

# A Bibliography on the Separatist Society at Zoar, Ohio

Compiled by Tamara L. Hunt with the Assistance of Jennifer Greene  
Thanks to Philip Webber for contributing additional sources.

## Books on Zoar available at USI's David L. Rice Library (USI)

- Dobbs, Catherine R. *Freedom's will: the Society of the Separatists of Zoar*. New York, NY.: William-Frederick Press, 1947.
- Fernandez, Kathleen M. *A singular people: images of Zoar*. Kent, OH.: Kent State University Press, 2003.
- Gunn, Alexander. *The Hermitage-Zoar note-book and journal of travel*. New York, NY.: DeVinne Press, 1902.
- Morhart, Hilda Dischinger. *The Zoar story*. Dover, OH.: Seibert Print Co., 1967.
- Ohio Historical Society, Dept. of Research. *Zoar: an Ohio experiment in communalism*. Columbus, OH.: Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society, 1972.
- Randall, E.O. *The history of Zoar, from its commencement to its conclusion; a sociological study in communism*. Columbus, OH.: Press of F.J. Heer, 1904.
- Rokicky, Catherine M. *Creating the perfect world: religious and secular utopias in nineteenth-century Ohio*. Athens, OH.: Ohio University Press, 2002.
- Webber, Philip E. *Zoar in the Civil War*. Kent, OH.: Kent State University Press, 2007.

## Additional Readings on Zoar: Books

- Bimeler, Joseph Michael. *Die wahre Separation, oder Die Wiedergeburt: dargestellt in geistreichen und erbaulichen Versammlungsreden und Betrachtungen: besonders auf das gegenwärtige Zeitalter anwendbar: gehalten in der Gemeinde in Zoar im Jahr 1830 [1831, 1832, 1834]*. 4 vols. Zoar, Ohio: Press of the Society of Separatists, 1856-60.
- Bosanquet, Helen Dendy. *Zoar: a book of verse*. Oxford, 1919.
- Grebner, Constantine. "Die Neuner": *Eine Schilderung der Kriegsjahre des 9ten Regiments Ohio Vol. Infanterie, vom 17. April, 1861 bis 7. June, 1864*. Intro. Gustav Tafel. Cincinnati: S. Rosenthal & Co., 1897; transl. and ed. Fredrick Trautmann as *We Were The Ninth. A History of the Ninth Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry April 17, 1861 to June 7, 1864*. Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 1987.
- Gunn, Alexander. *Letters*. New York, NY.: DeVinne Press, 1902.
- Hinds, William Alfred. *American communities: brief sketches of Economy, Zoar, Bethel, Aurora, Amana, Icaria, the Shakers, Oneida, Wallingford and the Brotherhood of the New Life*. Oneida, NY.: Office of the American Socialists, 1878.
- Landis, George B. *The Society of Separatists of Zoar, Ohio. Annual report ... for the year 1898*. Washington, 1899.
- Long, Nat G. *The Story of Zoar*. Snellville, GA, 1973.
- Morhart, Hilda Dischinger. *The Zoar Story*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Strasburg, Ohio: Gordon Printing, 1981.
- Nordhoff, Charles. *The communistic societies of the United States: from personal visit and observation including detailed accounts of the Economists, Zoarites, Shakers, the Amana, Oneida, Bethel, Aurora, Icarian, and other existing societies, their religious creeds, social practices, numbers, industries, and present condition*. New York, NY.: Schocken Books, 1965.
- Rokicky, Catherine M. *Creating a Perfect World: Religious and Secular Utopias in Nineteenth-Century Ohio*. Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 2002.
- Salter, W.H. *Zoar. 1880*; reprinted New York, NY.: Arno Press, 1975.
- Scrupp, Lowell R. *100 years a home: the history of evangelical homes of Michigan and the Zoar Society*. Detroit, MI.: Evangelical Homes of Michigan, 1979.
- Shotwell, Walter Gaston. *Driftwood: being papers on old-time American towns and some old people*. Freeport, NY.: Books for Libraries Press, 1927.
- Snyder, Tricia, and Gil Snyder, Paul Goudy. *Zoar furniture 1817-1898*. New Philadelphia, OH.: Tuscarwas County Historical Society, 1978.
- Sutton, Robert P. *Communal utopias and the American experience: religious communities, 1732-2000*. Westport, CN.: Praeger, 2003.

Wagner, Philip Matthew. *At the dawn, or, first attempts at poetry*. [Zoar, OH.]: published by author, 1893.

### Additional Readings on Zoar: Articles

- Durnbaugh, Donald F. "‘Strangers and exiles’: assistance given by the religious Society of Friends to the Separatists Society of Zoar in 1817-1818." *Ohio History* 109 (Winter-Spring, 2000): 71-92.
- Durnbaugh, Donald F. "Work and hope: the spirituality of the radical pietist communitarians." *Church History* 39: 1 (1970): 72-90.
- Fernandez, Kathleen M. "‘The Society of Separatists of Zoar vs...’: Zoar and the Courts." *Communal Societies* 26:1 (2006): 105-115.
- Fernandez, Kathleen M. "‘The Happy Valley’: Constance F. Woolson’s View of Zoar." Western Reserve Studies symposium. 2000, No. 15; available online at <http://www.case.edu/artsci/wrss/documents/Fernandez.pdf>.
- Fritz, Eberhard. "Roots of Zoar, Ohio, in early 19<sup>th</sup> century Wurttemberg: the separatists group in Rottenacker and its circle." *Communal Societies* 22 (2002): 27-44 and *ibid* 23 (2003): 29-44.
- Handler, Mimi. "Christmas in Zoar." *Early American Life* 19: 6 (1988): 24-35.
- Hoehnle, Peter. "Communal Bonds: Contact between the Amana Society and Other Communal Groups, 1843-1932." *Communal Societies* 20 (2000):59-80.
- Randall, E[milius] O. "The Separatist Society of Zoar: An Experiment in Communism—from its Commencement to its Conclusion." *Ohio Archaeological and Historical Publications* 8 (1900): 1-105.
- Robison, Elwin C. "Heavenly aspirations and earthly realities: four northeast Ohio religious utopias." *Timeline* 17:6 (2000): 2-25.
- Shelley, Bruce L. "Counter-culture Christianity." *Christian History*. 14:1 (1995): 32-34.
- Snay, Mitchell. "The Zoar community: a review of an Ohio historical site." *Ohio Valley History*. 3:2 (2003): 51-54.
- Specht, Neva Jean. "Constrained to afford them countenance and protection: the role of the Philadelphia Friends in the settlement of the Society of Separatists of Zoar." *Communal Societies* 24 (2004): 95-107.
- Webber, Philip E. "Jakob Sylvan’s preface to the Zoarite anthology *Die Wahre Separation, Oder Die Widergeburt* as an introduction to un(der)studied separatists principles." *Communal Societies* 19 (1999): 101-128.
- Weisbrod, Carol. "Utopia and the legal system." *Society* 25:2 (1988): 62-65.

### Zoar on the Web

#### Library of Congress

[www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)

Several of the collections in the Library of Congress contain images, maps and documents related to the Society of Separatists at Zoar, including the U.S. Historical, Cultural collection and the Prints and Photographs Online Collection. A subject search for "Zoar" will return relevant results.

#### Ohio Memory Online: The Ohio Historical Society

<http://www.ohiomemory.org/>

As part of a program to digitize original materials relating to Ohio History, researchers can view online original manuscript letters and photographs of Zoar Village, its earlier inhabitants, and artifacts. A subject search for "Zoar" will return the relevant results.

#### Zoar Community Association. Zoar, Ohio. 44697 (330) 874-2646

<http://www.zca.org/>

Founded in 1967, this organization’s primary mission is the restorations and preservations of Zoar historic sites and buildings. The group helped to restore the Historic Zoar School House and is currently working on, Project Pride: The Zoar Town Hall Restoration Project. The websites has calendar of events, tourism information, and pictures of projects the group sponsors.

***Ohio Historical Society: Zoar Village.***

<http://www.ohiohistory.org/places/zoar/>

This website is sponsored by the Ohio Historical Society. It gives information about visiting the village, including hours of operation, cost, and location. It also has a schedule of events and educational programs being offered.

***Tuscarawas County Convention and Visitors Bureau.***

<http://www.neohiotravel.com/>

This website provides a search bar at the bottom of the page. By using this and entering the term “zoar”, the site directs to many local events or information about Zoar the town and the movement. An example of one these documents can be found at

<http://www.neohiotravel.com/histories/zoarhist.htm> . This also gives a summary of the history of the Zoar Movement.