

# NEWS

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

*Sponsored Agency of the Historical Council, United Church of Christ*

## ANNUAL REPORTS ISSUE

January 1997

Volume 24, no. 2

### ANNUAL MEETING AT TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTON, OHIO

The Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society held its Annual Meeting on October 12, 1996 at Trinity United Church of Christ in Canton, Ohio. The meeting was part of Trinity's 125th anniversary celebration.

Two lectures were presented which treated aspects of the history of the United Church of Christ in Ohio. Dr. Ralph Quellhorst, Conference Minister of the Ohio Conference United Church of Christ and newly elected board member of the ERHS, gave a lecture on the topic, "The Ohio Conference after 35 Years." Dr. Carl Klopfenstein, professor of history emeritus and Director of the Archives at Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio, addressed the subject, "The History of Heidelberg College." Both lectures were most informative and stimulating and aroused considerable interest among the hearers. A summary of Dr. Quellhorst's lecture follows in this newsletter.

During the lunch period highlights from the story of Trinity and its anniversary year celebration were presented by members of the anniversary committee.

After lunch three events took place: the annual business meeting, a workshop on local church history led by UCC Archivist Kay Schellhase, and a tour of historic churches in the area.

(Cont'd. on page 4)

### NEXT ANNUAL MEETING TO TAKE PLACE AT ST. ANDREW UCC LANCASTER, PA. OCTOBER 11, 1997

The Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society will hold its 134th Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 11, at St. Andrew United Church of Christ, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, which will celebrate its 100th anniversary. 1997 also marks the 500th anniversary of the birth of the Protestant Reformer, Philip Melanchthon, the close colleague of Martin Luther and the teacher of Zacharias Ursinus, the primary author of the Heidelberg Catechism. The society will mark both of these anniversaries at this meeting with a video on the history of St. Andrew and a lecture on Melanchthon and the Reformed tradition by Dr. Lowell Zuck, professor of church history emeritus at Eden Theological Seminary, Webster Groves, Missouri and vice-president of the ERHS.

### COLLOQUY WITH THE LUTHERAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society will join with the Lutheran Historical Society of Gettysburg, PA and the Mercersburg Society to sponsor a colloquy on Mercersburg Theology and Lutheranism. The colloquy will take place at Lancaster Theological Seminary on Friday, October 10, 1997, the day before the ERHS Annual Meeting.

THE OHIO CONFERENCE AFTER 35 YEARS

By Ralph C. Quellhorst

It was at the Organizing Meeting in November 1963 that the Committee of Fifty (25 persons from the Ohio Conference of the Congregational Christian Churches and 25 persons from the four synods of the Evangelical and Reformed Church) presented its final report to form the Ohio Conference with five Associations. Alan Rorick, a layman on the Committee of Fifty noted in his remarks, "Our new Ohio Conference is quite unlike any of the four E & R Synods or the former Ohio Conference of the Congregational Christian Churches. I have heard a prominent CC'r remark, "We gave in to the E & R's every step of the way," and on the other hand, an E & R clergyman has said that the CC'rs have had it their way in all the important decisions! We may infer from this that what has been accomplished is really something quite new!"<sup>1</sup>

The Rev. Don Powers, the founding moderator, commented, "We pray that the structures submitted to you for Associations and Conferences may advance the genius of Protestantism to make its eminent contribution of prophetic and redemptive witness." He went on to say, "There are dangers too. There are always dangers in freedom. There is the freedom to do as you please in autonomous bodies and not as you should. In a free thinking church, there is this risk. All of us must realize the power that is in our hands. We must use this power constructively and not for selfish ends of a particular individual, local church, association or conference."<sup>2</sup>

What has happened these past 35 years in the life of the OC and the five Associations?

There are 24% fewer congregations and 33% fewer members in 1996 than there were in 1962. Most of the membership losses have happened within one-third of the churches, 40% of the churches have remained relatively stable while the remaining churches have grown in membership. The third of the churches which have lost members have lost them faster than the growing churches have replaced them. The trend for losing members and churches started before merger talks were begun.

Financial contributions from local churches for missions beyond the local church were 125% more in 1995 than in 1962. Giving for the support of local churches increased 255%. While the OC has 33% fewer people and 24% fewer congregations, the members of the churches of the OC have given more money to support the local churches as well as the wider mission of the UCC.

The most dramatic change has occurred in the number of persons involved in our local

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<sup>1</sup> Remarks quoted from the paper by Alan G. Rorick as the Reporter of the Committee of Fifty and the Report of the Provisional Trustees of the Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ, November 6, 1963, Columbus, Ohio, p. 2-3.

<sup>2</sup> Speech delivered by Don Powers at the organizing Meeting of the Ohio Conference of the United Church of Christ, November 6, 1963. Title of speech: "Give Heart and Soul and Mind and Strength," p. 3



THE OHIO CONFERENCE (cont'd from page 2)

church educational programs. Tragically there are 74% fewer persons enrolled in church school in 1996 than in 1963. Should this trend continue it will have devastating effects upon the UCC.

The Camp and Conference program is the largest single mission program of the OC. Thousands of persons have been served by the work of the outdoor ministries over the 35 years. In 1963 there were about 2000 persons using the sites annually; in 1995 there were nearly 15,000 people with revenues over \$1 million. This growth has happened in spite of lower church school enrollments.

In 1963 there was a great deal of controversy about how the denomination would impact local churches. Some CC churches felt so strongly about their denominational identity that they fought the merger by appealing their legal case against the merger to the United States Supreme court. In 1966 many church members do not see denominational affiliation as a relevant issue for their local church. They look to the effectiveness of the ministry of their particular local church as the starting and ending point of their support and participation.

One of the current struggles for some congregations is the transition from being the "German church" or the "New England transplanted Church" into some thing not so clearly identified. At the same time the OC is gaining newcultural churches. Historically there have always been predominately African American churches as an important part of the life of the OC but also today there are Filipino and Hispanic heritage churches as well. There are an increasing number of multi-racial, multi-cultural, and gay and lesbian congregations within the OC.

The organizational design of the OC and its five Associations is still unique in the UCC. It is the only middle judicatory in the UCC that requests congregations to send their benevolent contributions to the Association offices first. The Associations retain their percentage of the OCWM contributions and forward the remainder to the Conference office. The OC retains its share of the OCWM and forwards the remaining agreed-upon amount to the national instrumentalities.

It is interesting to note that over the 35 years there have been three major structural changes in the deployment of staff and program, yet no essential changes have been made from the original design of five Associations and one Conference.

The annual meetings of the OC have passed 43 resolutions or concerns for action since 1963. In the turbulent 60's the OC adopted positions on civil rights, while the 70's dealt with racism including establishing the Black Empowerment Program. Meetings in the 70's also dealt with Vietnam, abortions and public education. In the late 80's and early 90's the annual meetings were filled with conflict over human sexuality questions particularly focused on homosexuality.

In 1963, the majority of pastors of the OC were trained primarily at denominational seminaries. That seminary loyalty carried over into denominational collegiality. But dramatic changes have taken place since those early 60's. Today fewer UCC clergy

THE OHIO CONFERENCE (cont'd from page 3)

receive their seminary education at one of the UCC denominational seminaries and thus have established social and collegial relationships with persons from other denominations.

Participation in clergy collegial groups has also changed. In the early 60's, it was expected that every clergy person would attend her or his area clergy group without fail. Today some clergy reflect a lack of interest or sense of obligation and accountability to the UCC. This has resulted in committees for church and ministry becoming more regulatory to assure greater accountability to the UCC. Congregations have come to rely upon the assurance that the pastor they are seeking did not have problems in his or her previous parishes thus putting the congregation at risk. Yet at the same time when a pastor is called, the congregation often does not encourage the pastor to participate in the wider church. This counterpoint of expectations is both confusing and paradoxical.

In contrast to 1963, when the majority of the members of the boards of the health and welfare institutions related to the UCC were elected by the delegates of the OC, the Conference now elects none of these board members. Today most of the health and human service ministries do have a majority of UCC persons on their boards. They have worked hard to maintain a feeling of "ownership" by the UCC for these ministries.

The relationship with Heidelberg and Defiance Colleges has also changed. They were forced to find other sources of funds for their ministries as the church cut financial support. Heidelberg and Defiance have had to work hard to continue the relationship to the church because the wider church has not financially supported these higher education ministries.

Support for seminaries related to Ohio is advanced through a joint program with 16 conferences called CUE (Chicago, United and Eden). This program was begun as the result of the disappearance of national funding for theological education. In 1995, over \$150,000 a year was given by the churches of Ohio for the support of these seminaries, a considerably larger amount than was given by the budgets of the Synods prior to the merger. CUE has been a positive source of identification with theological education for many local churches.

What faces the Ohio Conference and its five Associations in the next 35 years? As OC begins planning for its life after the year 2000, the trends which have been noted need to be taken into account. Those persons who founded the OC and its five Associations had a vision that people from different traditions might serve faithfully in its call to be a servant church. We pray that the present-day church will have the courage to face its new future.

ANNUAL MEETING (Cont'd from page 1)

Persons who remained through Sunday shared in the festive celebrations of worship at which the Rev. Dr. Paul Sherry, President of the United Church of Christ, was the preacher. After the service they also enjoyed a delightful lunch at the church.

The E&R Historical Society is most appreciative of the preparatory work for the meeting and the wonderful hospitality shown to us by the members of Trinity UCC and its minister, the Rev. David Schoen.



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED HISTORICAL SOCIETY, OCTOBER 11, 1996

President Payne called the meeting to order by asking the Rev. Deborah Rahn Clemens to lead in prayer.

Present: Lowell Zuck, Deborah Clemens, Scott Sanders, Florence Bricker, David Rapp, Frank Stearns, Mark Steiner, James Mohr, Larry Bolick, Banks Shepherd, Kay Schellhase, Mary Hutchens, and guest David Schoen. Regrets sent by Myron Wolf and Robert Hunsicker.

The April Executive Committee minutes were accepted as printed in the July newsletter.

The reports of the president and the archivist were presented and accepted with gratitude. (See pages 8, 9 and 10 of this newsletter.)

In conjunction with the 250th anniversary of the first meeting of the Coetus of the Reformed Church, Kay Schellhase and John Payne were asked to write Eden Seminary and request a loan of the Harbaugh Manuscripts for exhibition at the ERHS Archives during this anniversary year.

The reports of the Eden Archives and the Southern Chapter were presented, discussed and accepted. (See pages 11, 12 and 13.)

The Treasurer's report through August was presented. Income has increased. A major expense is the new computer system.

Following a discussion on investment policy, a consensus was reached to maintain a conservative approach to investing funds.

The 1997 budget was presented with the note that part of the 1998 Annual Meeting expense will be underwritten by the Rev. and Mrs. Robert Rezash. Mr. Steiner moved to accept the proposed budget, Mr. Rapp seconded and the motion was approved.

The Rev. David Schoen outlined the program for the next day's Annual Meeting of the Society as well as the plans for Sunday.

The October 11, 1997 Annual Meeting will take place at St. Andrew UCC, Lancaster, PA. A possible program is an organ recital plus a paper. Topics suggested: Founding of St. Andrew and Faith in Lancaster; Melancthon/Bucer. On October 10 there will be a meeting of the Lutheran Historical Society, Gettysburg, PA, the Mercersburg Society and ERHS with a topic on Mercersburg and Lutheranism. The meeting will take place at Lancaster Theological Seminary.

The UCC Historical Council will participate in celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the UCC at General Synod XXI and will also host a luncheon. There was a good response to the essay contest. Julia Speller, a graduate student at the University of Chicago, wrote the winning essay "Black Congregations and Christians in the South." The Rev. Joseph T. McMillan Jr.'s paper "From Hope to Hope, The First Fifty Years of the American

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (cont'd from page 5)

Missionary Association: A Metaphor for Race Relations in Twenty-first Century America," presented in connection with the UCC Historical Council meeting in September, 1996, will be printed and distributed.

There was some discussion of the denominational restructuring process and its possible impact on the Historical Council and the Historical Societies. The UCC Historical Council proposed a Council on History, Identity and Theology to the committee on restructure.

Sheldon Mackey informed President Payne that the Evangelical and Reformed Book of Worship copyright is under the jurisdiction of the Board for Homeland Ministries. Rev. Robert Noble, Executive Associate of that Board, is being contacted for further information.

Florence Bricker was recognized for her service as Archivist with the Society and on the Board of Directors. As she retires, the Board of Directors extends its appreciation and gratitude for her years of service.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary E. Hutchens, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EVANGELICAL & REFORMED HISTORICAL SOCIETY, OCTOBER 12, 1996

Registration (8:45 a.m.) was followed by an organ recital by David Carnell, Trinity UCC Minister of Music.

At 9:30 President John Payne welcomed members of the Society and guests. The Rev. David Schoen, led the opening worship. The Rev. Dale Hempen introduced Dr. Ralph Quellhorst, Ohio Conference Minister, who presented a lecture on the topic, "The Ohio Conference after 35 years."

Mr. Tom Pieper introduced Dr. Carl Klopfenstein, Director of the Archives at Heidelberg College, who addressed the subject, "Heidelberg College and the Reformed Tradition".

During the lunch period, Trinity presented its story. A workshop led by Kay Schellhase, the tour of area churches and the annual business meeting of the Society followed a delicious lunch.

At 1:30 p.m. President Payne called on the Rev. Banks Shepherd to open the business meeting with prayer. The Rev. David Rapp moved to adopt the minutes of the 1996 annual meeting as printed. Mr. Shepherd seconded and the motion was carried.

President Payne presented a written report. He expressed appreciation for the hospitality of Trinity UCC, Canton. He highlighted the good financial status of the Society, the



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING (cont'd from page 6)

continuing good work of the staff and the arrival of the first volume of the Living Theological Heritage.

The written report of Archivist Kay Schellhase was presented by John Payne, while she conducted a workshop for local church historians.

Banks Shepherd presented the Southern Chapter Report, and Lowell Zuck reported for the Eden Archives.

Treasurer Myron Wolf sent a printed report. A request was made for a report on the income of each investment account. It was recommended that investment income be reviewed for a greater return on investments.

David Rapp moved, Larry Bolick seconded and the Society voted to receive the reports as presented.

Garland John Gates of First United Church of Christ, Shelby, Ohio presented the Nominating Committee Report.

President:	Rev. John B. Payne
Vice-President:	Rev. Lowell H. Zuck
Secretary:	Rev. Mary Hutchens
Treasurer:	Mr. Myron Wolf
Directors:	Rev. Lawrence Bolick, Rev. Deborah Rahn Clemens, Rev. Robert G. Hunsicker, Rev. James D. Mohr, Dr. Ralph Quellhorst, Rev. David Rapp, Rev. Scott Sanders, Rev. Banks Shepherd, Mr. Frank Stearns, Rev. Mark Steiner
Archivist:	Mrs. Kay Schellhase

It was moved, seconded and voted to close the nominations and instruct the secretary to cast the ballot for the persons presented.

Plans were presented for the 1997 and 1998 meetings. No place has yet been set for the 1999 Annual Meeting.

A report was made on the work of the UCC Historical Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 with a benediction by the Rev. David Rapp.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary E. Hutchens, Secretary

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**The July Newsletter will carry further information on the fall meetings.**

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

The year since our last annual meeting has been a very good one for the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society. Memberships, which had been declining in recent years, experienced a mild upswing in 1995. We must have set a record in 1995 for Life Memberships--nine. That trend continues this year. Up to now we have had already four new Life Memberships in 1996, and the number of memberships has increased considerably over the same period of time last year as indicated by the amount of the membership dues. By the end of the year we shall have passed our total of last year by a wide margin.

Financially, the society is also in a state of reasonably good health. Aided by a \$4,000 grant from the Arcadia Foundation and a \$5000 bequest from the Pearl M. Wetzel estate, we ended the year with a \$9,330 surplus. This year we have received another \$5000 bequest from Anna Lucille Brackbill, a former cataloger in the archives who in her long career had worked at the libraries of Union Theological Seminary, Princeton University, Yale University, and Franklin and Marshall College. We have been notified by the Arcadia Foundation that we shall receive a grant of \$11,000 in 1997.

We had a fine meeting last October in Spring Grove, Pa., with good attendance. The lectures on topics of local interest were well received. We anticipate another fine meeting at Trinity UCC, Canton, Ohio, with addresses by Dr. Ralph Quellhorst and by Dr. Carl Klopfenstein. We are pleased to have been invited by the pastor, the Reverend David Schoen, to stay for the Sunday services, at which Dr. Paul Sherry will preach, and for a luncheon with President Sherry after the services.

The ERHS Board of Directors voted to become a sponsor of the Living Theological Heritage series and has received the first volume, Ancient and Medieval Legacies, edited by Reinhard Ulrich, with the society's name embossed on the cover. It is hoped that the second volume, Reformation Roots, edited by John B. Payne, will appear soon.

I have been engaged in other publication projects related to the interests of this society. Early this year my essay, "Nevin on Baptism," appeared in Reformed Confessionalism in Nineteenth Century America: Essays on the Thought of John Williamson Nevin, edited by Sam Hamstra, Jr. and Arie Griffioen (Scarecrow Press). I have prepared another essay on Nevin's career and theology for Makers of Christian Theology in America, edited by Mark G. Toulouse and James O. Duke, to be published by Abingdon Press in 1997.

The work at the archives goes well with Kay Schellhase as archivist and Diane Rimert and Dianne Russell as two able part-time assistants. We were delighted to receive from the Rev. John Weiler a valuable collection of 110 letters written to John W. Nevin from 1825 to 1841 and three letters by Nevin himself, one of which, published in the previous newsletter, was written on the eve of the battle of Gettysburg to his daughter, Blanche, who was studying art in Philadelphia. Mr. Weiler received the letters from Nevin's great-granddaughter, Faith Sayre Schindler.

The papers of the Rev. Dr. Charles Edmund Schaeffer (1867-1966) have been reprocessed so that they are more accessible. Known affectionately to his friends as "Charlie," he was General Secretary of the Board of Home Missions of the Reformed Church from 1909 to 1941, and he served the denomination in various other capacities during his long career.



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

Papers especially associated with the work of the Rev. Reginald Helfferich have also been recently processed. Mr. Helfferich served as the Executive Secretary of the Commission on World Service for the Evangelical and Reformed Church (1951-1961). He was General Secretary of the UCBWM Division of World Service as well as a founder of Church World Service and of the heifer Project.

We have had a relatively larger number of persons this year doing research in the archives, even if most of it is genealogical. This summer Aaron Fogleman conducted research in the archives for a book on German pietism. Dr. Isao Kuramatsu, the new president of Tohoku Gakuin University, Sendai, Japan, made a visit to the seminary and the ERHS archives in July, and in August a group of Japanese students from Tohoku Gakuin who were studying at Ursinus College visited the archives. They are always interested in our collection which gives glimpses of their university in former years.

In anticipation of a grant from the Arcadia Foundation for that purpose, we have obtained for the archives a new computer equipped with Windows 95 which has much more memory, hard disk capacity and speed than our former computer had. Since the seminary has just gone on line, the archives will soon be able to share in this arrangement with access to the Internet and e-mail.

Respectfully submitted,  
John B. Payne, President

REPORT OF THE ARCHIVIST

The technological revolution that we hear so much about has occurred even in the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society. When I arrived in Lancaster, just a little more than six years ago, catalog cards were produced on a manual typewriter, correspondence was done on an electric typewriter, and the revised edition of Mrs. Bricker's useful booklet on church and pastoral records, was being laboriously typed out by a former secretary.

The age of the computer dawned quickly, however, and we soon purchased a Macintosh Classic, which we have used constantly and have now outgrown. Thanks to a generous grant from the Arcadia Foundation, the Historical Society will soon have two state-of-the-art PCs, both equipped with Windows 95, and we will be connected to an e-mail system through the Lancaster Theological Seminary. Our membership records and mailing lists, as well as our listings of church and pastoral records (although not the contents of the records), audio-visual materials and museum objects are all available on computer data bases, and our correspondence is now done on word-processing programs.

Our latest computer project has been the creation of a data-base record of early Reformed churches in states other than Pennsylvania. We are often asked about these churches, and we are now for the first time drawing the information together in a readily accessible fashion. The data can be searched on the computer and will also be printed out.

Every year the Congregational Christian Historical Society sends a mailing to churches about to celebrate 25-year anniversaries. In recent months I have received several inquiries

REPORT OF THE ARCHIVIST (cont'd from page 9)

from pastors of former E & R churches about this reminder packet, which has appeared to imply that only the CCHS provides services to these churches. In order to dispel that false impression, I have prepared a new page to be included in the mailing each year.

Our own mailings now include our two newsletters per year and a fall membership reminder letter. As we prepare the newsletters, I often wonder how many of the persons who receive them take time to read them. It has been reassuring and gratifying, therefore, to have received such a good response to the article that appeared in the summer issue, offering free copies of the guidelines I developed for local church historians. There have been more than 25 requests for the guidelines, and I have had several telephone calls and exchanges of letters with persons who are assuming responsibility for local church records.

Unexpected gifts often find their way to us. This past summer, while I was working in the archives of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference, I learned that Ethel Shellenberger, retired Christian Education staff person with the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the United Church of Christ, had pieces of the marble facing from the lobby of the Schaff Building in Philadelphia and that she would be willing to donate them. A small piece has been placed in the "rock garden" at the Conference office, and a larger piece is now in Lancaster, where it joins several bronze plaques and the sign that once adorned the Schaff Building. These are precious mementos of the office building of the former E & R Church.

In my capacity as archivist of the United Church of Christ, I report that I have completed my sabbatical project, the travels for which kept me from attending the 1995 ERHS meeting. The project was a survey of UCC Conference office archives, and a summary of my findings was included in the spring 1996 Historical Council newsletter. I have a clear understanding of how the records of each Conference are being stored and cared for.

The UCC Archives has been receiving large quantities of United Church Board for World Ministries records from the past 35 years from New York. We now have almost 90 cubic feet of these partially-processed records on the shelves, and for the first time I am beginning to feel that the space problem that has always been a possibility may become a reality. There is a limit to how much office, research and records storage space can be packed into a room of approximately 2500 square feet.

One major physical change is taking place at the Philip Schaff Library this fall. A new roof is being installed, and while this does not expand our space, it does eliminate what had become a major concern in the archives. Because we are on the second floor of the building, the danger to our collection from a leaky roof would be enormous. We are most grateful to Lancaster Seminary for replacing the roof, which will carry a 20-year guarantee.

I wish to express my gratitude as well to the two part-time staff persons and the one faithful volunteer without whom the UCC Archives and the E & R Historical Society would be unable to function. Especially now that my own position has been reduced to part-time, it is Diane Rimert and Dianne Russell who make our resources available in my absence.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kay Schellhase, Archivist



EDEN ARCHIVES REPORT

The work of the Eden Archives continues, with Lowell Zuck and Clifton W. ("Bill") Kerr extending open hours to Monday through Thursday mornings, from 8:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

During the spring and summer, Mr. Kerr continued relocation of materials by cleaning and reordering file cabinets (with the volunteer help of Mrs. Betty Dowd, wife of a Presbyterian minister from Cleveland, on sabbatical leave at Eden Seminary). Among visitors given aid were David Nussmann of Houston, researching Evangelical Gesangbuecher, and Tim White of Austin, Texas, checking materials on the Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, MS.

The Eden Archives Committee, chaired by the Rev. Donald Sabbert, held its regular meeting on September 17, 1996. A collection policy statement was adopted to be recommended to the Board of Trustees. It states that materials accepted become the permanent property of the Archives, although it was agreed that unusual circumstances might require further negotiations with donors.

Dean John Bracke reported on discussions regarding library expansion. Since the library is 90% filled to capacity currently, a consultant has recommended extending the current building south toward Lockwood Avenue. Obviously, the joint operation system makes for complexity in building plans. The Archives Committee recommended that further needs of the Archives be clearly represented in future discussions.

It was recommended that a twenty-five dollar charge, payable to the Archives, be made for out-of-town researchers (mostly genealogists) who ask on the spur of the moment that the Archives be opened for them on weekends or when it is closed.

The role of the Archives in helping make plans for the forthcoming 150th anniversary celebration of Eden's founding in the year 2000 was recognized, and budget concerns were discussed. The Rev. Harold Grunewald was thanked for securing church materials from Salem UCC in Norwood, Ohio for the Archives, and Don Wintermeyer's work on an acquisitions policy statement was noted.

Lowell Zuck reported on a recent UCC Historical Council meeting in Cleveland and the forthcoming ERHS annual meeting in Canton, Ohio. He also noted a coming visit in October from the Evangelical Church of the Union of a delegation from Germany to the Illinois South Conference, to which he will contribute, and an address to the Central Southeast Ohio Association celebrating the 250th anniversary of First Congregational Church in Marietta, Ohio, also in October.

The Eden Archives again expresses appreciation for its continuing relationship to the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, in connection with the Historical Council of the United Church of Christ. We thank those who call upon us for help, visit us, write us, and support us financially.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lowell Zuck, Archivist

SOUTHERN CHAPTER REPORT

In keeping with its practice of celebrating local church anniversaries, the Southern Chapter held its annual meeting on November 4, 1995 at Grace Reformed United Church of Christ, Newton, North Carolina, in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the church. Grace Church is located about two blocks from the original site of Catawba College, and we were in touch with the college's history as well.

Elected as officers for 1996 were the following persons:

- The Rev. Banks Shepherd--President
- The Rev. Nelson Weller--Vice-President
- The Rev. Harold Holste--Secretary
- The Rev. Richard Cheek--Treasurer
- The Rev. Lawrence Bolick--Librarian

In December 1995, the executive committee met with Dr. Plummer Alston ("Al") Jones, head librarian at Catawba College, to discuss the status of our archives. Dr. Jones was excited about our meeting with him, and he acknowledged that the Southern Chapter Archives is a unique resource for the E & R Church background in North Carolina and for Catawba College. He re-kindled in us some hope that our needs might be considered in the library renovation and expansion necessary for continued certification in the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities. Of course, our position would be strengthened considerably if we had funds to contribute toward a history room in the expansion.

The executive committee held a work day at the Catawba College Library on Saturday, March 9, 1996, to move, arrange and sort out stored materials in a vacant, remote portion of the library in order to identify UCC material belonging to the Southern Conference office.

Our Archivist, Mrs. Jacquelyn Sims, has expressed a need for clerical assistance. She prepared a list of qualifications and responsibilities for circulation among churches in the hope of enlisting volunteers. The response so far has not been overwhelming.

Action was taken on June 5, 1996 by the executive committee to catalog the Archives according to the Dewey Decimal System so that materials could be entered on the Internet Computer System along with other library resources.

Four former E & R congregations in the Western North Carolina Association are celebrating anniversaries: First UCC, Salisbury (1896); Paul's Chapel UCC, Lexington (1946); St. Luke's UCC, Salisbury (1871); and Shiloh UCC (1871). The annual Southern Chapter meeting on November 2, 1996 will be held at First UCC, Salisbury, with the pastor, the Rev. David Crooks, giving a brief history of the church and the Rev. Mr. Bolick giving a brief history of Shiloh UCC. The meeting will adjourn for lunch in the old church building (1897) which is now La Cava Restaurant.

Several of our Southern Conference institutions are celebrating anniversaries this year: Catawba College (1851), John's River Valley Camp (1936), Blowing Rock Assembly Grounds (1946), Nazareth Children's Home (1906) and United Church Retirement Homes, Inc. (1971).



SOUTHERN CHAPTER REPORT (cont'd from page 12)

Brick UCC, Whitsett, NC has issued an invitation two years in advance for us to hold our annual meeting in August, 1998 in conjunction with its 250th anniversary. The historic building, erected in 1814, remodeled in 1841, and being restored by private contributions, is the site of the organization of the North Carolina Classis in 1831.

We continue to be included in the WNC Association annual budget for \$1,000, which pays for the hourly wages of our archivist and her student assistants. Treasurer Edith Alcorn has asked to be relieved of her responsibilities in order to care for her father in Missouri. The Rev. Larry Bolick served as interim treasurer until the Rev. Richard Cheek was appointed and elected treasurer at the annual meeting.

The Rev. Banks Shepherd presented his monologue on the Rev. Samuel Suther at Paul's Chapel UCC in connection with the 50th anniversary celebration. In observance of Heritage Sunday at Shiloh UCC and Anniversary Day at Nazareth Children's Home, Dr. Gary Fink, a member of Shiloh UCC, presented a monologue on the Rev. J.M.L. Lysterly, his great-grandfather, pastor of Shiloh (1889-1906) and first president of the Board of Managers of Nazareth Children's Home (1906-1924). A beloved pastor of WNC Association and former president of the NC Classis, the Rev. Roy C. Whisenhunt, died on September 29, 1996, at the age of 92. A video of Mr. Whisenhunt was made in October, 1995, as he spoke on "Five Scriptures That Have Meant the Most to Me in my Ministry."

Our UCC bus tour to the annual ERHS meeting at Trinity UCC, Canton, OH, includes visits to several Christian (Disciples of Christ) churches in Charleston, WV: First Christian and Boyd Memorial Christian. We will also visit Historical Bethany, Bethany College, and the home of the Rev. Alexander Campbell. While in the Canton area, we will visit Zoar German Village, Schoenbrunn Moravian Settlement, St. John's UCC, Dover, Trinity UCC, Canton, and Zion UCC, North Canton. At each church we are given a brief history and served a delicious meal. On Sunday, October 13, we will worship at Trinity UCC, where Dr. Paul Sherry, president of the UCC, will preach at the 9 a.m. service. Four of our members have been invited to make presentations on the history of southern Conference in adult education classes at Trinity from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. We wish to thank Pastor David Schoen for this invitation, for his hospitality, and for the assistance of his staff and members in making our arrangements in Canton.

Respectfully submitted  
Banks Shepherd, President  
Larry Bolick, Librarian

250TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF REFORMED COETUS IN PHILADELPHIA

The Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society is joining with Old First Reformed Church, Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania conferences and the UCC Historical council in sponsoring a celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the Reformed Coetus at Old First Church, Philadelphia on September 27, 1997. The Historical Council will hold its annual meeting in conjunction with this event at Old First on September 26 and 27. The speaker for the occasion will be Dr. John B. Frantz, professor of history at Penn State University and a specialist in German Reformed church history in the colonial period.

THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF THE UCC  
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES  
JANUARY 1, 1996 - DECEMBER 31, 1996

	<u>INCOME</u>	
Executive Council-UCC		\$2,500.00
Conferences: Penn Central	500.00	
Penn West	100.00	
Ohio	200.00	800.00
Associations: Cumberland	25.00	
Hudson-Mohawk, NY	50.00	
Lancaster, Pa.	1,875.00	1,950.00
Memberships		2,500.00
Life Fees: Rev. Elmer H. Hoefer	250.00	
Garland John Gates	250.00	
Bethany UCC, Philadelphia, Pa.	250.00	
Judith A. Berges	250.00	
Eulene F. Shepherd	250.00	1,250.00
Historical Council Financial Campaign		3,344.45
Interest on Investments		3,258.55
Visitor Fees		665.00
Misc. Income: Copies, Rentals, Books, Etc.		748.86
Gifts (contributions that exceed the membership amount)		
Lucille Brackbill (Bequest)	5,000.00	
Rev. Robert & Anita Rezash	1,000.00	
Trinity UCC, Canton, Ohio	1,000.00	
Harold Smith	250.00	
Church of the Apostles, Lancaster, Pa.	250.00	
Faith UCC, Lancaster, Pa.	230.00	
Southern Chapter ERHS	200.00	
St. Andrew UCC, Lancaster, Pa.	150.00	
Verna Rapp Uthman: To honor the marriage of		
Cynthia and David Rapp	150.00	
Barbara Manning	145.00	
Charles Rider: Memorial for Rev. A.S. Toensmier,		
Rev. E.S. Toensmier, Rev. P.J. Toensmier	100.00	
Verna Rapp Uthman	100.00	
Rev. Richard & Kay Schellhase	100.00	
Stephen Sziarto	75.00	
Kingston Congregational Church, Kingston, RI	50.00	
Others (less than \$50 each)	727.25	9,527.25
TOTAL INCOME		<u>\$26,544.11</u>



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

Payroll and Payroll Taxes	9,966.79	
Supplies	1,491.89	
Equipment	2,954.25	
Printing	972.21	
Postage	1,177.27	
Telephone	712.70	
Miscellaneous	82.40	
Meetings and Travel	3,768.79	
Special Projects	1,337.16	
Insurance	<u>847.00</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSES		<u>\$23,310.46</u>
Surplus for year ended Dec. 31, 1996		<u>\$3,233.65</u>

THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED HISTORICAL SOCIETY UCC  
BALANCE SHEET  
12/31/96

ASSETS

Checking Account-- Core States Hamilton Bank	10,649.98
Money Market Account-- Core States Hamilton Bank	52,735.96
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 Wetzel Endowment --Harris C/D	<u>5,000.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ <u>102,796.96</u>

LIABILITIES AND PRINCIPAL

Principal--1/1/96	99,563.31
Plus surplus 1/1/96-12/31/96	<u>3,233.65</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND PRINCIPAL	\$ <u>102,796.96</u>

Respectfully submitted,

Myron E. Wolf, Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please enroll me as a member of the ERHS for 1997. Enclosed is my check for the following amount:

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

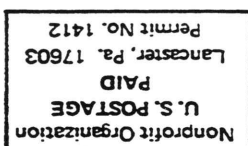
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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