

## From the Editor –

In this issue we present articles on three communities: the Shakers, Mary's City of David, and the Harmony Society.

Stephen J. Paterwic presents a detailed analysis of the Richmond family and their ties to the Shakers. Drawing on his extensive knowledge of Shaker manuscripts and genealogical research, he pieces together the history of the Richmonds through multiple generations. Paterwic has published extensively on the Shakers, including *Historical Dictionary of the Shakers* (Scarecrow Press, 2008) and many articles, including three in this journal.

Julieanna Frost examines communal vegetarianism at Mary's City of David. Frost is associate professor of U.S. History at Siena Heights University and coordinator of the history program. Her fields of teaching and research include U.S. History, Women's Studies, and Religious Studies. She is the author of *Teaching the Pure Lutheran Gospel: The Life of Rosa Young* (VDM Verlag Dr. Muller Aktiengesellschaft, 2010) and *Images of America: Adrian* (Arcadia, 2011). This year she was awarded the Hamilton College Library Research Fellowship in Communal Studies, as well as the Stimson-Tsuji Research Award.

Emily Lapisardi writes on Johann Christoph Müller, a central figure in the Harmony Society. Lapisardi notes that Müller was "both a member of Rapp's elite inner circle and a dissenting voice within the Society." Lapisardi serves on the board of the Friends of Old Economy Village and is in her second term as recording secretary. For her research into the music and musicians of the Harmony Society, which was the subject of her 2007 thesis at West Virginia University, she received the 2011 Communal Studies Association fellowship. It was presented at the Bethlehem Conference on Moravian History and Music, the Pennsylvania Dutch Church Music Symposium, and several annual conferences of the Communal Studies Association. Lapisardi has also studied the German language in Germany through the Internationaler Ferienkurs at Otto-Friedrich University and old German script through the Moravian Church Archives intensive course. In addition to her musicological pursuits, Lapisardi is director of music ministry at St. Joseph Church in Uniontown, Pennsylvania; instructor of voice, piano, and Kindermusik at Market Street Academy; and founding director of the Old Economy Singers. She enjoys portraying Gertrude Rapp and raising silkworms at Old Economy Village.