

NEWS

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

Sponsored Agency of the Historical Council, United Church of Christ

July 1997

Volume 25, no. 1

ANNUAL MEETING AT ST. ANDREW UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, LANCASTER, PA

The next meeting of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society will take place on Saturday, October 11, 1997 at St. Andrew United Church of Christ, Lime and New Streets, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The Society will be sharing in St. Andrew's 100th anniversary celebration.

There will be a festive program marking this anniversary with a recital for organ and soprano by Roger Kurtz and Katherine Aregood as well as the presentation of a video, "St. Andrew United Church of Christ: Past, Present and Future." Roger Kurtz is instructor of organ at Elizabethtown College and organist at the college as well as Director of Music and organist at St. Andrew UCC. Katherine Aregood is a graduate of Millersville University where she was a music major. A former soloist at St. Andrew UCC, she is now studying voice in a Master's program at the University of Akron.

Besides celebrating St. Andrew's Centennial, the Society will be observing the 500th anniversary of the birth of the Reformer, Philip Melancthon, the writer of the Augsburg Confession, who was Luther's colleague at Wittenberg and

LUTHERAN-REFORMED CONVOCATION AT LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

A Lutheran-Reformed dialogue will take place at Lancaster Theological Seminary, Lancaster, Pa. on Friday, October 10, 1997. This summer the governing bodies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Reformed Church in America, and the United Church of Christ will be voting on A Formula of Agreement among these denominations. This agreement calls for "an ongoing process of theological dialogue in order to clarify further the common understanding of the faith and foster its common experience in evangelism, witness and service." This convocation will make an early contribution to this ongoing dialogue. Mercersburg Theology will be at the center of discussion at this colloquy. The Lutheran reaction to Mercersburg Theology in the mid-nineteenth century will be explored. In addition, how Mercersburg Theology may inform the future communion of Lutheran and Reformed Churches will be discussed. This colloquy is being sponsored by the Lutheran Historical Society of Gettysburg, the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, the Mercersburg Society and Lancaster Theological Seminary.

The speakers will be the Rev. Stephen Herr,

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ANNUAL MEETING (Cont'd. from page 1)

teacher of Zacharias Ursinus, the author of the Heidelberg Catechism. Dr. Lowell Zuck, Professor of Church History Emeritus at Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri and vice-president of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, will present an address entitled "Melancthon and the Reformed Tradition."

There will be a luncheon served at the church at 12:15 P.M. The cost for the luncheon will be \$5.00. Please make use of the form on page 9 of the newsletter for sending in your reservations.

Persons in attendance at this meeting are invited to attend the Sunday morning worship at 10:45 A.M. at St. Andrew. Dr. Gabriel Fackre, Abbot Professor of Theology Emeritus at Andover-Newton Theological School, will be the preacher. Dr. Fackre will be one of the speakers at the Lutheran-Reformed Dialogue Convocation to be held on Friday, October 10 at Lancaster Theological Seminary. Persons planning to attend the Annual Meeting on Saturday are invited to come one day early for this convocation.

Other events taking place in Lancaster County on that weekend include the Harvest Days Festival at the Landis Valley Museum on Route 272 North, the Apple Dumpling Festival at the Cloisters in Ephrata on October 11, and the Arts and Crafts Show at Lancaster Mennonite High School on Route 30 East on October 11.

Block reservations are being held for the nights of October 10 and 11 at the Days Inn Lancaster, 30 Keller Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601. Tel. 800-DAYS-INN; 717-299-5700. The cost is \$65.00 plus tax for a single or double room. Please make your reservations as soon as possible and refer to the ERHS meeting when doing so. Columbus weekend is a very busy one in Lancaster. Block reservations will be held until September 15. Days Inn Lancaster is located on Keller Avenue at Route 501 South.

St. Andrew UCC is located on 701 North Lime Street at New Street one block north of Lancaster General Hospital. All persons are cordially invited to come to this meeting.

The Board of Directors will meet at 7:30 P.M. in the Days Inn. We shall meet in the lobby of the inn at 5:30 P.M. to go to dinner.

LUTHERAN-REFORMED CONVOCATION (Cont'd. from page 1)

pastor of Hebron Evangelical Lutheran Church, Blairsville, Pennsylvania, and Dr. Gabriel Fackre, Abbot Professor of Theology Emeritus at Andover-Newton Theological School. A former professor of theology at Lancaster Theological Seminary, Dr. Fackre has been a member of the Lutheran-Reformed Dialogue Committee from the United Church of Christ.

A luncheon in the seminary refectory will be provided at no cost. Please use the form on page 9 of the newsletter for sending in your luncheon reservations .

LUTHERAN-REFORMED CONVOCAATION SCHEDULE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1997

- 8:30 A.M. Registration and Coffee
Campus Center next to the Lark Academic Building
- 9:00 A.M. Greetings and Worship
Santee Chapel in Lark Academic Building
- 9:30 A.M. The Rev. Stephen Herr
- 10:15 A.M. Morning Break
- 10:30 A.M. Dr. Gabriel Fackre
- 11:15 A.M. Discussion with both speakers
- 12:30 P.M. Lunch in the Refectory
- 1:45 P.M. Tour of the Lancaster Seminary Buildings and Archives
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ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1997

- 8:45 A.M. Registration and Coffee at St. Andrew United Church of Christ,
Fellowship Hall on Lower Level
- 9:30 A.M. Greetings and Worship in Sanctuary
- 9:45 A.M. "Philip Melanchthon and the Reformed Tradition"
Dr. Lowell Zuck
- 11:00 A.M. Morning Break
- 11:15 A.M. Recital for Organ and Soprano
Roger Kurtz and Katherine Aregood
- 12:15 P.M. Lunch
Presentation of Video: St. Andrew United Church of Christ: Past, Present
and Future
- 2:00 P.M. Annual Business Meeting of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society

Celebration date: 250th Anniversary of the German Reformed

Coetus is Saturday, September 27, 1997. At Old First

Reformed Church, 4th and Race Sts., Philadelphia, PA.

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250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMED COETUS TO BE CELEBRATED AT OLD FIRST REFORMED CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA

On Saturday, September 26, the UCC Historical Council will join with area churches in observing the anniversary of the forming of the German Reformed Coetus by the Rev. Michael Schlatter on September 29, 1747. The Historical Council is holding its meeting at Old First on September 26 and 27. The Coetus commemoration will take place during the afternoon of Saturday, October 27. Old First Reformed Church is located at 4th and Race Streets in Philadelphia.

Dr. John B. Frantz, professor of history at Penn State University and an expert on the German Reformed Church in the colonial period, will lecture at 2:00 P.M. A reception will follow the lecture.

The Rev. Frederick R. Trost, Wisconsin Conference Minister, will preach at the 4:00 P.M. festive worship service.

The churches which took part in the 1747 meeting of the Coetus have been invited to take part in this year's celebration and to display memorabilia during the reception. The following are the names of churches which were known to have been present at the first Coetus. On the right are the 1997 locations and churches.

Philadelphia	Old First, Philadelphia
Germantown	Market Square Presbyterian, Philadelphia (closed)
Falkner Swamp	Falkner Swamp, Gilbertsville
Providence	St. Luke's, Trappe
Witpen Township	Boehm's, Blue Bell
Old Goshenhoppen	Old Goshenhoppen, Woxall
New Goshenhoppen	New Goshenhoppen, East Greenville
Great Swamp	Trinity, Spinnerstown
Schaeffer's	St. Paul's, Schaefferstown
Hill	Salem Hellers, Leola
Erlentown	St. Stephen's, New Holland
Lancaster	First, Lancaster
Tulpehocken	Tulpehocken Trinity, Richland
Skippack	Wentz's, Worcester
Indian Field	Christ Reformed at Indian Creek, Telford
Springfield	Trinity, Pleasant Valley
Blue Mountains	Zion, Strausstown
Egypt	Egypt, Whitehall
Little Lehigh	Jerusalem Western Salisbury, Allentown
Saucon at Herzel's	Lower Saucon, Hellertown
York	Congregation divided in 1852
	Zion (German), Trinity (English), York

The members of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society are invited to share in this anniversary event.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, APRIL 4, 1997

The Board of Directors of the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society met on Friday, April 4, 1997 at 10:00 a.m. at the Archives in the Philip Schaff Library in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, with the following persons present: John Payne, Lowell Zuck, Kay Schellhase, Banks Shepherd, David Rapp, Robert Hunsicker, Myron Wolf and Mrs. David Rapp.

President Payne opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the October 11, 1997 meeting were approved as printed in the January Newsletter.

President Payne reported:

1. A gift of \$11,000 has been received from the Arcadia Foundation. This will enable us to up-grade our computer system and to coordinate further with that of the Philip Schaff Library.
2. Pres. Payne reported that Mrs. Marie Graeff had included ERHS in her will, naming us residuary beneficiary. However, a later will has surfaced that changed the beneficiary to another group. We have lawyers (the firm of Appel & Yost) working on our behalf. David Rapp, who knew Mrs. Graeff and her husband, and their long-term interest in ERHS, volunteered to speak for us if necessary.
3. Regarding the possible loan of the Harbaugh Manuscripts from Eden Seminary, Pres. Payne has spoken to Dr. David Greenhaw, the new president of Eden Seminary, concerning our interest in these papers.
4. Pres. Payne reported that volume 2 of The Living Theological Heritage Series is now out and available at the Cokesbury Bookstore at Lancaster Seminary for 20% off. Volume 3 should be out in the fall of 1997.

Archivist Kay Schellhase reported:

All staff persons are now part-time because of cutbacks in funding from the UCC.

Dianne Russell handles research letters, which have increased in volume (475 in 1995). A number of them (225) were requests for help which was not available. Genealogical inquiries have lessened.

The Mormons continue to request permission to micro-film church membership lists, which permission is granted. However, they show no interest in micro-filming any other church records.

Diane Rimert is working on computer programs, including streamlining our financial records.

The Rev. Richard Whitney volunteers regularly, sorting E&R and UCC materials. A school teacher from Germany- Ute Sattler- has been helping in the archives, translating local church records written in German script. She is very conscientious and a valuable volunteer.

The Rev. Charles Rockel's papers- sermons, articles, etc.- have been turned over to the Archives. He was a social action-oriented Reformed minister in the early part of this century.

Our up-graded computer system, made possible by the Arcadia Foundation grant, will enable us to connect to e-mail through Lancaster Theological Seminary. The Arcadia grant will also make possible the acquisition of some new computer furniture for the Archives.

The Philip Schaff Library will be closed from commencement in May until late in the summer of 1997 for extensive modifications. A discussion took place concerning the possibility of securing carpeting for key areas of the Archives. No action was taken.

Changes to the Library will include replacement of the card catalog with computer terminals. Our archival holdings will then not be included in their listing until they are re-classified. We are currently using the Union Theological Seminary system, which is not as universally used as the Library of Congress system.

Now is the time to look for a grant to hire someone to reprocess our collection and bring it up to technological standards to make it more usable.

Southern Chapter report:

Regarding materials from synods and classes outside North Carolina in the Southern Chapter Archives, two suggestions were offered. One, these might be micro-filmed before a decision is made to discard them. They could then be listed with the appropriate regional bodies. Two, the materials should not be discarded until Kay Schellhase checks a listing of them against holdings in the Lancaster Archives and Lowell Zuck has checked to determine if they are needed at Eden.

Eden Archives report:

The arrival of Dr. David Greenhaw from Lancaster to the presidency of Eden Seminary might offer hope for a sympathetic ear regarding the lending of the Harbaugh manuscripts for display at the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the organization of the German Reformed Coetus, to be held in Philadelphia in September 1997.

Treasurer's report: (Refer to January 1977 Newsletter, pp. 14-15)

As of March 1997 we are still in the black. A grant of \$11,000 from the Arcadia Foundation came toward the end of 1996. (Since 1975 we have received a total of \$285,000 from the Arcadia Foundation- by far our largest single source of support).

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We discussed the need for increasing our insurance coverage on art objects in our holdings. This will be pursued.

A motion was made by David Rapp, seconded by Banks Shepherd, to transfer in a staggered manner as much of our money market funds to various C.D.'s as the Treasurer deems comfortable. The motion passed.

Pres. Payne and Robert Hunsicker reported on plans for our annual meeting at St. Andrew UCC, Lancaster, Pa. on October 11, 1997. Lowell Zuck will present a paper on the 500th anniversary of Philip Melanchthon and his influence on the Reformed heritage. An organ recital will be presented by the St. Andrew organist Roger Kurtz, including music which would have been used in Reformed churches 100 years ago and earlier. It might be possible to have Katherine Aregood as a soloist as well. A video may be presented on the history and ministry of St. Andrew Church. Dr. Gabriel Fackre will be guest preacher on Sunday morning. Pres. Payne and Robert Hunsicker will arrange for worship and will further refine the agenda.

A Lutheran/Reformed dialogue on Mercersburg Theology will be held on Friday, October 10, 1997 at Lancaster Theological Seminary. The speakers will be Dr. Gabriel Fackre and a Lutheran pastor, the Rev. Stephen Herr. A discussion will follow the presentations.

There will be a celebration of the 250th anniversary of the organization of the Coetus at Old First Reformed UCC, Philadelphia on Saturday, September 27, 1997. Dr. John B. Frantz will be the speaker. The event is being arranged by Rev. Geneva Butz, pastor of Old First.

Pres. Payne announced that plans for the October 10, 1998 meeting of the Society at St. Peter UCC in Houston, Texas are proceeding. Pastor Robert Rezash made the initial contact and extended the invitation.

We have a tentative invitation to hold our meeting in the year 2000 at Bethany UCC, Sedalia, NC, in connection with their 130th anniversary. Bethany is a former Congregational African American church located near Greensboro, NC. (Ref. Stanley, J.F., A History of Black Congregational Christian Churches of the South, American Missionary Association, 1978, p.39).

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Banks Shepherd, Sec. pro tem.

VOLUNTEER TRANSCRIBES GERMAN SCRIPT CHURCH RECORD

Ute Sattler, a teacher of English and History in Bielefeld, Germany, spent her sabbatical leave from September 1996 to June 1997 in the United States working at a variety of volunteer projects arranged through Susan Sanders, Minister for Volunteer Services of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries. From January through June of 1997 Ms. Sattler lived at Lancaster Theological Seminary, auditing courses and volunteering in the library and in the archives. For the ERHS, she transcribed from old German script into modern English a set of baptismal records dating from 1802 to 1855 from the Ben-Salem Reformed Church, East Penn Township, Carbon County, Pa.. The script is difficult to read and we are grateful for the many hours of painstaking work Ms. Sattler devoted to the task.

HISTORICAL COUNCIL ESSAY CONTEST WINNER

The winner of the Historical Council Essay Contest prize was announced at the Council's General Synod luncheon. She is the Rev. Mary Schaller Blaufuss, an ordained UCC minister with standing in the North Penn Association of the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference and a student in the Ph.D. program at Princeton Theological Seminary in the area of Mission, Ecumenics and History of Religions. Her essay is entitled, "Women's Groups and Mission: A Survey of Nineteenth Century Women's Organizations in the Congregational, Christian, Evangelical and Reformed Churches." In the letter accompanying her submission, Ms. Blaufuss wrote, "My hope is that this study will provide an historical perspective that can aid women's groups currently searching for identity and purpose in today's world."

UCC HISTORICAL COUNCIL AT GS XXI

At the meeting of General Synod XXI (July 3-8, 1997) in Columbus, Ohio, the Historical Council sponsored a luncheon and display honoring the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the UCC.

The speaker at the luncheon on Friday, July 4 was the Rev. Roger L. Shinn, Reinhold Niebuhr Professor Emeritus of Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary, New York City. Dr. Shinn served from 1957 to 1959 on the Commission to Prepare a Statement of Faith and wrote many of the phrases so familiar to us today. At the luncheon, attended by more than 100 Synod delegates and visitors, he shared "Historical Reflections on the Statement of Faith."

The Historical Council display highlighted the importance of the local church in the history of the UCC. Each Conference was represented by a photograph of one local church, and those attending Synod added the names of their own local churches to the display, whose theme was "One Body, Many Members."

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Graham, Stephen R. Cosmos in the Chaos: Philip Schaff's Interpretation of Nineteenth Century American Religion. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.

Hambrick-Stowe, Charles E. Charles Finney and the Spirit of American Evangelism. Library of Religious Biography. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.

Hamstra, Sam Jr. and Griffioen, Arie J., Editors. Reformed Confessionalism in Nineteenth Century America: Essays on the Thought of John Williamson Nevin. ATLA Monograph Series, No. 38. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 1995.

Payne, John B., Editor. The Living Theological Heritage of the United Church of Christ. (Barbara Brown Zikmund, General Editor): Volume 2: Reformation Roots. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1997.

Ulrich, Reinhard, Editor. The Living Theological Heritage of the United Church of Christ. (Barbara Brown Zikmund, General Editor): Volume 1: Ancient and Medieval Legacies (Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1996).

Wentz, Richard E. John Williamson Nevin, American Theologian. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997.

LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORMS

LUTHERAN-REFORMED CONVOCATION LUNCHEON
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1997
LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY REFECTORY

Please make the following luncheon reservations for:

Names: _____ No. of reservations _____ (no charge)

Mail to: Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, Lancaster Theological Seminary,
555 W. James St., Lancaster, PA 17603-2812

ANNUAL MEETING LUNCHEON
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1997
12:15 P.M., ST. ANDREW UCC

No. of reservations @ \$5.00 each _____

Total enclosed _____

Please make checks payable and remit to: Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society,
555 West James St., Lancaster, PA 17603-2812.

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MEMBERSHIPS ~~CORRECTION: page 4 of July 1997 ERHS NEWS~~

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

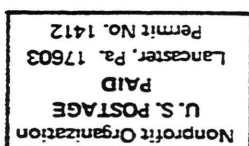
<u>MEMBERSHIPS</u>	
_____ Donor \$25.	_____ Sponsor \$100.
_____ Student \$7.	_____ Institution \$50.
_____ Life \$250.	

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Please detach, include check made payable to: Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society,
and mail to ERHS, 555 W. James St., Lancaster, PA 17603-2812.

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 to: UCC Historical Council, 700 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115.



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