From the Editor
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This issue features an article on how Shakers dealt with mental illness in their midst, a discussion of developments in contemporary Christian communities, and extensive illustrations of new acquisitions to the communal societies collection at Hamilton College.


Margie DeWeese-Boyd describes the development of the Nurturing Communities Project among evangelical Christian communitarians. She is an associate professor and coordinator of the sustainable development minor in the department of sociology and social work at Gordon College. She earned an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Missouri, St. Louis, among other degrees. She is a life-long student of community, an associate member of the Iona Community, and for the last fourteen years has taught a course called “Community & Sustainability,” in which she takes her students to visit and experience a Bruderhof community.

Hamilton College continues to acquire new materials for its communal societies collection. Some highlights are given in the “Home Notes” section, including a significant gift of Koreshan Unity periodicals.