literature invites papers for its annual meeting, to be held in St. Louis, Missouri, March 22-23, 2015, in the following areas. Please limit proposals to 250 words. Student proposals will be considered, but students should submit a complete manuscript and the name of a sponsoring scholar.

**Important Notice! DEADLINE for submissions to be received by section chair: DECEMBER 1, 2014** (with the exception of TAK [see below]). **All participants, even those invited to present, must submit notification to the section chair.** This notification must include the following personal information: name (as it should appear in the program), mailing address, institutional affiliation (as it should appear in the program), phone and fax number, e-mail, and role in the program (i.e., presider, respondent, panelist, presenting a paper). Questions regarding a proposal should be sent to the relevant section chair. If your proposal does not appear to fit one of the sections above, please contact the Regional Coordinator, Milton Horne: [hornem@william.jewell.edu](mailto:hornem@william.jewell.edu).

**All participants must register for the meeting.**

**Archaeology/ASOR:** ASOR invites paper proposals on any aspect of ancient Near Eastern or Mediterranean archaeology, the history and culture of the ancient Near East, or graphic displays of ancient architecture, material culture, or everyday life. **Send Proposals, via email, to** Dr. David Chapman, Covenant Theological Seminary: [David.Chapman@covenantseminary.edu](mailto:David.Chapman@covenantseminary.edu).

**Hebrew Bible:** The Hebrew Bible section invites proposals dealing with the texts of the Hebrew Bible and their interpretation. We are especially encouraging a variety of methodological approaches, including interdisciplinary presentations such as the Bible and economics and the Bible and film. Book reviews are welcomed and students are encouraged to participate. Also welcome are papers that concentrate on related extra-textual matters, such as historical backgrounds and culture, related Near Eastern literature, and history of interpretation. **Send Proposals to:** Dr. Roger Cotton, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, Email: [cottonr@evangel.edu](mailto:cottonr@evangel.edu) (seminary address: 1435 N. Glenstone Ave. Springfield, MO 65802).

**Gender Issues:** The Gender Studies section invites proposals for one session dealing with topics that relate Gender Studies to the interpretation of the Bible (be that biblical texts or loci in the history of interpretation of biblical texts). Proposals are especially welcome that engage critical theory about gender in its relation to biblical interpretation. In addition, proposals are welcome from constituency-based critical perspectives related to Gender Studies (e.g., Feminist, Womanist, Queer theory) that engage in the interpretation of biblical texts and/or the history of interpretation. **Send Proposals to:** Dr. Laurel-Koepf Taylor, Eden Theological Seminary, 475 E Lockwood AVE, Saint Louis, MO 63119 (Ph): (314) 918-2587; Email: [ltaylor@eden.edu](mailto:ltaylor@eden.edu).

**New Testament Studies:** Proposals are invited for at least two open sessions dealing with any topic pertaining to the New Testament and related literature. Related literature includes texts of Second Temple Judaism. Proposals are also invited for a special session devoted to any aspect of the topic of biblical intertextuality as it pertains to NT texts. Our plenary speaker, Ross Wagner, will serve as an informal respondent to these papers. **Send Proposals to:** Dr. Mark D. Given, Missouri State University, 901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65897 Ph: (417) 836-6261; E-mail: [markgiven@missouristate.edu](mailto:markgiven@missouristate.edu). **Email is preferred.**

**Pedagogy:** Have you found ways to successfully incorporate film, popular media, and/or innovative technology in your classes? What challenges have you encountered? The Pedagogy section invites proposals for brief (5-10 minute) presentations or demonstrations to contribute to a discussion on the use of these tools. Examples may range from instructional techniques to assigned student projects. Proposals should include a title and brief abstract (no more than 250 words); please send via e-mail attachment to Brendon Benz ([benzb@william.jewell.edu](mailto:benzb@william.jewell.edu)) and Kristin Swanson ([swansokr@luther.edu](mailto:swansokr@luther.edu)).

**Religious Studies:** The Religious Studies section invites proposals (including title and an abstract of 250 words or less) focusing on interpretation of the Bible and/or other sacred texts and traditions, drawing on fields outside biblical studies (e.g., philosophy, sociology, anthropology, psychology, political science, literary studies, and classics). **Send Proposals, via email, to:** Brad Chance, William Jewell College, [chanceb@william.jewell.edu](mailto:chanceb@william.jewell.edu)

**Theta Alpha Kappa:** STUDENT MEMBERS OF TAK chapters in the central states region are invited to submit papers for presentation at the regional meeting. All topics relating to religious studies are acceptable. Submissions should come from the TAK advisor and include the presenter's name and contact information plus the entire paper sent electronically in PDF format. Graduate student papers are welcome as space is available, but only undergraduate papers are eligible for the award (currently \$100 given by the national office of TAK). Submit papers, via email, to Dr. Milton Horne, William Jewell College: [hornem@william.jewell.edu](mailto:hornem@william.jewell.edu). **Proposals should be received by DEC 19, 2014.**

#### **Regional Scholar Awards: \$150**

Junior members of SBL (no more than 5 years teaching in a tenure-track position), women or under-represented minority members are encouraged to apply. The paper must be accepted by one of the section chairs for inclusion in the 2015 regional program. A letter of application, the notice of the section chair's acceptance, and an up-to-date vita must be submitted along with the full text of the paper to **Victor Matthews** by **February 6, 2015** (College of Humanities and Public Affairs, Missouri State University, 901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65897). Questions prior to the deadline should also be directed to Dr. Matthews ([VictorMatthews@missouristate.edu](mailto:VictorMatthews@missouristate.edu)). Regional Scholars are eligible for a **National Award** (minimum of \$500 per award, see the national website, [www.sbl-site.org](http://www.sbl-site.org), for details) and possible inclusion at the national meeting. Announcement of the award will be made at the business meeting during the evening banquet.

#### **Student Presentation Awards: \$100**

Candidates must be student members of SBL, and proof of membership must be submitted with the application. Candidates must have a paper proposal accepted by a Central States SBL section, and candidates are responsible for obtaining verification of acceptance. Applicants should send a letter of application, a copy of the notification that the paper was accepted, and the full text of the paper no later than **February 6, 2015** to **Victor Matthews** (College of Humanities and Public Affairs, Missouri State University, 901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65897). ([VictorMatthews@missouristate.edu](mailto:VictorMatthews@missouristate.edu)). Please direct any questions in this regard to Dr. Matthews. Announcement of the award will be made at the business meeting during the evening banquet.