

NEWS

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

Sponsored Agency of the Historical Council, United Church of Christ

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FREDERICK TROST AND SCHAFF SCHOLAR, KLAUS PENZEL, TO SPEAK AT ANNUAL MEETING IN CHICAGO AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Annual Meeting of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society will take place October 16, 1993, at St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Fullerton Parkway and Orchard Street, Chicago, Illinois. St. Paul's is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.

The program will feature two lectures. The Reverend Frederick R. Trost, Conference Minister of Wisconsin Conference and former pastor of St. Paul's Church, will address the topic, "The Evangelical Traditions in the Northwest." Dr. Klaus Penzel, professor of church history at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, will speak on the subject, "The Private Life of Philip Schaff: Another Centennial Appraisal." 1993 is the centennial of Schaff's death as well as of his address, "The Reunion of Christendom," presented to the World Parliament of Religions in Chicago.

Luncheon will be served at St. Paul's at a cost of \$5.00 per person. Please mail or call in reservations to St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Fullerton Parkway and Orchard Street, Chicago, Illinois 60614. Tel.: 312-348-3829.

For persons interested in accommodations for the meeting, block reservations are being held at the Comfort Inn, 601 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, 60614. Tel.: 312-348-2810. Attn. Devora

UCC HISTORICAL COUNCIL MEETING AT PHOEBE-DEVITT HOMES

The 1993 meeting of the UCC Historical Council will highlight the Reformed heritage of the United Church of Christ. Meeting on September 17, 18 and 19 at Phoebe-Devitt Homes in Allentown, Pa., the Historical Council will visit Cedar Crest College, Zion UCC, Allentown (the "Liberty Bell" church), and Falkner Swamp UCC (site of the first communion celebration among German Reformed immigrants to North America).

Dr. Grant E. Harrity, president of Phoebe-Devitt Homes, has invited the Historical Council to participate in the 90th anniversary celebration of the founding of the institution. Business sessions of the Council will be held at the home, and Dr. Harrity will explain the little-known deaconess movement in the Reformed Church in the United States.

After dinner on Friday, September 17, Dr. John B. Payne, Paul and Minnie Diefenderfer Professor of Mercersburg and Ecumenical Theology at Lancaster Theological Seminary, president of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, and member of the UCC Historical Council, will speak on "Philip Schaff: Christian Scholar and Prophet of Ecumenism."

The public is invited to join with the Historical Council for any and all parts of its meeting and is especially encouraged to attend the lecture by Dr. Payne at 7:30 P.M. on September 17, at Phoebe Home.

(Cont'd on Page 2)

FREDERICK TROST AND SCHAFF SCHOLAR, KLAUS PENZEL, TO SPEAK AT ANNUAL MEETING IN CHICAGO AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (Cont'd from page 1)

Jacob. Deadline for reservations is October 1, 1993. Please make reservations directly with the Comfort Inn.

The schedule for the meeting is presented on page six of this newsletter.

All persons, not just members of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, are cordially invited to attend what promises to be a splendid meeting.

The Board of Directors will meet at 7:30 P.M. on Friday, October 15, at the Comfort Inn.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, APRIL 16, 1993

At 10:00 A.M., President Payne called the meeting to order with prayer.

Present: J. Payne, L. Zuck, B. Shepherd, M. Wolf, F. Bricker, K. Schellhase, R. Hunsicker, M. Hutchens. Other members sent regrets.

Archivist Kay Schellhase reported that some physical re-arrangements have enabled staff and visitors to work more efficiently. The Mormons will soon begin microfilming vital statistics of congregations and pastors and will make this data available in their Mormon Family History Centers.

This quarter has registered the lowest number of genealogical researchers since 1988. If the trend continues, she suggests fewer hours open to the public. The additional time would enable staff to concentrate on two special projects, both of which would require language skills. The projects are to better arrange, describe and preserve the Philip Schaff collection and the material from the Reformed Church mission in Sendai, Japan.

Several persons were suggested for assistance with the above projects. Foundation grants were mentioned as possible to underwrite the cost if a person can be found to write proposals applying for these.

It was agreed that the archivist will re-allocate time, staff and dollars from genealogical work to special archival projects.

Lancaster Theological Seminary is reviewing the phone system which may be replaced with direct lines for all offices.

The Executive Committee approved the request for industrial type shelves to house Reformed Church records in archival boxes.

The report of the archivist was received with thanks.

President Payne welcomed new Board member, the Rev. Robert Hunsicker.

President Payne reported that his work on the UCC Living Theological Heritage is nearly complete and he is awaiting proofs of an Erasmus manuscript.

ERHS is listed in an estate for which Attorney Appel has been retained on our behalf. Henry

Focht of Hummelstown has offered to translate early German parish records and prepare them for sale. The Committee agreed that Kay Schellhase and John Payne will meet Mr. Focht to explore the proposal and its implications.

Kay Schellhase, John Payne and Lowell Zuck will attend General Synod and represent the ERHS and UCC Historical Council. They requested additional help with the exhibit at Synod. The Historical Council dinner will be July 16.

The President's report was received with thanks.

Treasurer Myron Wolf reported on the first quarter income and expenses. Proceeds from membership fees and visitors' fees have decreased.

After discussion, it was agreed that John Payne and Myron Wolf will investigate investment in the UCC Foundation, Inc. The Committee consented, pending favorable information, to an initial investment of \$25,000 of ERHS funds in the UCC Foundation, Inc.

It was moved, seconded and voted to underwrite the expenses of John Payne for the 1993 General Synod at St. Louis.

The group adjourned for lunch in the Buchanan Room, F & M campus.

The afternoon session began with the Southern Chapter report by Banks Shepherd. He reported that Catawba College Library has given the chapter additional room in the tower of the library; materials from Frank Snider's library are being reviewed; the annual meeting was held at Trinity, Conover, NC; the 1993 annual meeting will be held at Spoon's Chapel UCC (former Christian Congregation), Ashville, NC; the Rev. Larry Bollick was elected librarian of the chapter; Ms. Carol Scott, descendent of the Rev. Samuel Suther, is collecting materials regarding Mr. Suther who was an early Reformed minister in North Carolina (having prepared a paper on Mr. Suther, she has requested the chapter to publish it); one bus is planned for the October ERHS meeting in Chicago; Mrs. Mary Leonard's paper "Lawrence Arthur Leonard - A Dedicated Servant of God" was given to the ERHS archives; memorial gifts for the Rev. Frank Snider are being received. The Rev. Nelson Weller was introduced as the vice-president of the Southern Chapter.

This report was accepted with thanks.

Lowell Zuck, Eden Archives, reported that the Eden/Webster libraries will have a computerized card catalog this summer. After the James I. Good collection was reviewed, these manuscripts and the Harbaugh manuscripts were given to the archives. Lowell further reported that microfilming of records is being done because the Morman microfilmer is in St. Louis; space continues to be a problem as new materials are received. Current projects include: work on the H. Richard and Reinhold Niebuhr letters, tapes and other materials; storage of old church records in acid-free boxes; tours for visitors and preparations for General Synod.

This report was accepted with thanks.

The 1993 Annual Meeting will be held on October 16 at St. Paul's UCC, Chicago, Ill., the Rev. Thomas R. Henry, Pastor. The Rev. Henry will publicize the meeting. In the morning, the Rev. Frederick R. Trost will speak on "The Evangelical Traditions of the Northwest" and Dr. Klaus Penzel will present a paper on "The Private Life of Philip Schaff." The business will be conducted after lunch.

Kay Schellhase will lead a workshop for local church historians. The Southern Chapter will tour in the afternoon.

The Executive Committee will meet on Friday evening in Chicago.

John Payne and Robert Hunsicker will confer on the possibility of a bus or van for persons who wish to attend from the Pennsylvania area. Lancaster and York Associations are requested to send names of interested persons to Robert Hunsicker.

The 1994 Annual Meeting will convene in First United Church of Christ, Bridgeport, CT. This combined meeting of the CCHS/ERHS will be hosted by the Rev. Anthony Szilagyi. The Bishop of Budapest, Lorant Hegedűs, has been invited to speak.

Old Business:

Kay Schellhase reported for the committee which is working on ways to highlight the Reformed tradition. The committee suggested:

1. A speaker's bureau of persons to give two lectures a year on historical events. These lectures may be sponsored jointly with the Mercersburg Society.
2. One or two speakers per year to be named and publicized in Pennsylvania conferences and the ERHS newsletter. The speaker would be contacted directly by those who want the presentation.

The Executive Committee discussed persons and topics which would be informational and entertaining for this project.

President Payne announced that the UCC Historical Council will meet September 17-18, 1993 at Phoebe-Devitt Homes, Allentown, which will celebrate its 90th anniversary. Dr. Payne will give the address.

The 1996 ERHS Annual Meeting will be in Canton, Ohio.

A tentative invitation was extended for 1997 when St. Andrew UCC, Lancaster, PA, will observe its 100th Anniversary.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:07.

After adjournment, the meeting was reconvened by President Payne in order to entertain a motion by Robert Hunsicker. He moved that a letter be written to the Eden Archives requesting the loan to ERHS (for an unspecified period) of the James I. Good manuscripts, including the "Harbaugh manuscript," now housed in the Eden Archives. The letter should also indicate that monies are already in hand in the ERHS (and more might be forthcoming) specifically earmarked for the acquisition and restoration of the manuscripts. The motion was seconded by Florence Bricker and approved by the Executive Committee of the ERHS Board of Directors. The meeting was adjourned.

Secretary,

Mary E. Hutchens

HISTORICAL COUNCIL EVENTS AT GENERAL SYNOD

The 19th General Synod (July 15-20, 1993, St. Louis, MO) will be a historic event in itself because it will be held jointly with the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

In keeping with the joint nature of the meeting, the UCC Historical Council will jointly sponsor a dinner with the Disciples of Christ Historical Society on Friday, July 16. Featured speaker will be the Rev. Paul Crow, president of the Disciples' Council on Christian Unity.

Exhibits prepared by the two groups will be placed side-by-side in the Cervantes Convention Center. The UCC exhibit will highlight the work of the Evangelical Deaconess Society.

On Saturday, July 17, UCC archivist Kay Schellhase and Disciples Historical Society president, James Seale, will present a joint workshop entitled "Anniversaries and Archives in the Local Church." The workshop is designed to help persons from either denomination who are responsible for organizing and preserving local church records and writing church histories.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Martin Brecht, *Martin Luther, His Road to Reformation 1483-1521*, James L. Schaaf, tr. (Minneapolis: Augsburg Press, 1992)

John H. Leith, ed. with Stacy Johnson, *Reformed Reader: A Source Book in Christian Theology*, Vol. 1: *Classical Beginnings 1519-1799* (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993).

Sherrin Marshall, *Women in Reformation and Counter-Reformation Europe* (Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 1989)

Charles S. McCoy & J. Wayne Baker, *Fountainhead of Federalism: Heinrich Bullinger and the Covenantal Tradition* (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1991)

Steven Ozment, *Protestants: The Birth of a Revolution* (New York: Doubleday, 1992)

John von Rohr, *The Shaping of American Congregationalism: 1620-1957* (Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1993).

Richard E. Wentz, ed., *Pennsylvania Dutch Folk Spirituality: Sources of American Spirituality* (New York: Paulist Press, 1993).

_____, "John Nevin and American Nationalism," *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 58 (Winter 1990), p. 617-632.

_____, "John Williamson Nevin as Public Theologian," *American Presbyterians* 69 (Winter, 1991), p. 295-305.

Don Yoder, "The Reformed Church and Pennsylvania German Identity," *Journal of the Pennsylvania German Society* 26 (1992/2), 1-16.

SCHEDULE FOR THE 129th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED
HISTORICAL SOCIETY AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

- 9:00 A.M. Registration and Coffee in the Social Hall at St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Fullerton Parkway and Orchard Street
- 9:30 A.M. Greetings
Lecture by the Reverend Frederick R. Trost: "The Evangelical Traditions of the Northwest"
- 11:00 A.M. Lecture by Dr. Klaus Penzel: "The Private Life of Phillip Schaff: Another Centennial Appraisal"
- 12:15 P.M. Lunch at St. Paul's Church
The Reverend Thomas R. Henry: "The Story of St. Paul's United Church of Christ"
- 1:30 P.M. Annual Business Meeting
- 2:30 P.M. Tour of St. Paul's Church
- 2:30 P.M. Workshop for Local Church Historians led by Kay Schellhase, United Church of Christ Archivist

WORKSHOP FOR LOCAL CHURCH HISTORIANS/ARCHIVISTS

Your church is celebrating its 100th anniversary, and you are serving on the committee that will produce a history booklet. You are the church secretary, and you are in charge of all church records, past and present. You have been a member of the same church for 25 years, and you have just been asked to organize the old files stored in a closet. You are the pastor of a church with a long history and a small membership. If you don't preserve the historical records, no one else will.

Bring your questions about these and other situations, your solutions to similar problems, and your concerns for local church history to the workshop offered by archivist Kay Schellhase at the conclusion of the ERHS Annual Meeting in Chicago in October.

The workshop will deal with such topics as what records need to be saved in the local church, how those records can best be preserved, and the duties and functions of the person or committee serving as church historian/archivist.

Ms. Schellhase, who is archivist for both the United Church of Christ and the ERHS, will bring samples of preservation materials to the workshop and will provide participants with guidelines she has developed.

The workshop will be held at 2:30 P.M., on Saturday, October 16, at St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Chicago, Illinois.

WOMEN'S GUILD RECORDS

The UCC Historical Council and the Coordinating Center for Women are jointly sponsoring a project designed to produce a guide to archival collections about women's work in the United Church of Christ and its antecedent traditions.

The project has provided the occasion for the archives staff to reprocess materials from the Women's Guild of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. A complete set of the minutes and reports of the Women's Guild is housed in the ERHS collection, along with packets of materials supplied by the national offices to the Synodical and Regional divisions. In addition, records of a number of Synodical and Regional Guilds have been deposited at Lancaster.

An examination of these records shows that the women of our denomination were eager to cooperate with each other. On June 23, 1934, the Cabinet of the Woman's Missionary Society (Reformed) and the Board of Directors of the Evangelical Women's Union met together for the first time in Cleveland to explore the possibility of uniting the women's work in the new church. They agreed to appoint a Commission on Merger to plan for an organic union of the women's societies. This commission worked for five years and presented its plan to both groups. The merger convention was held in Zion Church in Cleveland in November of 1939, and the Women's Guild of the Evangelical and Reformed Church became a reality.

For the next two years, the Administrative Committee worked tirelessly to organize the new body, which consisted of 818 Woman's Missionary Societies, 1,685 Women's Unions and 1,045 Ladies Aid and other societies. In the fall of 1940 the Synodical Women's Guilds were organized, and in the spring of 1941 Regional Guilds were begun.

The first general meeting of the Guild was held in Louisville, Kentucky, in November 1941. In December of the same year Guilds were organized in local churches and the Board of Directors of the Women's Guild met for the first time. Every woman in the denomination was looked upon as a member of the Guild.

National headquarters were located in Cleveland and a working staff was chosen, with Florence Partridge as Executive Secretary. The work of the Guild was divided into departments, summer conferences were held, and quadrennial conventions were planned. The first of these, scheduled for 1945, was never held because of the war. Rather than having its own newsletter, the Guild was given pages in the Messenger, thus integrating its news into the life of the whole church.

A women's Merger Committee, composed of Congregational Christian and Evangelical and Reformed women, began to meet in 1947. In 1949, the Quadrennial Meeting was followed immediately by a joint meeting of the CC and E & R women. The women were ready for another merger long before it took place. When the merger finally did occur in 1957, the new denomination was already moving toward the concept of uniting men's and women's groups in a Council for Lay Life and Work. The national boards of the women's organizations continued to hold joint meetings until early 1963, and Women's Guilds are still to be found in some local churches.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please enroll me as a member of the ERHS for 1992. Enclosed is my check for the following amount:

MEMBERSHIPS

_____ Donor \$25

_____ Sponsor \$100

_____ Student \$ 7

_____ Institution \$50

_____ Life \$250

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Please detach, include check made payable to: Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, and mail to ERHS, 555 W. James Street, Lancaster, PA 17603.

If you wish to be a member of both the Congregational Christian and the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Societies, make your check payable to the UCC Historical Council and mail it to: UCC Historical Council, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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