

NEWS

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

Sponsored Agency of the Historical Council, United Church of Christ

ANNUAL REPORTS ISSUE

January 1996

Volume 23, no. 2

OCTOBER ANNUAL MEETING AT TRINITY UCC ROTH'S, SPRING GROVE, PENNSYLVANIA

The Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society held its Annual Meeting at Trinity UCC Roth's in Spring Grove, Pennsylvania on October 14, 1995. The Society took part in Trinity's celebration of its 230th anniversary.

The two addresses at the meeting were concerned with important regional topics. "The Nineteenth Century Liturgical Controversy and its Impact on the Congregations of Trinity, Zion and Heidelberg in York, Pennsylvania" was the subject of the lecture by the Rev. Phyllis Baum, then, interim minister of Heidelberg UCC, York, now, pastor of Hayshire UCC, York. The Rev. Mary Hutchens, the local pastor, spoke on the topic, "Philip William Otterbein and his Influence on the York Churches." Both of the interesting and lively lectures were well received by the approximately seventy-five persons in attendance.

We were pleased once again to have at our annual meeting a busload of persons from Southern Conference under the leadership of the Revs. Larry Bolick, Banks Shepherd and Nelson Weller. Besides participating in the annual meeting, they toured historic churches in the area.

After a delicious lunch served by members of Trinity Roth's Church, the E & R Historical Society held its Annual Business Meeting.

The Society is most grateful to the members of Trinity Roth's Church and its pastor, the Rev. Mary Hutchens for arranging such a fine meeting.

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTON, OHIO, OCTOBER 12, 1996

The Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society will hold its 133rd Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 12, at Trinity United Church of Christ, Canton, Ohio. The Society will join in the celebration of Trinity's 125th anniversary.

The speakers for the occasion will be the Rev. Dr. Ralph Quellhorst, Conference Minister of the Ohio Conference United Church of Christ, and Dr. Carl Klopfenstein, Professor of History, Heidelberg College. The topic for Dr. Quellhorst's lecture will be "The History of the United Church of Christ Traditions in Ohio." Dr. Klopfenstein will address the subject, "The History of Heidelberg College." Heidelberg College, founded by the German Reformed Church, will celebrate its 150th anniversary in the year 2000. In addition, a tour of historic churches is being arranged for Saturday afternoon.

Members and friends of the Society will want to mark their calendars and plan to be in attendance for what promises to be an outstanding program.

On the following pages is a brief summary of a paper presented to the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society Annual Meeting on October 14, 1995, by the Rev. Phyllis Baum, pastor of Hayshire United Church of Christ, York. The full manuscript is available upon request from Ms. Baum, 100 Haybrook Dr., York, PA 17042

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY LITURGICAL CONTROVERSY OF THE GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH
AND THE EFFECT ON TRINITY, ZION, AND HEIDELBERG CHURCHES OF YORK, PA

By Phyllis Baum

The development of the Mercersburg Liturgy in the mid-nineteenth century by the German Reformed Church is one of the most enduring legacies of that church to the United Church of Christ. The extensive liturgical controversy, which lasted thirty years, involved serious doctrinal, procedural and political issues in the life of the church. The full text of the paper summarizes the situation leading up to 1857 when the Provisional Liturgy was published, the major issues that surfaced during the debate, and the effect the controversy had on three congregations in York, Pennsylvania: Trinity, Zion, and Heidelberg. I present here only a very brief summary.

A number of factors affected the liturgical practices in the German Reformed Church early in the nineteenth century and led ultimately to a call for a new liturgy. Several liturgies were in use as pastors new to the United States brought with them liturgical forms they knew in Europe. Because few copies of the Palatinate liturgy, the most common worship form, existed, the practice of free prayer arose. The Second Great Awakening introduced a spirit of revivalism which called for freedom of the pastor to use the prayers and the sermon as a means of conversion. As English became the predominant language, the need for a liturgy in English became apparent.

Ultimately the creation of a new liturgy was a natural outgrowth of the theological work of John Williamson Nevin and Philip Schaff after they came to the seminary at Mercersburg. In their teaching and writing, they addressed the nature of Christianity, the nature of the church, the nature of ministry, and the nature of the sacraments.

The liturgical work began in earnest in 1852 when Schaff, now chair of the committee, presented the principles of a new liturgy for consideration to the Synod in Baltimore. The principles called for: 1) the new liturgy to be based on the liturgical worship of the early church and the liturgies of the third and fourth centuries, thus making the early history the foundation for contemporary liturgical compositions; 2) special reference to be made to the Palatinate and other Reformed liturgies, thus making the sixteenth century a second frame of reference; 3) the liturgy to reflect the peculiar needs of the age and denomination, thus the "liturgy should be a tent and not a tabernacle;" 4) several forms for the Lord's Day Service and Lord's Supper so the pastors could adapt to the needs of the various congregations; 5) language that is scriptural; 6) the liturgy to be the property of every church member, thus becoming more than a manual for the pastor; and 7) the liturgy to regulate and promote free prayer.¹

After the publication of the Provisional Liturgy, the controversy continued over the guiding principles. John Nevin continued to write in defense of the new liturgy. J.H.A. Bomberger became the most vocal and influential critic. Bomberger objected to the number of responses, the length of some of the forms, and the high church view evident in the ministerial absolution

¹See Philip Schaff, Reformed and Catholic: Selected Historical and Theological Writings of Philip Schaff; edited by Charles Yrigoyen, Jr. and George H. Bricker, "The New Liturgy," pages 416-418 for the full text of the principles on which the new liturgy was based. Also see Jack Maxwell, Worship and Reformed Theology: Liturgical Lessons of Mercersburg for an in depth interpretation of the principles for the new liturgy.

NINETEENTH CENTURY LITURGICAL CONTROVERSY (cont'd from page 2)

of sins, the priestly character of ministry, and the order for baptism, which he thought implied baptismal regeneration. Nevin, speaking for the majority, emphasized the uniqueness of the Mercersburg understanding of worship. It is an altar liturgy with most of the service conducted from the altar. It is ruled by the sacrament and includes the full participation of all the people. The majority also thought the adoption of an ecclesiastical calendar was important. Hence, the new liturgy included prayers for Festival Sundays, and a set of Scripture readings and collects for other Sundays.

The ensuing disagreement over the Provisional Liturgy led to the publication of The Revised Liturgy in 1866. Again the minority objected, arguing that this liturgy was not true to the original character and spirit of the Reformed Church. They feared that the adoption of the Revised Liturgy would create schism in the church and interfere with the freedom of the ministers. (Acts and Proceedings of the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, 1866, p. 71-2.)

The effects of the strong feelings about the new liturgy can be seen in the history of the First German Reformed Church of York and its successive congregations. This congregation, whose founding date is usually given as 1742, experienced its first division in 1850 when the issue of using the English language arose. By 1852 the congregation divided over this issue, with both groups using the same building. In 1865, the English-speaking congregation laid the cornerstone for the present site of Trinity United Church of Christ. The new church building reflected the Mercersburg style, and to the present day, this congregation is tied to the Mercersburg Liturgy.

The German-speaking congregation changed its name to Zion in 1872. Their low church understanding of worship was reflected in their new structure, built in 1913, with a central pulpit and the communion table in front of the pulpit. The influence of pastors on the worship life of congregations is clearly evident when one traces the impact that the pastors of Zion had on the worship life. When the sanctuary was remodeled in the 1940's, the new chancel design reflected the influence of the pastor, who had a Mercersburg leaning. In the ensuing pastorate the worship life reflected the Mercersburg influence on liturgy.

Heidelberg Church was born in 1867 when a group objecting to the 1866 Liturgy left the English-speaking church. This congregation was served in its early years by pastors who were clearly identified with the Old Reformed school, those who were opposed to the Mercersburg Liturgy. The present church structure, built in 1901, reflects the low church style.

These three congregations were formed over their differences surrounding their liturgical practice. It is interesting to note that the church which followed the more progressive line of the day by fully supporting the use of the "new liturgy" in 1866 is now very much tied to that form with little openness to changing its expression. Ironically, this seems to be in opposition to the Mercersburg spirit which considered the liturgy to be "a tent and not a tabernacle."

In many ways, the nineteenth century liturgical controversy and its theological debate is similar to our situation today. The publication of The New Century Hymnal in 1995 makes us aware once again of the struggle the church has when we attempt to develop a liturgy meaningful (Cont'd on page 9)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, OCTOBER 13, 1994

President John Payne convened the meeting at 8:15 p.m. in Gettysburg, Pa. The Rev. James Mohr led the opening prayer.

Also present: Larry Bolick, Florence Bricker, Mary Hutchens, David Rapp, Scott Sanders, Banks Shepherd, Frank Stearns, Mark Steiner and Lowell Zuck. Regrets: Robert Hunsicker, Kay Schellhase, Myron Wolf.

By common consent the May minutes were adopted as printed in the July newsletter with the addition of the name of the Rev. James Mohr as director.

The reports of the president, archivist, Southern Chapter and Eden Archives, all of which are printed in this newsletter, were presented and discussed. A question was raised about the possibility of using retired clergy to do archival work in Lancaster.

After presenting the Treasurer's report, which appears on pages eight and nine, the President requested that associations be urged to support the society. The 1996 budget was adopted.

Several suggestions to increase membership were made:

- a. Discover local persons interested in ERHS and contact them.
- b. Contact pastors and ask them to suggest 5 persons in their congregation who might be potential members for the society.
- c. Contact churches who celebrate anniversaries and challenge them to join.
- d. Board members contact pastors/lay persons who can be encouraged to join.
- e. Enlist organizations within churches to become members.
- f. Enlist local historical societies as members of ERHS.

The Speakers' Bureau appears to have had little activity.

The Rev. Mary Hutchens reported that Trinity Roth's is prepared for the Annual Meeting.

Plans for the 1996, 1997, 1998 and 2000 annual meetings were presented and discussed.

President Payne reported for the UCC Historical Council, which has printed the most recent booklet of Annual Lectures. The 1996 Historical Council Essay Contest will be open to any UCC person, not just seminarians. The Council will participate in the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the United Church of Christ at the 1997 General Synod.

Old Business: The first volume of the UCC Living Theological Heritage Series has been published at a cost of \$50 a volume. The ERHS will support the series with a \$1000 donation payable in three installments and will receive a deluxe edition for the archives.

There being no new business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Hutchens, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EVANGELICAL & REFORMED HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OCTOBER 14, 1995

President John Payne greeted the members and friends of the society at 9:30 a.m. Host Pastor Hutchens led the devotions.

The Rev. Phyllis Baum, pastor elect of Hayshire United Church of Christ, York, presented the paper "The Nineteenth Century Liturgical Controversy in the Reformed Church and its Impact upon the Congregations of Trinity, Zion, and Heidelberg in York, Pennsylvania."

After a break, the Rev. Mary E. Hutchens, pastor of Trinity Roth's UCC, presented the paper "Philip William Otterbein, German Reformed Ancestor."

Discussion time followed the presentation of each paper. At noon, Trinity Church served a Pennsylvania Dutch luncheon of beef and chicken pot pie.

The society re-assembled in the sanctuary for a 'radio broadcast' of the history of Trinity Roth's. The script was prepared by Barbara Kling.

At 1:40 President Payne called the annual business meeting to order with an opening prayer.

Upon the addition of the name of the Rev. James Mohr as a Director of the Society, the minutes were approved as corrected.

President Payne presented a printed report, highlighting the need to increase membership and to challenge seminary seniors to join.

President Payne presented Archivist Kay Schellhase's printed report in her absence. He urged Society members to visit the Heritage Center in Lancaster to view the display of early colonial pewter. The society suggested that information on the E & R heritage be sent to the conferences for their newsletters in order to inform church members of history and to create interest in membership.

The Southern Chapter and Eden Archives reports were presented.

In the absence of Treasurer Myron Wolf, President Payne presented the printed report for January 1 through August 31, 1995. The UCC Executive Council's support will probably diminish. A few Conferences and Associations are supportive. Total income at this time is \$19,000 with expenditures of \$10,000. A gift of \$4,000 from the Arcadia Foundation and a bequest of \$5,000 from Pearl M. Wetzel have been received. A bequest of \$5,000 is expected from Lucille Brackbill.

The Nominating Committee of Park Ranck and James Gold presented nominees as follows:

Officers:

President: John Payne
First Vice President: Lowell Zuck
Secretary: Mary Hutchins
Treasurer: Myron Wolf
Archivist: Kay Schellhase

Directors:

Lawrence Bolick
Florence Bricker
Deborah Rahn Clemens
Robert Hunsicker
James Mohr

David Rapp
Scott Sanders
Banks Shepherd
Frank Stearns
Mark Steiner

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING (cont'd from page 5)

There being no further nominations, it was voted unanimously to elect these persons.

Future Meetings of the Society:

October 12, 1996 at Trinity UCC, Canton, OH

October 11, 1997 at St. Andrew UCC, Lancaster, PA

October 10, 1998 at St. Peter UCC, Houston, TX

Old/New Business: The first volume of the UCC Living Theological Heritage has been printed, with the second volume due out in the fall of 1996. Society members are urged to purchase the series or to be a sponsor. Several requests were made for the brochure which gives information about the series.

President Payne adjourned the meeting at 2:30 with the closing benediction by the Rev. David Rapp.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Hutchens, Secretary

ESSAY CONTEST OPEN TO ALL UCC CHURCH MEMBERS

The United Church of Christ Historical Council has announced its 1995-1996 competition for the best essay on the history of the UCC and/or any of its antecedent traditions. This is a special opportunity for our readers who would like to share their knowledge of and interest in the Evangelical and Reformed heritage and are willing to take the time to write an accurate and illuminating essay on some aspect of our history.

The essay which, in the opinion of the judges, shows the best grasp of its subject matter as well as maturity of interpretation will be awarded \$200.00 by the Historical Council and will be considered for publication. The judges reserve the right to withhold the award if none of the entries is deemed to be of appropriate quality.

To be eligible for consideration, an essay must have been written by a minister or lay member of the United Church of Christ. The essay must not have been previously published.

Essays should be no more than 4000 words in length (excluding footnotes and bibliography), and be submitted in typed or word-processed double-spaced format.

Entries should be submitted to The Archivist, United Church of Christ, Philip Schaff Library, Lancaster Theological Seminary, 555 W. James Street, Lancaster, PA 17603. They must be received no later than May 1, 1996 to be considered for the competition.

The winner will be announced in the *United Church News* during the summer of 1996.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

I provide as my report this year my five year summary report of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society to the UCC Historical Council, September 8, 1995.

1. Purpose and Program

The purposes of the society continue to be 1) "to stimulate and cultivate interest in the heritage of the Reformed Church in the United States, the Evangelical Synod of North America, the Evangelical and Reformed Church, and the United Church of Christ; 2) to collect and preserve material from the national and regional church and congregations; 3) to make it accessible to all who are interested; and 4) to cooperate with other groups in the United Church of Christ, especially the Congregational Christian Historical Society, for the cultivation and preservation of church history" (ERHS brochure 1994, summarized from the Articles of Incorporation, 1983).

The first purpose is carried out chiefly by annual meetings at which papers are presented on important subjects in the E & R tradition. Since 1990, meetings have been held each October in various parts of the country: St. Louis (in connection with the 150th anniversary of the Evangelical Synod and in cooperation with the UCC Historical Council); Bethlehem, Pa. (in connection with the 100th anniversary of Bethany UCC); York, Pa. (in connection with the 250th anniversary of Trinity, Zion and Heidelberg Churches); Chicago (in connection with the 150th anniversary of St. Paul's Church); Bridgeport Conn. (in connection with the 100th anniversary of First UCC and in cooperation with the Congregational Christian Historical Society in celebration of the Hungarian Reformed tradition). This year the society will be meeting at Trinity Roths UCC in Spring Grove, Pa. to share in the celebration of that church's 130th anniversary.

All of these meetings were held in response to invitations. We are pleased that they have been held in a variety of locations--not just in Pennsylvania, but also in the Midwest and New England. I might expand upon this statement by pointing out that in my 14 year tenure as president the society has held 6 meetings in Pennsylvania, 2 in Illinois, and 1 each in Missouri, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, North Carolina and Connecticut. In the next three years we shall be meeting once again in Ohio, and in Pennsylvania, and for the first time in Texas. Thus, the purpose of stimulating and cultivating interest in the E & R heritage has not been narrowly conceived and carried out, but has had a wide-ranging geographical application.

The attendance at these meetings varies--from around 30 to 100, but attending most meetings are around 60-75 persons. These numbers are supported by a contingent of 30-35 persons from Southern Conference nearly every year. For their participation in our meetings we are very grateful.

A second means of carrying out this purpose has been through our semi-annual newsletter which reports on activities of the society, and includes information concerning the archives as well as on various items of historical interest. For the last several years we have also included a summary of the papers presented at the annual meeting. This action was taken in response to a member's request and, I think, has been well received.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT (cont'd from page 7)

We have just adopted a new program for trying to cultivate interest in the church's heritage, the Speaker's Bureau, that is, the making available of knowledgeable persons to speak to church bodies on various historical topics. I cannot report as yet much success on this new front. There seems to have been little response to the announcements of this program in our newsletter so far.

The second and third purposes are achieved through the maintenance of an archives with staff to receive new material donated for preservation, to sort through, file and catalogue new and older material which has not yet been sufficiently organized. The staff also answers inquiries concerning church historical matters and genealogy and makes the material available to researchers who frequent the archives. Most recently, the staff in the archives has given support to researching the UCC Living Theological Heritage Project.

Since Kay Schellhase's coming as the first full-time professional archivist, the genealogical aspect of the archival labor has decreased considerably and the church record preservation aspect has proportionately increased. Her arrival 5 years ago has had otherwise a major impact on the work of the archives. Previously, the ERHS and the UCC Archives were not so clearly differentiated. As UCC Archivist, she has been more careful to distinguish between these two spheres. Although Kay operates also as ERHS Archivist, she is clear that her work in this capacity is definitely secondary to her work as UCC Archivist.

There have been changes in staffing in the last five years. Before Kay Schellhase came as UCC Archivist in 1990, there was a part-time UCC-ERHS Archivist paid by the ERHS and a full-time secretary paid by the UCC. In addition, there were 2 to 3 part-time assistants paid by the ERHS. Now there is a three quarter-time archivist paid by the UCC and two secretary - assistants, Diane Rimert and Dianne Russell, paid primarily by the ERHS although the archivist receives the sum of \$5,000 from the UCC which can be used to pay for part of the time of one of these persons. Because of a budget crunch the society has had recently to reduce the salary expense in the archives.

The fourth purpose of cooperating with other groups in the United Church of Christ is evident through the society's participation in the UCC Historical Council, its cooperation with the Congregational Christian Historical Society on a number of projects, including our joint meeting in Bridgeport last year, the publication last year of the United Church of Christ Historical Lectures, etc. The Eden Archives, while not legally a part of the society, is closely associated with it and, until this past year, had for some time received a subsidy from the ERHS. Our Southern Chapter with archives at Catawba does belong to the society although the archives at Catawba College remain in the control of the Southern Conference.

2. Membership

Because we have only recently sought to keep an accurate count of members and have also cleaned up our membership list, eliminating those who have not paid dues in many years, it is not so easy to determine the statistics for the last five years. I asked Diane Rimert, our secretary, to look on the computer at membership lists for 1989-91 and 1993-95, and make comparisons between these two periods. These figures must be regarded as only approximate. In 1989-91 there were 3 Life Memberships added for a total of 90 Life Members in 1991. In

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT (cont'd from page 8)

1993-95, 11 Life Members were added for the total of 93 Life Members [9 new Life Memberships in 1995 alone for which we are very grateful]. The number is so close because some of the former Life Members have in the meantime died. In 1989-91 we had 221 ERHS memberships, that is persons who gave directly to the ERHS, and 272 who joined the ERHS through dues paid to the Historical Council. In addition, there were 2 who gave to both. The total of all contributions in 1989-91 was 585. In 1993-95, 143 gave directly to the ERHS, 236 gave to ERHS through the Historical Council, and 19 gave to both the ERHS and the Historical Council for a total of 491. In other words, we have had a drop of about 94 in membership contributions over the last five years, a fact which is difficult to explain, especially since in the last couple of years we have sent out renewal notices which we did not do earlier.

3. Finances

In 1990 our total income was \$35,879 and expenses were \$22,883, leaving a surplus of \$12,996. The assets totalled \$73,108. In 1994 our total income was \$19,892 and the expenses were \$22,149, leaving a deficit of \$2,257. Thus the gap between 1990 surplus and 1994 deficit was \$15,253. While the expenses remained about the same, the income was down sharply in 1994 due to the loss of the contribution from the Arcadia Foundation which ERHS had been receiving for better than 20 years. The good news from the financial statement of 1994 was that, in spite of the deficit, the assets had grown to \$90,232 because of several surplus years prior to this last one.

The financial statement for January 1 to December 31, 1995 shows a total income of \$27,330.01 and expenses of \$17,999.28 with a surplus at the year end of the of \$9,330.73. Our expenses were cut by the elimination of the Eden Subsidy, by reducing the payroll, and by lower than usual meeting expenses. Our assets were increased by the gift of the Arcadia Foundation of \$4,000 and by the Pearl Wetzel bequest of \$5,000. We are pleased to report that Eden applied directly to the Arcadia Foundation for a grant and received one.

In conclusion, in spite of some decline in memberships, the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society remains in a basically healthy condition, still devoted to its purpose of preserving the church's heritage and making it better known. Clearly, we need to dedicate ourselves anew to attracting more members, especially younger ones, lest when our older faithful supporters are no longer with us, there be none to take their places.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Payne, President

NINETEENTH CENTURY LITURGICAL CONTROVERSY (cont'd from page 3)

in the present day and at the same time maintain the traditions of the past. This hymnal seeks to retrieve the historical words of hymns that were lost in subsequent translations, while incorporating hymns that demonstrate the inclusive nature of the church and using language that creates new images. These goals echo two of Schaff's principles. As the new hymnal is carefully analyzed, we begin to see serious theological issues emerging.

REPORT OF THE ARCHIVIST

Five years ago (on May 1, 1990) I began my work as archivist for the United Church of Christ and as *de facto* archivist for the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society. These years have been both fascinating and frustrating, but above all they have been an opportunity for me to learn more about our denomination and our Reformed heritage.

The three-month sabbatical leave to which five years as a member of the UCC Executive Offices staff entitles me is being used for two projects. First, I am gathering information about the status of Conference archives, largely by visiting the Conference offices in person. A report of my findings will be ready in the spring of 1996. The second project involves a workshop I will offer in June, 1996 in Boston at the Third National Meeting of Women. The workshop title is "Women's Voices from Our Past," and I will present first-person stories of three women from the Evangelical and Reformed tradition. They are Katherine Haack, first consecrated Evangelical Deaconess Sister, Elvira Yockey, founder of the Women's Missionary Society of the Reformed Church in the U.S., and Florence Partridge, Executive Secretary of the Women's Guild of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

This report provides me with an opportunity to look back over the past five years and to summarize for you some of the changes at the E & R Historical Society.

Staff. For five years I have been a full-time employee of the United Church of Christ, reporting to UCC President Paul H. Sherry. As of September 1, 1995, my position has been reduced to 3/4 time because of financial constraints in the national offices.

The ERHS has two part-time staff persons, both of whom are excellent. Diane Rimert works three days a week during the school year and two days a week in the summer. Dianne Russell works an average of two days per week year-round. The UCC provides \$5,000 each year toward these wages, although that amount may be reduced in the future.

Patrons. Use of the ERHS collections has shown a decline over the past five years. In 1990 more than 500 persons came to use the materials, and in 1995 the number will be below 350. Research letters and requests for loan microfilms continue to decrease slightly, and the number of visiting groups (confirmation classes, etc.) is significantly smaller, especially in the past two years.

Collection. Records of closed churches continue to be added in small quantities and to be microfilmed by the Mormons. In 1995 a set of microfilms arrived from the churches of Pennsylvania Southeast Conference, adding more than a dozen church records from six counties. Reprocessing of the collection, though sorely needed, proceeds slowly, with Charles Spotts' sermons completed and Benjamin Bausman's papers being worked on now. The focus of the collection has been sharpened to reflect more directly the emphasis on Reformed and Evangelical and Reformed history, and a few extraneous items have been weeded. A clearer division has been made between UCC and ERHS records. On the whole, the collection is now better housed and described, with acid-free storage materials in use, with some preservation and encapsulation having been done, and with inventories being produced for both institutional records and personal papers. The data-base listing of church and pastoral records is updated continually.

REPORT OF THE ARCHIVIST (cont'd from page 10)

Equipment. The ERHS has a computer and printer, already becoming outdated, and a microfilm reader-printer. Five years ago we had no computer equipment and a microfilm reader that no longer made copies. One range of compact shelving has been added during this time.

An analysis of the past five years seems to indicate that the Society and its resources are of less interest to the general public and even to church members than has been the case in the past. Perhaps this decline is a natural process that will continue as time passes and recent UCC history moves to the fore, while the older traditions recede into the background.

On the other hand, there are many persons who still cherish the Reformed tradition, and we have received more life memberships in 1995 than in any one of the previous five years.

Certainly the historical significance of the collection does not diminish and there is a greater need than ever to preserve the records and to list them fully. Recent uses of the materials include anniversary churches working on their history, research into the Winnebago Indian mission, and inquiries about Reformed liturgy. One of our precious early pewter pieces will be on display through the end of 1995 at the Heritage Center on the square in Lancaster. Dr. Don Herr, a local veterinarian and pewter expert, is the curator for this beautiful exhibit.

Working with the Reformed and the Evangelical and Reformed records and with all of you has been one of my pleasures during the past five years, and I regret that with the reduction in the UCC Archivist's position, I will have proportionately less time to spend with our mutual concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Schellhase, Archivist

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE ERHS LIBRARY

Although the ERHS does not have a budget for purchasing books, the four-volume Oxford Encyclopedia of the Reformation, edited by Hans J. Hillerbrand (New York, Oxford University Press, 1996), seemed like such a vital reference tool that it has been acquired at a cost of nearly \$400.00. The paperback Cosmos in the Chaos: Philip Schaff's Interpretation of Nineteenth-Century American Religion, by Stephen R. Graham (Grand Rapids, Michigan, Eerdmans, 1995) was also purchased.

Gifts to the collection have included An Ever-Widening Circle: The Elmhurst College Years, by Melitta J. Cutright (Elmhurst College Press, 1995), histories of a dozen or more local churches, and duplicates of volumes related to the history of the Reformed Church.

Henry Harbaugh's Fathers of the Reformed Church is a much-consulted resource, and volume four, which had fallen into disrepair from constant use, has been rebound, thanks to a designated gift from a patron.

The Society encourages special and memorial gifts and is grateful for those received.

EDEN ARCHIVES REPORT

After a decade of faithful service, Mrs. Earl (Ahme) Quist retired as Librarian of the Eden Archives on June 30, 1995. She was succeeded by the Rev. C.W. "Bill" Kerr, who has already become familiar with the work after a summer on the job. The Rev. Dr. Lowell Zuck continues as Archivist. Our open hours continue to be Tuesday and Thursday mornings. A student, Kevin Gregory, is also working part-time during the present semester.

The Eden Archives Committee met most recently on October 3, with the Rev. Donald Sabbert of Collinsville, IL as the new chair succeeding the Rev. William Schwab of Washington, MO. The committee considered additional space and arrangement needs, and gave attention to program and research possibilities. Plans were begun for celebrating the 150th anniversary of Eden Seminary in the millennial year 2000.

During the past and present academic years the Archives participated in a 100th anniversary birthday celebration of the life and work of the late Rev. Dr. H. Richard Niebuhr; a convocation on April 26 remembering the Holocaust and honoring Rabbi Robert Jacobs; as well as President Charles Knicker's September 24 tea remembering in an affectionate way the long-time Eden theology professor, the late Rev. Dr. Elmer J.F. Arndt.

The current hours of work in the Eden Archives are devoted especially to caring for visitors and researchers (such as the Rev. Richard H. Taylor of Benton Harbor, MI), processing and cataloging materials received, and responding to heavy mail and telephone requests.

We express our appreciation for our continuing relationship to the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, in connection with the Historical Council of the United Church of Christ. And we thank those who call upon us for help, visit us, and support us financially.

Respectfully submitted,

Lowell H. Zuck, Archivist

SOUTHERN CHAPTER REPORT

The Southern Chapter continues to maintain the archives at Catawba College and to participate in church anniversaries when possible. Our archivist, Mrs. Jacquelyn Sims, is a very important person in our organization. Her position on the college library staff makes it possible for her to enlist occasional student assistance in cataloguing materials and to answer inquiries regarding our holdings.

This year our chapter has been represented in two 250th anniversary observances--Bethel (Bear Creek) at Mt. Pleasant, NC and Grace (Lowerstone) at Rockwell, NC. The Rev. Banks Shepherd has participated in and will participate in two additional services at each church, presenting monologues on the Rev. Samuel Suther and on Zwingli.

The Rev. Larry Bolick participated in a program honoring the Rev. Roy Whisenhunt, age 91, at Memorial UCC, Lexington, NC. A video of the evening's activities, including Mr. Whisenhunt's vivid reflections on his ministry, will be available to church groups. (Mr. Whisenhunt is one

SOUTHERN CHAPTER REPORT (cont'd from page 12)

of five ministers still living who was present at the organization of the Southern Synod on May 30, 1939. The others are: Aubrey Hedrick, J.L. Levens, A.C. Peeler and Terrell Shoffner. Mr. Whisenhunt was also President of the old North Carolina Classis in 1938.)

Friends and colleagues joined in a birthday celebration for Dr. A.C. Peeler (age 103) at First UCC, Winston-Salem, NC, on Sunday, October 8, 1995. Dr. Peeler is the oldest living son of the Reformed Church in North Carolina, and he is still active and able to attend functions at his alma mater, Catawba College, which honored him in 1994. He has been on a number of our historical bus tours in the past.

In an activity not directly related to the Southern Chapter, the Rev. Banks Shepherd and the Rev. Nelson Weller attended and participated in a retirement celebration, on August 19, 1995, for Dr. George Gay at St. Stephen UCC, Greensboro, NC. Many ERHS members will recall Dr. Gay's service on the UCC Historical Council and his presence on a number of the Southern Conference Historical Bus Tours.

Last year we held our Annual Chapter Meeting on Nov. 12, 1994, at St. James UCC, Mt. Pleasant, NC in connection with their centennial anniversary celebration. This year's meeting will be on Saturday, Nov. 4, 1995 at Grace Reformed UCC, Newton, NC in connection with their 150th anniversary.

We have received a verbal invitation from Licenciante Mr. Bernard Ingram, pastor of Bethany UCC, Sedalia, NC to hold the annual meeting of ERHS there in October, 2000, when they celebrate their 130th anniversary.

Again this year we have 39 persons on our Historical Bus Tour from North Carolina. Our travels have taken us to the following historic churches and sites: St. John's, Middlebrook (1780); Frieden's, Mt. Crawford (1762); St. Stephens, Harrisonburg (1894); Trinity, Timberville (1765); St. Paul's, Woodstock (1748); Massanutten Academy; Centenary, Winchester (1748); Christ, Martinsburg (1775); Christ, Shepherdstown (1747); Church World Service Center, New Windsor; St. Mary's, Westminster; St. Paul's, Westminster; Homewood Home, Hanover; and Germanna, VA., the site of the first organized congregation in America of the German Reformed Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Banks Shepherd, President

HISTORICAL COUNCIL LECTURES AVAILABLE

Four annual lectures have been printed and may be ordered through the UCC Archives in Lancaster. Booklet One contains the 1992 lecture, "Reinhold Niebuhr in His Times and Ours," by Dr. Paul H. Sherry and the 1993 lecture, "Philip Schaff: Christian Scholar and Prophet of Ecumenism," by Dr. John B. Payne. Booklet Two contains the 1994 lecture, "Years of Transition: A Brief History of the Hungarian Reformed Church in the U.S.," by Dr. Anthony Szilagyi and the 1995 lecture, "The Living Theological Heritage of the United Church of Christ," by Dr. Barbara Brown Zikmund. The cost of each booklet is \$3.00.

THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE UCC
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES
JANUARY 1, 1995 - DECEMBER 31, 1995

	INCOME	
Executive Council-UCC		\$3,212.00
Conferences: Penn Central	375.00	
Penn West	100.00	
Wisconsin	250.00	725.00
Associations: Cumberland	25.00	
Hudson-Mohawk, NY	50.00	
Lancaster, Pa.	1,125.00	
Susquehanna, NY	50.00	1,250.00
Memberships		2,102.50
Life Fees: Rev. Martha B. Kriebel	250.00	
Robert L. George	250.00	
Roland Perschon	250.00	
John J. Snyder, Jr.	250.00	
Rev. Ramon Hernandez	250.00	
J. Herbert Hays	250.00	
Rev. Robert Rezash	250.00	
Anita Rezash	250.00	
Lois K. Shelly	250.00	2,250.00
Historical Council Financial Campaign		1,663.78
Interest on Investments		2,680.36
Visitor Fees		678.00
Misc. Income: Copies, Rentals, Books, Etc.		1,073.37
Gifts: Richard and Kay Schellhase	175.00	
Dr. John B. Frantz (John B. Frantz Memorial)	100.00	
Southern Chapter ERHS	250.00	
Arcadia Foundation	4,000.00	
Kenneth Ferree	100.00	
Rev. Elmer Hoefer	50.00	
Myron Wolf	50.00	
Pearl M. Wetzel (Bequest)	5,000.00	
Rev. Elvin & Jean Groff	50.00	
Faith UCC, Lancaster, PA	350.00	
Rev. Mark Steiner	50.00	
Robert P. Heile	50.00	
Rev. Robert & Anita Rezash	500.00	
St. Andrew Church UCC, Lancaster, PA	150.00	
Melanie Beidler	85.00	
Rev. David Rapp	100.00	
Rev. John R. Weiler (Ralph S. Weiler Memorial)	100.00	
Dr. John B. Payne	50.00	
Rev. Banks Shepherd	50.00	
Others (less than \$50 each)	435.00	11,695.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$27,330.01

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES (cont'd from page 14)

EXPENSES

Payroll and Payroll Taxes	10,139.13
Supplies	1,133.86
Equipment	110.00
Printing	966.54
Postage	1,254.22
Telephone	685.39
Miscellaneous	284.93
Meetings and Travel	2,075.01
Special Projects	643.20
Insurance	707.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$17,999.28</u>
Surplus for the year ended Dec. 31, 1995	<u>\$9,330.73</u>

THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED HISTORICAL SOCIETY UCC

BALANCE SHEET

12/31/95

ASSETS

Checking Account-- Core States Hamilton Bank	8,568.44
Money Market Account-- Core States Hamilton Bank	51,583.85
Certificate of Deposit--Sovereign Bank	4,402.02
GMC Memorial Endowment--Hamilton Bank C/D	1,001.00
Wellington Fund	1,008.00
St. Paul's Preservation Trust--Hamilton Bank C/D	3,000.00
United Church Foundation	25,000.00
Pearl M. Wetzel Bequest--Harris C/D	5,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$99,563.31</u>

LIABILITIES AND PRINCIPAL

Principal--12/31/94	90,232.58
Plus surplus & bequest 1/1/95-12/31/95	9,330.73
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND PRINCIPAL	<u>\$99,563.31</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Myron E. Wolf, Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please enroll me as a member of the ERHS for 1996. Enclosed is my check for the following amount:

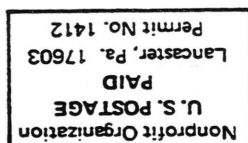
<u>MEMBERSHIPS</u>	
_____ Donor \$25	_____ Sponsor \$100
_____ Student \$ 7	_____ Institution \$50
_____ Life \$250	

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.



The Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society UCC
555 West James Street
Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17603
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED