

ARCHIVAL SURVEY

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Region 9, ELCA
Columbia, South Carolina
www.crumleyarchives.org

After the Waters Recede

Shannon Smith

Columbia, S.C. was devastated over the first weekend of October by unprecedented rainfall. Flood waters saturated large portions of the Midlands. Many lost their homes, some even their lives. Many of us who survived the storms unscathed are reminded of the disaster preparedness measures that we often neglect because we think that such rare natural disasters will not likely affect us. The October floods are a grim reminder that none of us are exempt from Mother Nature's whimsy.



Photo courtesy of WISTV.com

The question on everyone's mind is how to recover. One of the major tag lines in local media is "what now?" As Columbia begins to rehabilitate, one of the state's greatest challenges will be to recover our own, precious, personal archives. Fortunately, the James R. Crumley Jr. Archives avoided the flood waters. But what of all of the homes that were abandoned, homes that contained family memorabilia, historic records, and priceless artifacts? Unfortunately, many of these things will be lost.

But while it is easy to succumb to the frustration that such devastation wreaks, chalking up our waterlogged valuables as waste, institutions like the National Archives have offered instruction and techniques on how to recover archives. Though much of our valuables will probably not be restored to their original condition, consider some of these techniques should you ever find yourself in a situation where the salvage of water saturated materials is possible. These techniques apply mainly to paper items (i.e. records, books, documentation).

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This newsletter, in its title and masthead, pays homage to the *American Lutheran Survey* published by the noted Lutheran leader, Dr. Walton H. Greever, and was originally published at a site near the present-day Archives.



Shannon Smith, *Archivist and Editor*
Heather Walker, *Administrative Assistant*
Rachael Acheson, *Student Intern*
Rev. Dr. David Seymour,
Development Officer

You can help with flood relief!

The ELCA has provided a way to assist the many South Carolinians who were devastated by October's flood. Please consider donated to Lutheran Disaster Response. "Your gifts are needed now to help with flood relief. Gifts designated for **U.S. Flooding** will be used in full (100 percent) to assist those directly impacted."

Visit: <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/Our-Impact/US-Flooding> for details on how to help.

(Waters, Continued from page 1)

- Remove items from standing water to a dry place. Do not attempt rearrange, reposition, or reorganize items while they are wet.
- “Freezer paper and one sheet of 1/2” polystyrene”* should be placed between items if they need to be stored together.
- When removing materials, attempt to establish an atmosphere of low humidity to prevent mold and mildew. While heat is a good method for drying archives, it should only be used in conjunction with air conditioning (so as not to create a humid atmosphere). Good air circulation is essential.
- If you are unable to remove your records to a dry, non-humid place quickly, consider freezing the material. While this is not an effort in drying, it can prevent the growth of mold and mildew as you prepare a place for your material to dry. It is possible to squeeze or press excess water out of saturated materials, but do not attempt to wring, as can affect an item’s shape.
- The best time to remove mud is after archival materials are dry. If books are covered in mud, it is possible to rinse them with clean water only if this will not involve further damage to the book. Do not attempt to rinse pages.
- Consider using rust-proof or plastic receptacles, like a garbage can, to maintain your archives until additional accommodations can be made.

*For additional information, please go to <https://www.archives.gov/preservation/conservation/library-materials-06.html>. ♦

An Easy Way for your Congregation to Support the Archives

Please consider giving the Archives an annual contribution equal to \$1 for each year your congregation has been organized. This size gift is small in terms of congregational budgets, but huge in terms of what it collectively means to the Archives and our ability to continue serving congregations with anniversary, archives and history support. Thank you!

The James R. Crumley Jr. Archives 2015-16 Board of Trustees

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The Frederick Church Collection

Shannon Smith

In our past few issues of the Archival Survey, we have highlighted Frederick Evangelical Lutheran Church of St Thomas, Virgin Islands. Last fall, we received four large boxes of documents that could have been as old as the church itself is, that is to say, nearly 350 years old! We were not at all sure what to expect, and our curiosity was only enhanced by the need to quarantine the boxes for at least eight months due to possible insect and mold infestation. In the last edition of the Survey, we reported that we planned to exhume the boxes’ contents this summer.



Fast forward to July 2015. As we cut through the many layers of duct tape and bubble wrap that sealed the fate of any living organism that may have been lurking in the large boxes, I held my breath, prepared to jump back. Once the wrapping and tape were removed and we pulled back the four lips of the first box, I was amused to find only several more boxes inside the original box. The plot thickened; boxes inside of boxes? This was beginning to turn into a nesting doll!

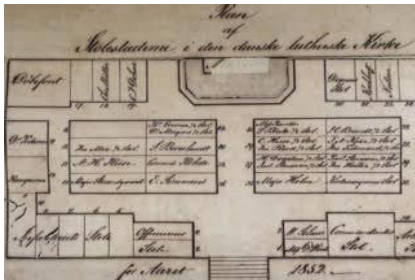
When we unpacked the envelopes, we were pleasantly surprised—if not a little relieved!—to find the contents in such great shape. It isn’t uncommon for archivists to find contents in horrendous condition: rubber bands melted to documents, sharp, rusted paper clips, broken glass, or the worst—dead bugs. But this wasn’t the case with Frederick Church’s material. No infestation or even disarray of any sort—just well-documented archives. While the suspense was intense and admittedly a little fun, I was very grateful for condition of the documents.

I’m not sure anyone suspected that the archives we received from Frederick Church would be exclusively in Danish. Not being a native Danish speaker myself—nay, not knowing a bit of it—our team would have been at a total loss when it came to identifying the contents of these envelopes. I should add that while the documents are in good condition, most of them are on average 200 years old, and faded manuscripts are difficult to read, even when they are in the translator’s own language. Our staff has created a finding aid thanks to the work of an anonymous archivist who inserted English descriptions for the majority of material, and I hope that it will be an asset to anyone researching the Frederick Church material—especially if he doesn’t read Danish!. (*Frederick, Continued on page 3*)

James R. Crumley Jr. Archives Fall 2015 Hours of Operation

Monday and Wednesday: 9 a - 4 p
Tuesday and Thursday: 8:30 a –noon; 12:30 –5 p
Friday: 8:30 a –2 p

The contents of the Frederick Church Collection range from financial records to correspondence. Our oldest document is dated 1739, and is a financial record of the Dutch West India Company. Some correspondences include issues regarding slavery, royal decrees regarding church maintenance, and the rebuilding of Frederick Church after an apparent disaster sometime around 1925. The collection also contains exciting treasures, such as an aerial view sketch of Frederick Church's nave, complete with a listing of pew rentals and royal decrees. The beauty of these documents—their detail, precision, and penmanship—is awe-inspiring.



Aerial view of Frederick Church's nave, 1852

As subscribers to last season's Archival Survey will remember, the Crumley Archives honored Frederick Church with the 2015 Congregational Heritage Award. I can think of no other congregation more deserving of a heritage award. Few churches can claim such longevity and preservation of history. The detail of the records and the fact that they have been kept after all of these years is quite remarkable.

I would be remiss not to mention that the Archives was particularly impressed with Frederick Church's earnest appreciation for our attention. Imagine our surprise after awarding the congregation with Heritage Award when they, in humble response, bestowed upon us a beautiful plaque of appreciation, which now hangs in our Archives. Not only is the congregation rich in history, but generosity too. We have established a close relationship with the congregation, and are very fortunate to include their history in our Archives.

If you are interested in our Frederick Church collection, please visit our website, for a detailed account of the collection, complete with dates and descriptions, coming soon. ♦



Ms. Mavis Brady of Frederick Church accepts the Congregational Heritage Award and speaks of her church's long history.

Many of you have heard that Mrs. Annette Crumley fell asleep in the Lord on September 9, 2015. What follows is her obituary, taken from *The State* newspaper, Columbia, S.C.:



“Annette Bodie Crumley, wife, mother, teacher, and musician, died September 9 at Pickersgill retirement community in Towson, Maryland. She was 86. Annette Bodie was born September 23, 1928 in Batesburg, South Carolina, the daughter of Henry Duane Bodie, Sr. and Corine Culbreath Bodie. After graduating from Batesburg-Leesville High School as valedictorian at the age of 16, she attended nearby Columbia College, studying music performance and composition.

She excelled in school, performing at receptions in the governor's mansion and as piano soloist with the Southern Symphony Orchestra; again, graduating with honors. In 1950, she married the Reverend James R. Crumley, Jr., a recent graduate of Lutheran Theological Seminary in Columbia.

Over the next twenty-five years, Mrs. Crumley served as the organist and choir director in her husband's parishes in Tennessee and Georgia. She also gave private lessons in piano and organ, a practice she continued well into retirement. Pastor Crumley served as Secretary of the Lutheran Church in America before being elected to the office of President and then Bishop, a position he held for nine years. Mrs. Crumley was his faithful traveling companion, accompanying him to the Soviet Union, South America, and throughout the United States, Asia, Europe and Africa. She loved recounting those adventures to her grandchildren, laughing about surprises encountered at formal receptions and dinners while also marveling at the vastness of the world and its fascinating people. She considered the opportunity to travel and serve the Church a great blessing and a chance to put faith into action. In 1988, the Crumleys retired to Batesburg-Leesville.

Mrs. Crumley served as the organist and choir director at Wittenberg Lutheran Church in Leesville. She enjoyed gardening, community and church activities, and doting on her grandchildren. Later moving to the Heritage at Lowman in White Rock, the Crumleys became members of Bethel Lutheran Church. Pastor and Mrs. Crumley were married for 64 years, until his death in April. They had three children: Frances Holman, of Towson, MD; James III of Savannah, GA; and Jeanne Lindemann (deceased). Mrs. Crumley was also a grandmother to eight and great-grandmother to nine. She is also survived by her brother, William C. Bodie, of Lexington” (*The State*, published 09/20/15).

Donations to the Archives in memory of Dr. and Mrs. Crumley may be sent to the James R. Crumley, Jr Archives, 4201 N. Main St., Columbia, S.C. 29203. ♦

Help us to conserve paper and reduce cost of the Archival Survey's production. Send us your email address to receive a digital copy of the Survey next spring!

2015 Friends of the Archives Banquet

This year's Friends of the Archives Banquet honored Jeanette Bergeron, former archivist of the Crumley Archives, Frederick Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the Caribbean Synod. And what an enjoyable evening we had! Here are a few "candid" photos of the event:



Mark Scott, Crumley Archives president and Master of Ceremonies



Susan McArver comments on the Walton Greever Award



L to R: Dr. Lois Hassel-Habtes and Ms. Mavis Brady represent Frederick Church, and Dr. Phyllis Wallace, the Caribbean Synod



Board members Mary Flekke, Karen Sumner share auction items with the crowd as Auctioneer and Colonel "Uncle" Arne Lange accepts bids



The crowd mingles before festivities begin



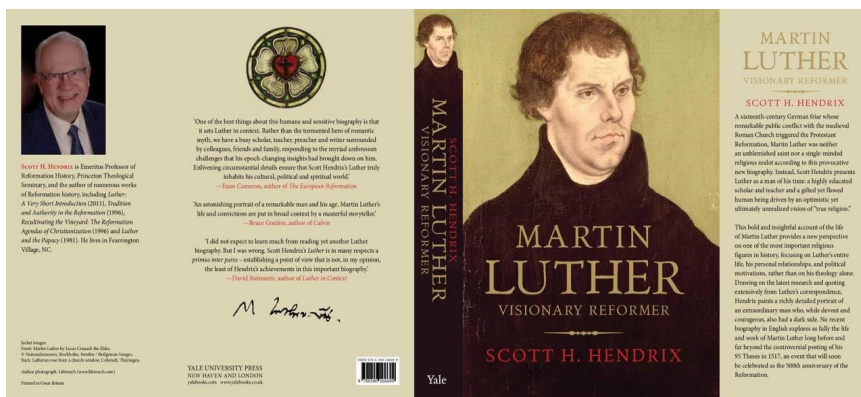
Martha Haigler welcomes guests

The banquet was a tremendous success! Many thanks to all of our friends who attended and contributed to the Archives! Our total revenue was more than \$9500, including general contributions, auction proceeds, grants, and paid reservations. "Uncle Arne's rapid fire patter enlivened the evening. [The] live auction was truly a boost for the Archives fund-raising effort", Mary Flekke told the *Survey*. "We're looking forward to having Uncle Arne back next year for another live auction." Special thanks to Thrivent Financial, Mission Investment Fund, and the Lutheran Church of the Ascension's "Fehrenkamp Grant" for the additional support! ♦

Get Your Copy of the Newly Published *Martin Luther: Visionary Reformer*, by Scott Hendrix

The Rev. Dr. Scott Hendrix, Emeritus Professor of Reformation History, Princeton Theological Seminary, has recently published a ground-breaking work on the life and work of Martin Luther. Hendrix reports this book appeals to a wide audience of Luther scholars and to a more general readership that is interested in the reformer. Luther's "vision of true religion," Hendrix tells the *Survey*, "was the practice of love and justice for others by Christians who were serious about their faith. The purpose of reforming the church was to nurture that true religion, which resided in the heart and not in buildings and ritual. [Luther's] vision can remind us that the church's function is to nurture the true religion of faith, love, and justice . . ."

A four year undertaking, Hendrix's new work is already receiving admirable reviews, and is considered to be the first among equals. ♦



Date of release: November 25, 2015
Pre-orders can be made through Amazon and Yale University Press.
Reserve your copy today!

Friends of the Archives

Since the last issue of the *Archival Survey* (Spring 2015), the following friends have made contributions to the *James R. Crumley Jr. Archives*. We are most grateful for these gifts because they enable us to preserve our church's history and to assist researchers, congregations, and institutions in their work. If you have made a contribution since the Spring of 2015 and your name is not listed here, please accept our apologies and send us a note indicating the amount and date of your gift. Also, if you've made a donation in honor of others, be assured we have written them directly.

If your congregation could make a gift to the Archives, that would be a wonderful support. We would be glad to supply any information you might need to help you make such a request at your church. Many thanks for your gifts!

Contributions in Memory of the Crumleys, April 23, 2015– October 14, 2015

From Individuals:

Tom & Ina Berkey, Williamsburg, VA
Jean Bozeman, Norfolk, VA
Norma Brewin, Savannah, GA
Paul & Debbie Baumgartner, Woodstock, GA
Sandy & Caroline Bridgers, Savannah, GA
Richard & Rebecca Campbell, Mt. Pleasant, SC
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James & Rachel Young, Leesville, SC

Congregations:

Faith Lutheran Church, Bristol, TN
Lutheran Church of the Ascension, Savannah, GA
Wittenberg Lutheran Church, Batesburg-Leesville, SC

Institutions:

Barr-Price Funeral Home, Leesville, SC

Other Contributions, April 23, 2015– October 14, 2015

From Individuals:

James & Celie Addy, West Columbia, SC
Randy & Mary Alice Akers, Columbia, SC
Mel & Nancy Amundson, Columbia, SC
Jim & Ginny Aull, White Rock, SC
Paulwyn & Betty Boliek, Augusta, GA
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Lutheran Homes of South Carolina
Newberry College
NovusWay Ministries
Lutheran Advocates for Maritime Mission

Other:

Mission Investment Fund, ELCA
Thrivent Financial
Lutheran Church of the Ascension's "Fehrenkamp Grant"

Standing On the Shoulders of Giants

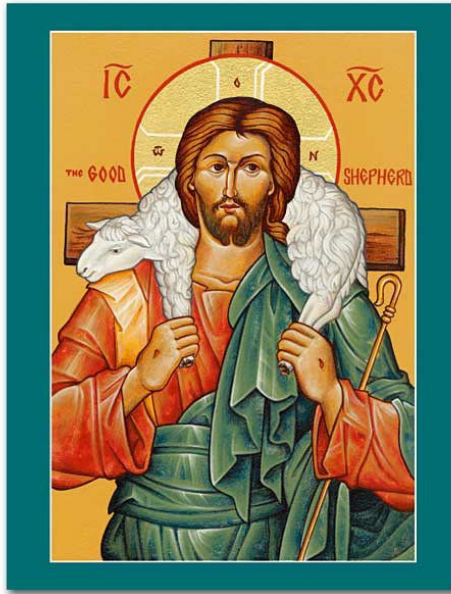
Shannon Smith

If you've never read Peter Kreeft's *Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Heaven, But Never Dreamed of Asking*, your reading list is incomplete. It is replete with theological principles too valuable to forget. Reading it just last month, I was struck by an assertion made about our great predecessors in Christ, and I began to reflect upon how much it applies to our own Crumley Archives. Kreeft likens these predecessors to pioneers, pioneers who have charted Christianity and discovered the greatest treasure it has to offer: Heaven. In the introduction to his book, Kreeft says, "Many other and greater explorers have discovered this 'undiscovered country' in the past. But their travelers' tales are not well known today. The old maps are not read. If some of my discoveries . . . are rediscoveries, well good; I have travelled in the company of giants. Like the medievals, we should remember that we are 'dwarfs standing on the shoulders of giants.' If we see farther than the ancients, it is only because we have their shoulders to stand on."

In the modern era, we're encouraged to be innovative and original, and while new ways of thinking can be of immense value, unfortunately, such thinking is sometimes at the expense of the "discoveries" our theological predecessors established before us. It's good to be reminded from time to time that it is repetition, and not invention, which allows for a continuity in faith. It's standing on the shoulders

of others, and not standing alone, that reinforces tradition.

"Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle" (II Thess. 2:14).



The Lutheran heritage is rooted in the Crumley Archives. Our repository remains a tomb that not only preserves the history of those forgotten, but perhaps paradoxically enough, a womb for Lutheran posterity, pregnant with wisdom. There is "undiscovered country" in the Archives waiting to be discovered, or perhaps rediscovered. Such undiscovered country comes in the form of old insights that have the potential to shed new light, forgotten truths awaiting another revelation, past principles that can reinforce Lutheranism's foundation.

The voices of the past have much to say, and much to teach, not only about the Lutheran legacy, but also the Lutheran mission. If we are to prepare for the future, we must acquaint ourselves with the past, for as the adage goes, "history is bound to repeat itself." Remember the giants that reside in the annals of the Archives. Rediscover something old, and experience it afresh. Investigate the travels of the great Lutherans before us, and stand upon their shoulders, for they have much to impart. ♦

**Your Thrivent Financial Choice Dollars matter! Since our enrollment in the program, we have raised \$7,752!
Thank you for your support!**



Friends of the James R. Crumley Jr. Archives

Become a Friend of the Archives through a gift to support the continuing work of preserving our southern Lutheran history to encourage us in faithfulness into the future. Please make checks payable to:
The James R. Crumley Jr. Archives.

Donor name(s): _____
Email address: _____
Mailing Address: _____

Please find enclosed my/our gift for the continuing support of the Archives.
___ \$50 ___ \$75 ___ \$100 ___ \$250 ___ \$500 ___ \$1,000 ___ Other

In Honor of: _____
In Memory of: _____
Name & address of person(s) to be notified of gift: _____

*Mail to: James R. Crumley Jr. Archives, 4201 N. Main St., Columbia, SC 29203
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Thank you for your gifts!*