

Lehigh University's Dr. Scott Paul Gordon to discuss his recent book, "The Letters of Mary Penry"

[View this email in your browser](#)



LancasterHistory.org

Lancaster County's Historical Society & President James Buchanan's Wheatland

For Immediate Release

All events are camera friendly, and principals will be available for interviews.

Contact: Robin Sarratt
Vice President
717-392-4633 ext. 117
robin.sarratt@lancasterhistory.org

January free lecture to detail the life and experiences of a Moravian single sister

Lehigh University's Dr. Scott Paul Gordon to discuss his recent book, "The Letters of Mary Penry"

Lancaster, PA (December 20, 2018) – On Thursday, January 17, Dr. Scott Paul Gordon joins LancasterHistory.org to provide unprecedented access to the intimate world of a Moravian single sister. *The Letters of Mary Penry: A Single Moravian Woman in Early America* is a vast collection of letters that have been compiled, transcribed, and annotated by Gordon. In his presentation, Dr. Gordon will introduce readers to an unmarried woman who worked, worshiped, and wrote about her experience living in Moravian religious communities at the time of the American Revolution and early republic.

Penry, a Welsh immigrant and a convert to the Moravian faith, was well connected in both the international Moravian community and the state of Pennsylvania. Dr. Gordon's collection of Penry's letters broadens perspectives on early America and the eighteenth-century Moravian Church by providing a sustained look at the spiritual and social life of a single woman at a time when singleness was extraordinarily rare. It also makes an important contribution to the recovery of women's voices in early America, amplifying views on politics, religion, and social networks from a time when few women's perspectives on these subjects have been preserved.

Dr. Scott Paul Gordon is the Andrew W. Mellon Chair at Lehigh University. He teaches courses at the undergraduate and graduate level in eighteenth-century transatlantic literature and in literary and cultural theory. Gordon's first projects focused on seventeenth- and eighteenth-century British literature: *The Power of the Passive Self in English Literature, 1640-1770* (Cambridge University Press, 2002) and *The Practice of Quixotism: Postmodern Theory and Eighteenth-Century Women's Writing* (Palgrave, 2006). His current research focuses on early America, in particular the Moravian experiment in Pennsylvania. In 2002 Gordon received the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching and was named a Class of 1961 Professor for the years 2002-2004.

About The Event: The Regional History Colloquium is a series of lectures and presentations hosted by LancasterHistory.org throughout the year. Presenters at the Colloquium are historians and scholars who are in the midst of a work-in-progress or who have recently completed a publication. Topics focus on historical issues relating to southeastern Pennsylvania and its wider borders.

Tickets: The event *The Letters of Mary Penry* will take place on Thursday, January 17, 2019 in Ryder Hall at LancasterHistory.org, 230 N. President Avenue in Lancaster. A speaker's reception and book signing take place at 4pm, followed by the main presentation at 4:30pm. The event is free and open to the public. Due to the popularity of the Regional History Colloquium series, **advance registration is required to guarantee a seat at the presentation.** Visit www.lancasterhistory.org/lectures to register online or call (717) 392-4633. Questions and accessibility requests may be directed to info@lancasterhistory.org or (717) 392-4633.

###

[Download Image of Dr. Scott Paul Gordon](#)

[Download Image of Book Cover](#)

Copyright © 2018 LancasterHistory.org, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)