

NEWS

from the **EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED HISTORICAL SOCIETY UCC**

Sponsored Agency of the Historical Council, United Church of Christ

June 1989

Volume 17, no. 1

126TH ANNUAL MEETING AT LAKELAND COLLEGE, SHEBOYGAN, WISCONSIN

The Annual Meeting of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society will be held at Lakeland College, Sheboygan, Wisconsin on Friday and Saturday, October 13-14, 1989. An outstanding, festive program has been planned by the Wisconsin Conference Historical Committee. For persons arriving early on Friday, there will be tours to Kohler village in the morning and of Lakeland College Museum in the afternoon. On Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. a banquet will take place at which Dr. Louis Gunnemann will speak on the topic, "The Roots of Ecumenical Vision in the German Reformed Church of the Midwest." He is professor emeritus of United Theological Seminary, New Brighton, Minnesota, and author of the well-known history of the denomination, The Shaping of the United Church of Christ. Tentative plans for the banquet include also a concert by a choir from area churches.

On Saturday morning two papers will be presented: "The Banner of the Heidelberg Catechism" by Dr. Reinhard Ulrich, professor of history at Lakeland College; and "The Geneva Consistory as Established by John Calvin" by Dr. Robert Kingdon, professor of history

UCC HISTORICAL COUNCIL TO MEET AT CATAWBA COLLEGE, SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA, SEPT. 21-23, 1989

The United Church of Christ Historical Council will be hosted by the Southern Chapter of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society for its meeting at Catawba College, September 21-23, 1989. The Council is following its practice of the last few years of meeting at important archives of the United Church of Christ. This year's meeting at Catawba College will enable the Council to view the archives of the former Southern Synod of the Reformed Church held at Catawba College. Last year's meeting took place at the UCC Archives in Lancaster, the 1987 meeting at the Congregational Library in Boston, and the 1986 meeting at the Eden Archives in St. Louis. Plans for this year's meeting are still in progress. The local planning committee headed by the Reverend Banks Shepherd, the President of the Southern Chapter of the Society, will be cooperating with Mrs. Ruth Rasche, the Chair of the UCC Historical Council in the preparations for this meeting.

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126TH ANNUAL MEETING AT LAKE LAND COLLEGE (Cont'd. from page 1)

at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and world-reknowned expert on Calvin and Calvinism. In the afternoon after the Annual Business Meeting of the Society there will be tours of area churches.

A limited number of rooms are available at the Barefoot Bay Resort and Meeting Center on beautiful Elkhart Lake. Persons interested in rooms should write or call directly the Barefoot Bay Center, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin 52020, 1-414-876-3323. Other suggested motels are: Budget Motor Inn, 2932 Kohler Memorial Dr., Sheboygan, WI 53081, 414-457-2321 and Americinn, Highway 32 North, Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085, 414-467-4314. The cost of the banquet on Friday evening is \$7.75 and of the luncheon on Saturday is \$5.00. Please send reservations for the banquet and luncheon to the Office for Church Relations, Lakeland College, Box 359, Sheboygan, WI 53082-0359.

A bus tour to the meeting from Southern Conference is being organized by the Rev. Frank W. Snider, Sr. and the Rev. Nelson Weller. Persons interested in joining this tour should send reservations with advance deposit of \$50.00 to the Rev. Nelson Weller, 2516 Waughton St., Winston-Salem, NC 27107.

All persons are cordially welcome to attend what should be a truly splendid meeting.

UCC HISTORICAL COUNCIL BANQUET TO TAKE PLACE AT GENERAL SYNOD

The United Church of Christ Historical Council will sponsor a banquet on Wednesday evening, July 4 at the UCC General Synod in Fort Worth, Texas. The featured speaker at the banquet will be Dr. Eugene Wehrli. His topic, appropriate for the occasion, will be "The Recurring Themes of Independence and Ecumenism in the UCC Heritage." Mrs. Ruth Rasche, Chair of the UCC Historical Council will be presiding at the banquet and will be making presentations in honor of various groups or persons: The Reverend Norman Jackson, Executive Director of the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM) in recognition of the first Bible in the New World printed in the Algonquin language; Dr. Eugene Wehrli of the Continuation Committee of the Evangelical Synod in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the Evangelical Synod of North America to be celebrated in 1990; Mrs. Florence M. Bricker in recognition of her many years of service to the Church, especially her eight years of work as the UCC Archivist.

Mrs. Rasche will also be presenting the Historical Council report to the entire General Synod. She will be assisted by Historical Council members present at General Synod, including the president of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society.

FLORENCE BRICKER TO BE HONORED AT GENERAL SYNOD

Mrs. Florence M. Bricker will be honored as one of the outstanding laywomen of the United Church of Christ at a banquet sponsored by the Coordinating Center for Women on Sunday evening, July 2. Along with other honorees she will also be recognized at a reception held by the Coordinating Center for Women on Saturday

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FLORENCE BRICKER TO BE HONORED AT GENERAL SYNOD (Cont'd. from page 2)

afternoon. She will also be honored along with Srs. Elizabeth Lotz and Frieda Ziegler at a reception co-sponsored by the Deaconess Health Services Corporation and the UCC Historical Council on the same afternoon. As reported in the last newsletter, Mrs. Bricker was honored at the previous UCC Historical Council meeting last September at Lancaster Theological Seminary for her years of service from 1971 to 1981 as Assistant Archivist and then from 1981-1988 as UCC Archivist. The Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society rejoices that her excellent and faithful service to the church is also to be recognized by the General Synod of the United Church of Christ.

NEVIN AND SCHAFF BOOKS STILL AVAILABLE

The books, Reformed and Catholic: Selected Historical and Theological Writings of Philip Schaff and Catholic and Reformed: Selected Theological Writings of John Williamson Nevin, both edited by Charles Yrigoyen, Jr. and George H. Bricker, may still be purchased from the E & R Historical Society for \$8.00 each or both for \$15.00 plus \$1.00 for mailing. Orders may be sent to: The Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, 555 West James St., Lancaster, PA 17603.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, APRIL 11, 1989

The Executive Committee of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society met on April 11, 1989 at 12:00 noon at the "Old First Reformed" United Church of Christ Church in Philadelphia, PA.

Those present were Mr. Myron Wolf, Dr. Philip Weiss, Mr. Owen Fox, Dr. John B. Payne, Rev. Banks D. Shepherd, Rev. Frank Snider, Rev. Francis R. Daugherty, Dr. Lowell Zuck, and Rev. Geneva Butz, pastor of Old First Church.

The President, Dr. John Payne, opened the meeting with prayer. (It was noted that the President has shaved his beard.) A motion was made to accept the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting in Thomasville, N.C. on October 14, 1988 as circulated in the "News." The motion carried and the minutes were adopted.

The President, Dr. John Payne presented his report. He reported that he has just returned from Greenville, PA where he had led programs for ministerial groups on the "Mercersburg Theology." He has prepared an article, "Tradition in Ecumenical Perspective" for the publication, Prism: a theological forum for the United Church of Christ. He introduced the Rev. Francis Daugherty, the Interim Archivist for the Society and the United Church of Christ, to the group. He reported that Mrs. Connie Witmer, who has served as secretary in the archives for several years, is resigning this summer. He noted that a search for a secretary will soon begin.

He stated that he has been invited to attend a meeting of the Disciples of Christ Historical Society on May 7 and May 8 in Nashville, Tennessee.

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MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, APRIL 11, 1989 (Cont'd. from page 3)

A motion was made and seconded to accept Dr. Payne's report. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed for lunch. A delicious meal was served by the ladies of Old First Reformed Church. The lunch was provided by Mrs. Florence Wood and the proceeds, \$50.00, will go into the "Schoolhouse Project" of Old First Church.

Following lunch, the Rev. Geneva Butz, Pastor of Old First Church, reported that the church had honored Mr. Owen Fox on April 9, 1989 for his forty-five years service as a trustee of Old First Church. She noted that the church is making some new beginnings. They have purchased and are restoring the "Old School House" at 141-143 Fourth Street, which is adjacent to the church. It was a parochial school for several congregations in the area many years ago. Future uses envisioned include making the school an Education Center for youth groups. The cost of the project is projected to be about \$1,600,000. Partners are being sought for the project with some possible combinations for the work. A loan from the Board of Homeland Ministries has been used to purchase the property. The church is now seeking funds to repay the loan, possibly from Foundations.

Dr. Payne thanked Rev. Butz for sharing with us the information about these projects.

Rev. Francis Daugherty, Interim Archivist, presented his report in written form and copies were distributed to all present. He noted that more and more materials are coming in to the Archives. Dr. Philip Weiss commented on "what a great work Rev. Daugherty is doing." It was pointed out the need to make our work known among the local congregations. Rev. Daugherty noted the need to work more on "Oral Histories" and the making of Audio and Video tapes for the Archives. It was moved and seconded to adopt the report. Motion carried.

The report of the Treasurer was presented in typed form by the Treasurer, Mr. Myron Wolf. At the moment, the financial situation of the Society is not as strong as it should be. He stated that he hoped to have a more favorable report for the Annual Meeting in October. A motion was made and seconded to accept Mr. Wolf's report with thanks. Motion carried.

The Rev. Banks D. Shepherd presented the report of the Southern Chapter. It was moved and seconded to adopt this report as circulated in printed form.

The Report from the Eden Archives was presented by Dr. Lowell Zuck. This report was in printed form and a copy is attached to the Minutes. As a part of the Report, the Executive Committee shifted forward on the Agenda to discuss the Annual Meeting of the Society in 1990 that is scheduled to be in St. Louis. It was noted that the Annual Meeting of The Historical Council of the United Church of Christ will be in St. Louis at the same time and must be worked into the plans. It was suggested that the Executive Committee of the E and R Historical Society would meet on Friday afternoon, October 12, 1990. The Historical Council would possibly meet on Thursday afternoon, October 11. On Saturday, October 13, the meeting would be as follows: 9 A.M. Registration and coffee; 9:30 A.M.

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MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, APRIL 11, 1989 (Cont'd. from Page 4)

Worship and a major paper; 11 A.M. Annual Business Meeting of the Society; 12:30 P.M. lunch and then tours in the afternoon. It was noted that the Executive Committee might be able to meet at breakfast on Saturday.

A motion was made that The E and R Historical Society endorse without financial commitment a concern by Dr. Lowell Zuck and Dr. Eugene Wehrli that "A History Of The Evangelical And Reformed Church" by Dr. David Dunn and others be re-printed. It was noted that this needs to be done by the first of 1990. Motion was seconded and voted favorably.

A motion was made and seconded that Dr. Zuck, Dr. Wehrli, Dr. John Payne and Dr. Peter Schmiechen coordinate the project of reprinting A History Of The Evangelical and Reformed Church. Motion carried.

After Dr. Zuck noted that he has need for a new computer ribbon, a motion was made and seconded that Dr. Zuck's report be accepted with thanks. Motion was approved.

Plans for the 1989 Annual Meeting were discussed. Proposals for details of the meeting to be held at Lakeland College, Wisconsin have been submitted by Rev. James Mohr and Rev. Lou Grossen. There was some discussion on the details of the meeting. The meeting will begin on Friday, October 13, at 7:00 P.M. The Society looks forward to this meeting in Wisconsin.

A motion was made and seconded to name Mrs. Florence Bricker a member of the Board of Directors of the Society. This motion is to take care of an oversight made at the Annual Meeting in October, 1988. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Francis Daugherty brought up a concern for a need to print copies of papers that are presented at the Annual Meetings.

The Meeting adjourned at 2:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank W. Snider, Sr., Secretary

REPORT OF THE ARCHIVIST

This report will probably be more in the nature of the report of a librarian than an archivist - even a technical librarian since I spent over 20 years in that aspect of library work. Having also been a pastor, who has had to fill out parochial forms each year, I believe some statistics are important. So here goes.

During the first three months of 1989 your staff has:

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REPORT OF THE ARCHIVIST (Cont'd. from Page 5)

1. Answered 177 letters. These by me alone. I am sure our secretary has also had a number to write.
2. Sent 19 notes of appreciation and of requests.
3. Catalogued - 72 books, 40 audio visuals, and 46 oral history project items for a total of 158 items catalogued.
4. Telephone requests - 42.
5. Added 1,274 cards to the public catalogue.
6. Added 292 minister's name files and 68 church place files.
7. Spent at least 25 hours in research.
8. Had 177 patrons and visitors who signed the guest register. Among them was Prof. A. Hale Schroer of Eden Seminary who spent about three weeks working in the area of Mercersburg Theology.
9. Welcomed 6 visiting groups of confirmands and theology students.

These are but some of the statistics. These do not include memberships, financial reports, the mailing of the newsletter, the day to day assistance to patrons, etc. We all know statistics do not measure all of the value of an organization, but they should give some idea of what goes on in the Historical Society to those who just drop by occasionally and never get behind the scene.

In addition to the above facts, we have worked on several major projects:

1. Beginning in November of 1988 we started processing the material from the Oral History Project of the United Church of Christ. We have now brought this up-to-date. There are 87 items in this special collection which are available to and usable by the public.
2. We inventoried most of the periodicals and repackaged many so that they could be shelved more easily. This also required some correspondence to fill in missing numbers.
3. We inventoried all but a few of the periodical publications of the Conferences of the United Church of Christ. This also included the repackaging and marking of many and letters to almost all of the 32 Conferences for missing issues and a reminder that we are interested in all their publications.
4. A major thrust has been that of catching up with the large amount of back duplicate periodicals that we use for information for our name and place files. We now have 1-,857 name files and 3,307 place files. Again this is a project well on the way to completion. My wife, who keeps reminding me that she

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REPORT OF THE ARCHIVIST (Cont'd. from Page 6)

is a volunteer, is now going through all the files to reorganize them, etc.

5. We receive a constant flow of bulletins, newsletters, etc. all too numerous to mention. One especially significant gift was the three boxes of church, classes, and synod records from Penn West Conference. This seems a good opportunity to remind all our Conferences to do the same with old church records, etc. that are in their possession.

One final word. The most often asked question by pastors in regard to the name file is: What do you want for the file? In a letter to Dr. Post, who asked this same question as he thinks of retirement, I listed these items:

- (1) Autobiographical and biographical materials
- (2) Special sermons, addresses, etc. (not necessarily the sermons preached Sunday to Sunday)
- (3) Photographs
- (4) Honors, anniversaries, awards
- (5) Newspaper clippings
- (6) Important correspondence as a part of the history of the UCC
- (7) Publications, articles you have within
- (8) Your pastoral activities, changes, positions, etc.

This same list applies more or less to all.

As we look forward to the coming months, I have at least two projects which I would like to accomplish if time permits.

1. The processing of about ten huge boxes from the library of Dr. George W. Richards, which has been stored in the Philip Schaff Library for many years.

2. The full cataloguing of a section of 32 books of essays, pamphlets, etc., which have never been processed and so are of little use to our patrons. That these jobs will be accomplished is only a hope, not a promise.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis R. Daugherty/Archivist

REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN CHAPTER

One of the highlights of the past year for us in the Southern Chapter was the national meeting at Beck's Church, Lexington, N.C. in October 1988. It has been a number of years since we had the opportunity of hosting the Society for the annual meeting. Thank you for that privilege.

Although we will not be directly responsible, we are looking forward to the UCC Historical Council's meeting in our area at Catawba College in September 1989.

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REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN CHAPTER (Cont'd. from Page 7)

We believe these national meetings in our area heighten the awareness of our local people to the richness of their heritage in the Evangelical and Reformed branch of the UCC.

Plans are well under way for a bus tour to the National Society meeting in Wisconsin in October 1989. From the initial response we believe that we will have two busloads of people attending.

The Southern Chapter's needs remain much the same as those of most other UCC and related archives - more members, more funding, more archival space.

Mrs. Sims, our archivist, continues to receive materials and to catalog them. Because she is so hampered by her space limitations, we hope that we can appeal to the right people at Catawba College to make more space available. However, since we are "guests" of the College, using their facilities rent free, we have little persuasive voice with which to make our appeal.

While many of her inquiries are for genealogical resource material, Mrs. Sims continue to receive requests from churches and church historians.

We report with sadness the recent death of one of our faithful members, Mrs. Ruth Best, the last living child of Dr. J. D. Andrew, an outstanding pastor in the Reformed Church in N.C. in the first part of the 20th century.

Members of the Southern Chapter Executive Committee have made their services available to the church as teachers in leadership training schools and in workshops on history and polity in Western N.C. Association.

Respectfully submitted,
Banks D. Shepherd

REPORT OF EDEN ARCHIVES

The work of the Eden Archives continues as usual. Adding to what is being accomplished during the regular hours Tuesday and Thursday mornings, the work of Lowell Zuck and Ahme Quist has been supplemented by an Eden work study student, Leoma Blackburn, who has been checking contents of files against the catalog. At the same time, our picture acquisitions are being catalogued by a student volunteer, Constance Lunn, which has also enabled us to place photos into home-made large wooden cabinets.

We are anticipating a visit this coming summer by an Indian Ph.D. student from Cambridge, England, who wants to use our extensive Indian mission materials for his thesis. We have aided a team from Deaconess Hospital which has secured many pictures for their forthcoming videotape on church-related social agencies in the St. Louis area. The Rev. Jim Barnes from the U.C.C., who is an executive of Channel 24 (a conservative religious TV station in St. Louis), is working on a

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REPORT OF EDEN ARCHIVES (Cont'd. from Page 8)

proposed videotape to be prepared for the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Evangelical Synod. He has spent much time in the Archives with his assistant preparing for this. Funds up to \$5,000 will be spent on the videotape, to be taken from the amount which is eventually to be transferred to the Eden Archives, under the Seminary's supervision, from the old corporation of the former Evangelical Synod.

The 150th Anniversary Committee continues its work, with the Rev. Fred Allrich as Chairperson. The meeting of the ERHS and the UCC Historical Council at that same time in the St. Louis area is anticipated with pleasure. A banquet is being planned for Friday evening, 6:00 P.M., Oct. 12, 1990, at St. Paul's UCC, Belleville, IL. On Sunday, Oct. 14, the Anniversary service is to be at St. John's UCC, Mehlville, St. Louis, at 2:30 P.M. There are to be celebrations that Sunday morning through Evangelical congregations.

The ERHS Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 13, probably at Eden Seminary, beginning at 8:00 A.M., with a public program at 10:00 A.M., followed by lunch, and afternoon tours to Marthasville, MO and other historic sites. The planning committee looks forward to strengthening ties with historical interest within the denomination and with the varied constituents of the U.C.C.

Drs. Wehrli and Zuck have checked with a Webster Groves printer, Scholin and Co., who has proposed that the cost of reprinting the Dunn volume (with soft cover) in 500 copies would be \$6,960.00, or about fourteen dollars per volume. If Lancaster and Eden were to cooperate in selling these volumes and in recovering some of the cost thereby, Dr. Wehrli believes it might be possible for us to go ahead in reissuing the volume, perhaps with an additional short chapter bringing it up-to-date. We would appreciate the reaction of the Executive Committee to this proposal.

Respectfully submitted,
Lowell H. Zuck, Archivist

PLEASE SEND CHANGES OF ADDRESS

For each Newsletter that is returned to the Society, because it bears an incorrect address, the Society must pay postage on. This becomes quite an expensive item over a year's time. If you move, or for any other reason your address is changed will you please notify the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society. You can help in this way to reduce the expenses of the Society.

REGISTRATION FOR ANNUAL MEETING, LAKELAND COLLEGE, SHEBOYGAN, WI, OCTOBER 13, 14, 1989

Please return this form by September 25, 1989 to:

Office for Church Relations
Lakeland College, Box 359
Sheboygan, WI 53082-0359
(414) 565-1207

- () Please make reservations for _____ persons for the dinner at Lakeland College on Friday, October 13. The cost will be \$7.75.
- () Please make reservations for _____ persons for the luncheon at Lakeland College on Saturday, October 14. The cost will be \$5.00.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please enroll me as a member of the ERHS and CCHS for 1989. Enclosed is my check.

Memberships

_____ Individual (\$15)	_____ Supporting (\$100 to \$499)
_____ Student (\$7)	_____ Sustaining (\$30 to \$99)
_____ Sponsor or Life (\$250)	_____ Institutions (\$25)

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

Please detach, return and make payable to either the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, 555 West James Street, Lancaster, PA 17603 or the Historical Council, 105 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016.