



News from the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society

SAVE THE DATE Please join us for the 2018 Annual Meeting to be held Friday & Saturday, September 21-22, 2018 in St. Louis, MO.

Friday, Sept. 21

Tour of the Eden Seminary Archives and a site visit to one or more of the former Evangelical institutions that later became part of the Evangelical and Reformed Church before becoming part of the United Church of Christ.

Saturday, Sept. 22

Annual gathering at St. John's United Church of Christ, Mehlville, MO, near I-55 and Lindbergh Blvd. St. Johns is where Rev. Louis Nollau called a group of pastors together to form what became the German Evangelical Church Society of the West in 1840!

Two Presentations:

The History of the Evangelical Synod presented by Scott Holl, Archivist at Eden Theological Seminary, which is the home of the Archives of the Evangelical Synod of North America.

A panel discussion on the topic of the evolution of the mission of several German Evangelical institutions that were established to care for people in need in Missouri and Illinois.

OUR MISSION

The Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society seeks to collect, preserve, and make available the denominational records of the Reformed Church, Evangelical Synod, and E & R Church as well as local church records and manuscript collections of prominent leaders and clergy. The Society also seeks to promote the importance of its collections for contemporary religious and cultural research. The Society offers local churches, Associations, and Conferences consultations about their records, speakers on historical topics related to the E & R tradition, a newsletter, suggestions for church anniversary observances and an annual meeting with engaging speakers

Your participation in the work of the Society is also encouraged through an annual membership of \$35.00, by volunteering to help with various projects at the archives in Lancaster, by bringing groups for a tour of the Society and its collections.

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE ERHS

Academic Research Projects

- Alex Ames –Dissertation: *The Letter and the Spirit: Calligraphy, Manuscripts, and Popular Piety in German Pennsylvania, ca 1750-1850*
- Patrick Donmoyer- *Powwowing in Pennsylvania: Braucherei and the Ritual of Everyday Life*

New Archival Shelving

In October the ERHS received a grant of \$500 from the Salisbury Community Foundation to help purchase new steel shelving to replace some of the library shelves. The current shelves are inadequate for storing the large archival boxes. The funds were made possible through the generosity of the First United Church of Christ –Salisbury Foundation, Salisbury NC. Hopefully we will be able to purchase additional shelving in order to make room for more records.



Recently Cataloged Collections

Collections cataloged at ERHS in 2017 and now available to researchers include

- 2nd Reformed Church (Reading PA) 8 boxes of church records and artifacts.
- Zion Reformed Church (Reading PA) 3 boxes of church records and photographs
- 1st United Church of Christ (Royersford PA) 1 box church records 1891-2002
- Black Creek Charge (Coshocton and Holmes Counties, OH)
- Manuscript Collections of; Herman Ahrens, Ulrich Zwingli, Erston Marshall Butterfield, Eldon E. Ehrhart, Gabriel Fackre, Frederick L. Fagley, Robert T.
- Fauth, Joseph N. Carr, Robert K. Nace, Beatrice W. McConnell, Ann D. Lutz, Nathan A. Keyes, Paul S. Osumi, Roy R. Schmid, Jean Schmidt, Richard H. Whitney

Accessions

The archives received several important collections in 2017:

- St. Luke's UCC, North Wales, PA 12 boxes of materials
- A plate from West Side Evangelical and Reformed Church Cleveland OH 1853-1953
- Materials from Wabash Regional Women's Guild 1950's and Southeast Ohio Synod
- History of St. Paul's UCC, LaPorte, IN CD-ROM discs, congregational records
- First United Church of Christ (Reading, PA) church records 1743 to current
- Kreuz Creek, Camphill, PA materials and Canadochly materials
- New Jerusalem Reformed Church (New Jerusalem, PA) church records 1917-1987 Oley Charge and Union Church (reformed and Lutheran)
- Materials from Rev. Frederick A. Rupley Sr. and Jr.

Tohoku Gakuin University 東北学院大学土樋キャンパス

Professor Michitaka Suzuki, Director of the Institute for the study of Christianity and Culture and Professor of Art History from Sendai, Japan came to Lancaster to research the origins of the Tohoku Gakuin University in Sendai which was founded in 1886 by missionaries from the Reformed Church. He will return in the summer of 2018 to complete his research which is funded by a grant from the Japan Ministry of Education and Science

Check out our new updated website! The ERHS website is: www.erhs.info.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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ERHS is open to the public Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

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