

MID-ATLANTIC
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION
and
MID-ATLANTIC
SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE

AAR SBL

ANNUAL MEETING

March 26–27, 2009
(Thursday-Friday)

at

THE RADISSON HOTEL AT CROSS KEYS

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Baltimore, MD 21210

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

- 7:30 — 5:00 **Registration** (Mezzanine Lobby)
7:30 — 6:00 **Coffee and Book Exhibits**
9:00 — 10:00 **OPENING CONVOCATION**
10:00 — 12:00 **SESSION I**
12:00 — 1:00 **Lunch**
Graduate Student Lunch, 12:00—12:50
12:00 — 1:00 *Meeting for Current and Prospective MAR-AAR and MAR-SBL Section Chairs*
1:00 — 3:00 **SESSION II**
3:15 — 4:45 **SESSION III**
5:00 — 6:00 **MAR-AAR PLENARY ADDRESS**
6:00 — 7:15 **AAR & SBL JOINT RECEPTION**
7:30 — 8:30 **MAR-SBL PLENARY ADDRESS**

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

- 7:30 — 1:00 **Registration** (Mezzanine Lobby)
8:00 — 8:50 **Mid-Atlantic Regional Women's Caucus:**
"Networking over Coffee"
9:00 — 4:00 **Coffee and Book Exhibits**
9:00 — 11:00 **SESSION IV**
11:05 — 12:30 **MAR-SBL BUSINESS MEETING AND PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**
12:35 — 1:55 **MAR-AAR BUSINESS MEETING AND PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**
2:00 — 4:00 **SESSION V**
4:15 — 5:30 **SESSION VI**

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2009

Registration (7:30—5:00, Mezzanine Lobby)
Coffee and Book Exhibit (7:30— 6:00)

OPENING CONVOCATION: (9:00—10:00)

*Presiding: Katie Oxx, McDaniel College—MAR-AAR President;
Natalie Houghtby-Haddon, George Washington University—MAR-SBL President.*

SESSION I: (Thursday 10:00 – 12:00)

(AAR 1.1) RELIGION IN AMERICA 1: AMERICAN RELIGIOUS LEADERS

Presiding: Lauve Steenhuisen, Georgetown University.

"Einstein's Jewish Sacrifice."

Stephen Stern, Gettysberg College, and Steven Gimbel, Gettysberg College.

"Constructing a Genuinely Interfaith Narrative: How One Baltimore Rabbi Laid the Foundation for Religious Tolerance in America."

Patrick Hayes, Fairfield University.

"Progressive Leadership: Mary Virginia Merrick and the Christ Child Society."

Harry Rissetto Gonzaga, Gonzaga College High School.

(AAR 1.2) CHRISTIAN HISTORY: NARRATIVE, IDENTITY, AND ORTHODOXY IN CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

Presiding: Christopher Denny, St. John's University—NY.

“Was John Cassian a Semi-Pelagian?”

Stuart Squires, The Catholic University of America.

“Early Christian Self-Identity through Narrative Identity: The Ascetics of Reading and Textual Power.”

Robert M. Simkins, The Catholic University of America.

“Fecundity in the Trinity in Bonaventure's *Commentari in Quatuor Libros Sententiarum Magistri Petri Lombardi*.”

Shannon McAlister, The Catholic University of America.

“Keeping the Faith, Keeping the Peace: Politics and Religion in Johannes Bugenhagen's Jonah Commentary”

Martin Lohrmann, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

(AAR 1.3) ISLAM: THE QUR'AN AND ITS INTERPRETATION

Presiding: Lavanya Vemsani, Shawnee State University.

“Exegesis, Social Commentary and the Place of Jews and Christians in the Qur'an.”

Mohammed Nimer, American University.

“The Ethics of Polygamy in the Qur'an: A Reading of Surah 4, Verse 3.”

Phillip Hoefs, Temple University.

“A Common Word: The Importance of Right Relationship in the Scriptures of the Abrahamic Tradition.”

Nicole Melara, First Presbyterian Church in Williamstown, NJ.

(AAR 1.4) THEMED SESSION 1: CONVERSATIONS IN SUSTAINABILITY—ESCHATOLOGY, SALVATION, AND PRESERVATION

Presiding: Jacqueline Pastis, La Salle University.

“The Seeds of Salvation Are Sown in the Earth Itself: The Ecological Implications of Sergius Bulgakov's Doctrine of Universal Salvation.”

Aron Dunlap, Temple University.

“Christian Time, Eschatology and Sustainability.”

Laura Yordy, Bridgewater College.

“Panepneumatism and Preservation: An Ecological Vision of the Pneumatological Enhypostasis.”

Monica Schaaf-Pierce, Fordham University.

“Rich and Strange: Eschatology and Contemporary Science.”

Catherine Osborne, Fordham University.

(SBL 1.1) WRITINGS (KETUVIM):

Presiding: John W. Herbst, Union Theological Seminary—Presbyterian School of Christian Education.

“This Is How We Have Been Identified: A Postcolonial Reading of the Moabite Identity in the Book of Ruth.”

Robert Wafula, Drew University.

“Barley, Bodies, and Babies: Agricultures in the Book of Ruth.”

Jennifer Koosed, Albright College.

“Veiled Dissent: Hidden Transcripts in the Book of Esther.”

Suzanne Horn, Drew University.

“Creating Sacred Space: Legitimizing Temple and Priest in Ezra 5-6.”

Donna Laird, Drew University.

(SBL 1.2) BIBLE ELECTIVES AND PUBLIC SCHOOL WORKSHOP

Presiding: Kent Richards, Executive Director, Society of Biblical Literature.

LUNCH BREAK: (12:00–1:00)

(AAR & SBL) COMBINED AAR & SBL GRADUATE STUDENTS' LUNCH: (12:00—12:50)

Presiding: Charles Brian McAdams (Temple University) and Daniel McClain (The Catholic University of America and Loyola College—MD), MAR-AAR Student Representatives.

“Students and the MAR AAR/SBL: Getting Involved in the Region.”

Christopher Denny, St. John's University, Queens—NY, MAR-AAR Regionally Elected Director;
Kent Richards, Emory University, SBL Executive Director

(AAR & SBL) MEETING FOR CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE SECTION CHAIRS

Presiding: Devorah Schoenfeld, St. Mary's College—MD, MAR-AAR Vice-President and Jeremy Schipper, Temple University- MAR-SBL Regional Coordinator.

SESSION II: (Thursday 1:00 – 3:00)

(AAR 2.1) RELIGION IN AMERICA 2: AMERICAN RELIGIOUS IDENTITY

Presiding: Charles Brian McAdams, Temple University.

“The Protestant Work Ethic and the Spirit of Frugality.”

Kirk Nolan, Villanova University.

“The American Dream in the Sopranos.”

Donna Yarri, Alvernia University.

“The Spiritual Legacy of the Hudson River: Thomas Cole and the Emergence of an American Identity.”

Ronald Brown, Touro College.

(AAR 2.2) RELIGIONS OF INDIA

Presiding: Matthew Foster, Molloy College, NY.

“Worms and the Body in India.”

Lavanya Vemsani, Shawnee State University.

“Sacralizing the Environment: A Hindu Approach to Environmental Sustainability.”

Leena Taneja, Stetson University.

“The Dayalbagh Model of Integration of Religion and Science as Envisioned in the Religion of the Saints.”

Shobha Bhasin, Dayalbagh Educational Institute.

(AAR 2.3) RELIGION AND THE ARTS 1: RELIGION AND (POST) MODERN VISUAL CULTURE

Presiding: James Siburt, Lancaster Theological Seminary.

“Crucifixion in Postmodern Painting.”

Mikhail Sergeev, University of the Arts.

“Abjecting Theology: Performance, Religion and the American Avant-Garde.”

Lydia Brawner, New York University.

“Black Sacred Art as a Tool for Religious Education.”

Mary Hinton, Misericordia University.

(AAR 2.4) THEMED SESSION 2: CONVERSATIONS IN SUSTAINABILITY—ALTERNATIVE AND CREATIVE EXPRESSION.

Presiding: Christopher Denny, St. John's University, NY.

“Biblical and Ecological Perspectives on Sustainable Living.”

George Fisher, Johns Hopkins University.

“Hildegard von Bingen: The Flourishing Power of Veriditas.”

Vera Jakoby, McDaniel College, Westminster, MD.

“Joseph Sittler’s Theology for Earth: The Lyric Mode in Theological Reflection on the Environment.”

Bruce Allen Heggen, University of Delaware.

“The Religion of Choice for Urban Atheists’: Environmentalism in the Culture Wars”

David Shefferman, Manhattan College.

(SBL 2.1) FORMER AND LATTER PROPHETS

Presiding: David T. Lamb, Biblical Theological Seminary.

“Sinful Syntax: Giving New Meaning to Old Texts in the Solomon Narrative.”

John Herbst, Union Theological Seminary—Presbyterian School of Christian Education.

“Who Killed Uriah and Who Took the Ewe Lamb: Misinterpretation, Overinterpretation, or Misapplication of Nathan’s Parable.”

Joonho Yoon, Drew University.

“An Early Post-Exilic Passage in the MT of Jeremiah.”

Matthew Sjöberg, Pennsylvania State University.

“Mourning or Thundering in the Valley of Megiddo(n) Zechariah 12:11.”

John Barclay Burns, George Mason University.

(SBL 2.2) NEW TESTAMENT 1

Presiding: Natalie Houghtby-Haddon, George Washington University.

“Breaking In: The Impact of Apocalypticism on Expressions of Pistis in the Gospel of Mark.”

Laura Sweat, Princeton Theological Seminary.

“Identification in Interpretation: Shifts in Understanding the Markan Narrative.”

Eric Douglass, Randolph-Macon College.

“Reading Mark 5:1-20 with Persons with Mental Illness.”

Jenny McDevitt, Union Theological Seminary—Presbyterian School of Christian Education.

“Wastefulness in Mark: Two Extravagant Women and Their Exemplary Status.”

Kara J. Lyons-Pardue, Princeton Theological Seminary.

SESSION III: (Thursday 3:15-4:45)

(AAR 3.1) RELIGION AND THE ARTS 2: RELIGION AND POPULAR MEDIA

Presiding: Henry Karlson, The Catholic University of America.

“Violence and Religion to the Accompaniment of Music in the Hebrew Bible and the Modern Arts: The Case of Samuel Bak’s Paintings and Francis Coppola’s Film *The Godfather*.”

Joonho Yoon, Drew University.

“Science Fiction’s New Enlightenment: A Reexamination of the Origin of Religion.”

James Siburt, Lancaster Theological Seminary.

“The Pleasure Principle: How Jews Came to Shape Twentieth Century Popular Culture.”

Robert Cherry, Brooklyn College—City University of New York.

(AAR 3.2) THEOLOGY 1

Presiding: Christopher Denny, St. John’s University, NY.

“Desperately Seeking Revelation: Sketches of Theological Interpretation in a Post-Rational Age.”

Daniel W. McClain, The Catholic University of America and Loyola College, MD.

“Circus Spirituality: Migrant Life and Connection to the Holy.”

Catherine Martin, The College of Saint Elizabeth.

“All the World’s a Stage—A Critical Engagement with the Exegesis of Romans 1 in Calvin and Barth.”

Wade Travis McMacken, Princeton Theological Seminary.

“The New Testament Canon and Technologic Dialectic.”

Carlos Bovell, Institute for Christian Studies.

(SBL 3.1) HEBREW POETRY

Presiding: Mark Leuchter, Temple University.

“A Touch that Arouses: The Materiality of Language in Song 4:1-7.”

Sarah Zhang, Princeton Theological Seminary.

“Style and Syntax in the Oracles of Barlaam.”

Mark Leson, The Catholic University of America.

“An Evaluation of Psalm 119 as Constrained Writing.”

Scott Callaham, United States Naval Academy.

(SBL 3.2) NEW TESTAMENT 2

Presiding: Kara J. Lyons-Pardue, Princeton Theological Seminary.

“A Reexamination of Phoebe in Romans 16.1-2 as a Diakonos and Prostatis: Exposing the Inaccuracies of English Translations.”

Elizabeth A. McCabe, Hebrew Union College.

““Paul’s Defense of his Ministry and his Recent Administrative Decisions: A New Proposal for the Structure and Line of Thought of 2 Corinthians 1:8–2:13.”

Timothy Milinovich, The Catholic University of America.

“The Postcolonial Prologue: John 1:1-18 and Cosmic Colonization.”

Grant Gieseke, Drew University.

MAR-AAR PLENARY ADDRESS (Thursday 5:00-6:00)

“Comparative Perspectives on Ecofeminism.”

Rosemary Reuther, Claremont Graduate University and Claremont School of Theology.

AAR & SBL JOINT RECEPTION (Thursday 6:00-7:15)

MAR-SBL PLENARY ADDRESS (Thursday 7:30-8:30)

“Cosmology, Epistemology, and Paradise”

Annette Yoshiko Reed, University of Pennsylvania

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2007

Registration (7:30—1:00, Mezzanine Lobby)

Coffee and Book Exhibit (9:00— 4:00)

COMBINED AAR & SBL WOMEN’S CAUCUS

(Friday, 8:00—8:50)

SESSION IV: (Friday 9:00 – 11:00)

(AAR 4.1) RELIGION IN AMERICA 3: PUBLIC RELIGION

Presiding: Mary Hinton, Misericordia University

“Public Funds for Private Schools? When Voucher Programs Try to Climb the Wall of Separation in the U.S.”

Lauvie Steenhuisen, Georgetown University.

“You’ve Got to Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is: Religious Schools in the 2007 Ontario Provincial Election.”

Laura Tomes, Georgetown University.

“Life Changes: Nixon, Catholics and Abortion.”

Larry McAndrews, St. Norbert College.

(AAR 4.2) RELIGION AND ARTS 3: FAITH AND FICTION WRITING IN 20TH CENTURY ANGLO-AMERICAN CULTURE

Presiding: Lydia Brawner, New York University.

“J.R.R. Tolkien: A Catholicized William Morris?”

Henry C. Karlson III, The Catholic University of America.

“Art for Being’s Sake: Tolkien and Subcreation.”

Rob McArthur, The Catholic University of America.

“Sacramental Violence: Flannery O’Connor’s Theological Contrariness.”

Stephen M. Johnson, Montclair State University.

(AAR 4.3) PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION: PHILOSOPHY AND KNOWLEDGE

Presiding: Wade Travis McMacken, Princeton Theological Seminary.

“A Prolegomena to Any Future Study of ‘Religion’: An Anthropological Critique of the Intellectual and Cultural Category of ‘Religion’ in Schleiermacher’s Early Religious Thought in Light of Dubuissou’s Analysis of Western Intellectual Imperialism.”

Christopher D. Shaw, Villanova University.

“The Diversity of Revelations: Toward an Exploratory Theology.”

Jerry Martin, Georgetown University.

“Clifford’s Debt to Religion?”

Rose Ann Christian, Towson University.

(AAR 4.4) THEMED SESSION 3: CROSSROADS IN SUSTAINABILITY—CASE STUDIES

Presiding: TBA.

“Biology and Theology in Dialogue: Social Justice Issues in Genetic Science.”

Donna Yarri and Spencer Stober, Alvernia University.

“Greening Seminaries.”

Laurel Kearns (Drew University) and Beth Norcross (Wesley Theological Seminary).

“The Amish and Agriculture: What We Can Learn From Them.”

Johanna Monighan-Schaefer, Dickinson College.

(SBL 4.1) PANEL: WHAT IS LITERARY ABOUT THE BIBLE?

Presiding: Jennifer Koosed, Albright College.

Tod Linafelt, Georgetown University.

Kyle Keefer, Converse College.

Chip Dobbs-Allsopp, Princeton Theological Seminary.

(SBL 4.2) PANEL: PANEL ON PAUL BY HOWARD DIVINITY STUDENTS

Presiding: Michael Newhart, Howard University Divinity School.

Teresa Smallwood, Howard University School of Divinity.

Kini Spady, Howard University School of Divinity.

Aaron Wade, Howard University School of Divinity.

Elizabeth Wiggins, Howard University School of Divinity.

SBL BUSINESS MEETING AND PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS (11:05-12:30)

Natalie Houghtby-Haddon, George Washington University.

AAR BUSINESS MEETING AND PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS (12:35-1:55)

Katie Oxx, McDaniel College, Westminster, MD.

SESSION V: (Friday 2:00-4:00)

(AAR 5.1) RELIGION IN AMERICA 4: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS IN AMERICAN RELIGION

Presiding: Mary Hinton, Misericordia University.

“A Comparison of Stanley Hauerwas’s and Will Campbell’s Ecclesiology.”

Charles Brian McAdams, Temple University.

“Laïcité versus Separation of Church and State: How Principles of National Identity Affect Management of the Islamic Headscarf Issue.”

Lauvie Steenhuisen, Georgetown University

“Christian Witness on Abortion: The Examples of Paul Ramsey and Stanley Hauerwas.”

John Fitzgerald, St. John’s University, NY.

(AAR 5.2) RELIGION IN THE EAST

Presiding: Jonathan Seitz, Centenary College.

“An Eminent Korean Yogācāra Monk-Scholar Wonch’uk in T’ang China: His Life and Works.”

Hyun Choo, State University of New York—Stony Brook.

“Globalization and Contemporary Taiwanese Buddhism.”

Hsuan-Li Wang, Columbia University.

“Whose Son Is Sacrificed and for What? Child Sacrifice in the Hebrew Bible and Its Political Equivalent in Korean Democratization.”

Joonho Yoon, Drew University.

“Experiences of Conversion in the Modern Chinese Society—A Case Study of Christian Proselytes’ Experiences in Taiwan.”

Ju Fang Tseng, The Catholic University of America.

(AAR 5.3) THEOLOGY 2

Presiding: Daniel W. McClain, The Catholic University of America and Loyola College, MD.

“John Henry Newman’s Contribution to a Hermeneutical Approach to Magisterial Documents.”

Michael Canaris, Fordham University.

“The Impossibility of Knowledge of God in T. F. Torrance’s Reformulated Natural Theology.”

Wade Travis McMacken, Princeton Theological Seminary.

“Mercy and Righteousness: A Conversation with Karl Barth and Moral Philosophy.”

Sung-Sup Kim, Princeton Theological Seminary.

**(AAR 5.4) THEMED SESSION 4: CROSSROADS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES AND SUSTAINABILITY—
SECULAR AND ECUMENICAL PERSPECTIVES**

Presiding: Kim Paffenroth, Iona College

“Human Spirit, Nature, and Natural Law in the Bioethics of Margaret Somerville.”

Brian Berry, College of Notre Dame of Maryland.

“Interdependent and Vulnerable: A Sustainable Theological Anthropology.”

Cyrus Olsen, University of Scranton.

“Economic Sustainability: Economic Justice for All Revisited.”

Robert C. Christie, DeVry University.

(SBL 5.1) GENESIS

Presiding: Kenton Sparks, Eastern University.

“Why Are Jacob’s Sons Allowed to Marry Canaanite Women?”

Sarah Shectman, Binghamton University.

“Jacob’s ‘Two Camps’: Wrestling with Order in Genesis 32.”

Jeremy Hutton, Princeton Theological Seminary.

“The Midianites in Genesis 37: A Half-Assed Approach.”

Mark Leuchter, Temple University.

““Send out the Men’: A New Interpretation of Genesis 19.”

Rachael Beckley, Pennsylvania State University.

(SBL 5.2) EARLY JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY

Presiding: Anna Marie Chrysostomides, Temple University.

“A Prelude, a Postlude, and the Social Function of Christian Hymnody: The Logos-Hymn of John’s Gospel and the Christ-Hymn of Clement’s *Paedagogus*”

Matthew E. Gordley, Regent University.

“From Orthopraxy to Orthodoxy, from *Soma* to *Sarx*: The Gospel of Judas and the Transformation in Catholic Eucharistic Theology.”

George A. Keddie, Temple University.

“The Function of the *Aqedah* Tradition in 4 Maccabees.”

Arthur C. Boulet, Westminster Theological Seminary.

“Secondary Signals: Beyond the Symbol Specific in *Ante Pacem Art.*”

Linda Sue Galate, Drew University.

SESSION VI: (Friday 4:15-5:30)

(AAR 6.1) GRADUATE STUDENT MENTORING PANEL

Presiding: Charles Brian McAdams (Temple University) and Daniel McClain (The Catholic University of America and Loyola College—MD), MAR-AAR Student Representatives.

“Life After Graduation: A Mentoring Session for Graduate Students.”

Chad Pecknold, The Catholic University of America.

Aron Dunlap, Temple University.

Jacqueline Pastis, La Salle University.

Kim Paffenroth, Iona College.

Devorah Schoenfeld, St. Mary’s College of Maryland.

Mary Hinton, Misericordia University.

Others TBA.

(SBL 6.1) ISRAELITE RELIGION:

Presiding: Mark Leson, The Catholic University of America.

“What Does Iconoclasm Tell Us about Israelite Religion? An Empirical Study.”

Adeeb Mickahail, Baltimore Hebrew University.

“Ritual Priority in Nazirite Proscriptions.”

James R. Getz, Jr., Temple University.

“The Šēgal of Psalm 45.”

Brooke L. Deal, Bethany College.

(SBL 6.2) SUSTAINABILITY THEME

Presiding: Elizabeth V. Lawson, Temple University.

“The Transformation of Psalm 139:16.”

JoAnn, B. Koskol, Widener University.

“Genesis 4: A Revised Exegesis.”

Amy Beth W. Jones, Wesley Theological Seminary.

“There’s Power in the Blood”: Acts 15:20, Strangled Meat and Factory Farming.”

Jonathan D. Lace, Seton Hall Prep School, Dept. of Theology.

Hotel Reservations, Transportation, Parking

Just six miles north of Baltimore's famed Inner Harbor, the Radisson Hotel at Cross Keys in Baltimore features an on-site restaurant with room service, 24-hour security, and a scheduled shuttle bus to downtown Baltimore's many cultural and sightseeing attractions. The attached courtyard atrium contains a bank, deli, bookstore, and other services. For those attending our meeting, parking is free.

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All presenters and other participants are expected to register for the meeting ahead of time. Please preregister early, using the form provided here. Address any questions you have about registering for the meeting to: Dr. Christopher Denny, MAR-AAR Regionally Elected Director, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, St. John's University, Queens, NY 11439; Phone: 718-990-5609; Email: dennyc@stjohns.edu.

Directions

From the North: Take I-95 south to the Baltimore Beltway (I-695) west, go 8 miles to the exit for I-83 south. Proceed south on I-83 about 3 miles to Exit 10A, and exit onto Northern Parkway East. Go a block or two to the light at Falls Road and turn right (=south). The entrance to the Cross Keys complex is about a mile south, on your right.

From the South: Take I-95 North to the Baltimore Beltway (= I-695 west) and proceed about 12 miles north to the exit for I-83 south. Then follow the directions above.

From the West: Take I-70 to the Baltimore Beltway (= I-695) north, and go about 10 miles to the I-83 south exit. Then follow the directions above.

**2009 MID-ATLANTIC
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ANNUAL MEETING PREREGISTRATION FORM**

Radisson Hotel at Cross Keys; 5100 Falls Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21210

Phone: 410-532-6900; Fax: 410-532-2403; www.radisson.com/baltimoremd

March 26-27, 2009

**(Please return this form by March 1, 2009 or
register online at www.aarweb.org beginning in January 2009.)**

Name _____

Institution _____

Affiliation(s): ___ AAR ___ SBL ___ AAR & SBL Other _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Pre-registration fee enclosed:

Fee \$55

The registration fee is \$55.00 for all categories and for on-site registration.

I will attend:

_____ Graduate Students' Lunch, Thursday (free to first 20 registrants)

_____ Thursday Evening Joint AAR/SBL Reception

_____ Mid-Atlantic Regional Women's Caucus Breakfast, Friday morning

Are you interested in presiding at a session? Yes _____ No _____

Special Needs:

Child Care _____

Disability (Please Specify) _____

Other _____

If not registering online, please make all checks payable to MAR-AAR and mail to:

Dr. Christopher Denny
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