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Representing the Lutheran Southeast and Caribbean  
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4201 N. Main St., Columbia SC, 29203

*This newsletter, in its title and masthead, pays homage to the American Lutheran Survey published by noted Lutheran leader, the Rev. Dr. Walton Greever. This newspaper was originally printed in the historic Eau Claire Print Building, two blocks from the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary.*

## BANQUET ANNOUNCEMENT

### SAVE THE DATE

AFTER A TWO-YEAR POSTPONEMENT OF OUR  
“FRIENDS OF THE ARCHIVES BANQUET”

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE

THAT WE WILL HOST THIS ANNUAL EVENT

*to*

CELEBRATE OUR DISTINGUISHED HONOREES

*on*

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2022!**

HISTORIC SURVEY PUBLISHING COMPANY BUILDING, EAU CLAIRE.

3907 ENSOR AVE., COLUMBIA, SC 29203

*An invitation with details of our honorees and the celebration is forthcoming.*

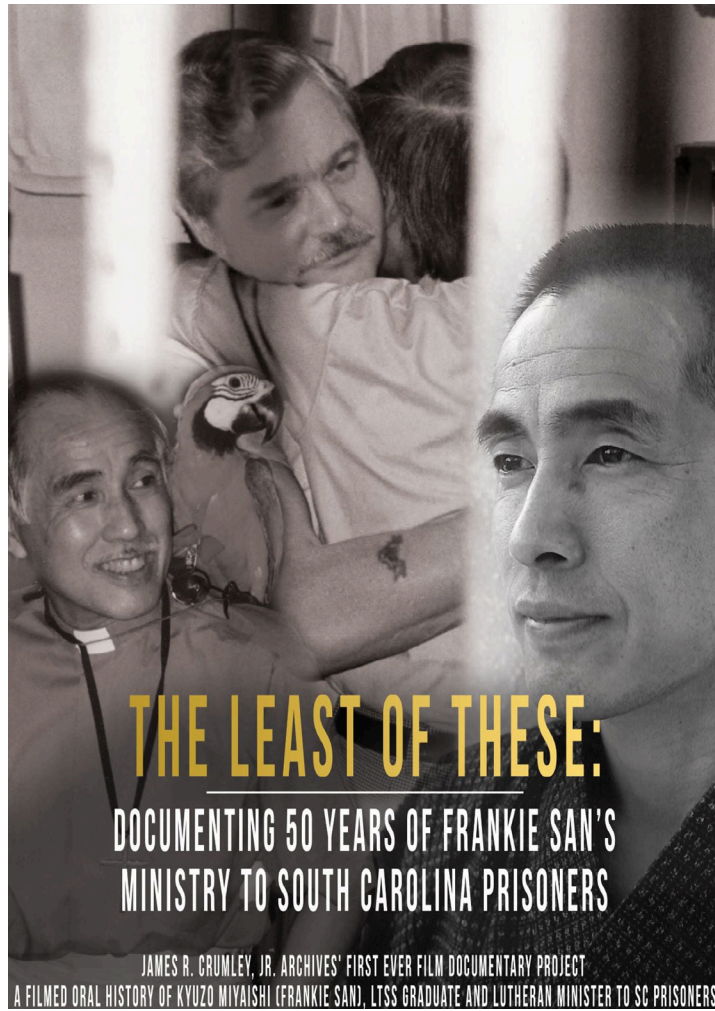
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*Survey Publishing Company Building*

## FRANK SAN PROJECT



The James R. Crumley Jr. Archives, in collaboration with Fisher Films, is proud to present:

### The Least of These:

### Documenting Fifty Years of Frankie San's Ministry to South Carolina Prisoners

In 1973, the Lutheran Church ordained Frankie San, a Japanese-American graduate of LTSS, in the "Tent Making Ministry" to SC prisoners that lasted over 50 years.

Now we are working to tell his story in a theatrical quality documentary.

Your generous support of this ground-breaking project is greatly appreciated and tax-deductible. You can make your donation at <https://www.crumleyarchives.com/the-frankie-san-project> ♦

## 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: James R. Crumley Jr. Archives

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Thank you for your gift!



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Dr. Helen Doerpinghaus, Columbia, SC  
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### The Frankie San Project

The Rev. Jerome H. Bishop, Pomaria, SC  
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### Partner Support

Florida Bahamas Synod, ELCA, Tampa, FL  
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Novusway Ministries, Arden, NC  
SC Synod, ELCA, Columbia, SC  
Seafarers International House, New York NY  
Southeastern Synod, ELCA, Decatur, GA  
Virginia Synod, ELCA, Salem, VA

### Congregations

Corinth Lutheran Church, Saluda, SC  
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Charleston, SC

### Thrivent Choice

Mary Flekke, Lakeland, FL  
Dr. Harvely L. Huntley, Jr., Durham, NC  
The Rev. David Keck, Mooresville, NC  
The Rev. George L. Rhyne, Salisbury, NC  
Deacon James Johnson, Columbia, SC ♦



We are pleased to announce that we have changed our online giving platform to Tithe.ly!  
Tithe.ly is the preferred online giving provider for the ELCA. Please visit <https://www.crumleyarchives.com/donate> and designate your gift today. We thank you for your support!

## FINDING AIDS

The Crumley Archives is continuing to make our collections more accessible. Ashley Ragland has been creating finding aids, which are shared on our website, [www.crumleyarchives.com](http://www.crumleyarchives.com). Below is a current listing.

### Crumley Archives

Crumley Archives Archival Collections Inventory  
Crumley Archives Service Books Collection Inventory  
Crumley Archives Ready Reference and General Library Inventory

### People

Collection Guide to John Bachman Documents  
Collection Guide to Bishop Leonard Bolick  
Collection Guide to Rev. A.J. Stirewalt  
Collection Guide to Frankie San (Kyuzo Miyaishi)  
Collection Guide to Rev. J.P. Margart  
Collection Guide to Rev. Adam Miller

### Congregations

Finding Aid for to Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Charleston SC  
Finding Aid for St Matthew, Charleston, SC  
Finding Aid for Trinity, St Nicholas, Prospect Congregations, Allendale Co., SC  
Finding Aid for Pilgrim, Lexington, SC  
Finding Aid for St Peter, Lexington, SC  
Finding Aid for St John, Pomaria, SC  
Finding Aid for Mt Tabor – West Columbia, SC  
Finding Aid for Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Concordia – Thornsby, AL  
Finding Aid for Amazing Grace, Granite Falls NC and Predecessors (St. Paul, Hickory and St. Matthew, Granite Falls)  
Finding Aid for Holy Trinity – Hickory, NC  
Finding Aid for Bethlehem – Lake City, FL  
Finding Aid for St Paul – Roanoke, VA  
Finding Aid for Frederick Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Thomas VI  
Finding Aid for Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, Chamblee GA

### Ministries

Finding Aid for Lutheran Association for Maritime Ministry (LAMM)  
Finding Aid for Williams-Henson Home for Boys

### Other Collections

Finding Aid for LTSS publications  
Finding Aid for LTSS Bulletins and Catalogs  
Finding Aid for Lenoir Rhyne College – Hickory, NC  
Finding Aid for Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary: Photographs circa 1830-2015  
Collection Guide to the Salzburger Collection  
Collection Guide Cruse Collection Catalogue

## STUDENTS CONDUCT RESEARCH IN ARCHIVES

By Susan W. McArver, Board President

*Not everything that is faced can be changed.  
But nothing can be changed until it is faced.*

James Baldwin

In the fall of 2021, students in Dr. Susan McArver's Lutheranism in North America class embarked on a new research project in the James R. Crumley Jr. Archives. Working together in small groups, the class investigated different primary source materials from the antebellum period to deepen their understandings about the Lutheran church in the South and its connection with the institution of slavery.

The class physically went to the Archives several times and reviewed material such as synod records, correspondence, diaries, Board of Trustees Minutes, newspapers, census accounts and other materials. Those students who attended the class online reviewed both scanned material from the Archives and online sources.

At the end of the semester, each small group prepared a large banner summarizing their findings. One banner entitled, "Celebrating Black Lutheranism: People and Milestones," depicted significant African American Lutheran pastors and missionaries from the history of the south-



ern Lutheran church. A second banner examined the position of the southern Lutheran church on slavery before, during, and after the war (hint: the church did not exactly cover itself in glory.) A third small group painstakingly prepared two maps, depicting the location of majority white Lutheran congregations before the Civil War, and the addition of the "Alpha Synod" black Lutheran congregations which came into being after the Civil War.

The banners were placed on the entrance wall of the Lineberger Library on the last day of class, where they remained on display throughout the spring 2022 semester. ♦



*Masks Off!*  
Pictured (L-R): Isaac Taylor, Steve Benko, Amanda Spangler, Christina Nessler, and EP Martin  
Distance students (held on the phone by Amanda): Lorie Gladyness, Colette Hammesfahr, and Robin Pingilly



## OUR LUTHERAN CHURCH VISITOR: AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS. SUE SETZER

By Scott Reeves, Assistant Archivist



Mrs. Sue Setzer

**Scott Reeves:** The Rev. Peter Setzer, your husband, was an ordained pastor (Minister of Word and Sacrament) and you are an ordained deacon (Minister of Word and Service). What can you share about how your calls worked out together?

**Sue Setzer:** By God's grace alone, we shared fifty-four loving years of marriage while raising two children that we adopted as babies. Together, we lived out our baptismal calls and specific callings in the church, side by side.

Peter's ministry path was straightforward. After helping the mission in Laurinburg, NC, develop roots, Peter was called to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Gastonia, NC, in 1970 where he grew with the congregation for seventeen years. Lenoir-Rhyne College gave Peter an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 1987 just before he accepted a call to serve as Senior Minister at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Charlotte, NC. He retired in 2004 and immediately accepted interim ministry positions at Incarnation, Charlotte; Bethpage, Lincoln; St. John's, Statesville; Holy Cross, Boger City; and St. Matthews, Kings Mountain. [All of these churches are in North Carolina.]

When Alzheimer's disease halted his pastoral ministry, Peter focused on the care of God's cre-

ation. He cleared trails and pulled ivy from trees at Aldersgate retirement community where we moved so he could have extended memory care. Soon known as "The Tree Man," Peter lifted others' spirits with his spontaneous western songs and hymns.

My path to fulfill my college vision to teach in a college was more like a spiral. First, I worked at St. Andrews Presbyterian College as an assistant, then became an active synodical volunteer as a stay-at-home mom for over a decade. In 1982, I completed a Master's at UNC-Charlotte to prepare to be certified as a Lutheran Church in America Lay Professional Leader. I worked on Holy Trinity's staff as a part-time Youth Ministry Director for three years before becoming a curriculum writer and consultant for the Lutheran Church in America.

When Peter moved to St. Mark's, I returned to UNC-C to become certified as a NC Licensed Professional Counselor at the Presbyterian Career and Personal Counseling Service, where I became Executive Director the last five of my fifteen years there. In 1996, Lenoir-Rhyne College gave me an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

The ELCA began a steady move toward its 2019 decision to ordain deacons. To prepare for this form of ministry, I enrolled on my fiftieth birthday in the Master of Arts in Lay Ministry degree program at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, and completed the program seven years later. My last call was from the NC Synod, ELCA, to direct the Supervised Ministry program and teach Christian education courses at Union Presbyterian Seminary at Charlotte. God surprised me more when I realized the seminary was then located at my alma mater, Queens College. The spiral became a circle.

**Reeves:** What led to your commitment to become a deacon?

**Setzer:** In 1957 and for decades later, the Lutheran church did not have a roster for deacons and I did not understand the meaning of diaconal ministry. When I studied about three-fold ministry (bishop, pastor, deacon) as a member of the new ELCA's Study of Ministry Task

"Our Lutheran Church Visitor" Continues on page 6  
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## THANK YOU! FRIENDS OF THE ARCHIVES

Since the last issue of the Archival Survey the following friends have made gifts to us. We are most grateful for these gifts which enable us to preserve our church's history and to assist researchers, congregations, and institutions in their work. Gifts listed below arrived between November 29, 2021, and April 30, 2022. Please advise if your name has been omitted. If you made an honorarium, please know that the person has been notified.

Again, **THANK YOU**, for your generosity.

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### Honorariums

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The Rev. Dr. Wayne Kannaday and,  
Dr. Helen Doerpinghaus, Columbia, SC  
The Rev. & Mrs. Donald Poole  
The Rev. Robert Loshuertos, Madison, AL  
David Rast & Paul Turner  
Heber and Gloria Rast, Cameron, SC  
St. Marks Lutheran, Roanoke, VA  
George Kegley, Roanoke, VA

"Friends of the Archives" Continues on next page

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As Dr. Anderson noted in response to the former owner of the book, retired general Adam Meetze, "This book is a very interesting document in its own right, since it precipitated the controversy that led to the division of the North Carolina and Tennessee Synods." It was not simply a history but contained a proposed constitution for the North Carolina Lutheran Synod.

In the history of North Carolina Lutherans by The Rev. Dr. Raymond Bost and Jeff Norris, All One Body, the split between the North Carolina Synod and the Tennessee Synod in 1820 was caused by a complexity of elements, but the difference in understanding of the precise nature of the content of this "Luther" volume was central to that complex. The "brilliant" Rev. David Henkel and his party held to a traditional Lutheran sacramentalism and the insistence "that the only appropriate way for Lutherans to resolve differences was on the basis of the Augsburg Confession and the constitution of the synod" (45). Conversely, the Rev. Gottlieb Schober and other pastors of the Synod were open to blending sacramental practices with Episcopal, Moravian, and other German Reformed movements in order to unite "people of various backgrounds into an American Lutheran denomination" (46).

According to the Schober party, the constitution found in the "Luther" volume was simply a proposal which "was not officially adopted by the synod as its governing document" (46), and therefore it was not binding on the synod which was to be governed for the time by majority rule. Henkel's party saw things differently. As they understood it, "The book including its constitution was reviewed and endorsed by an official committee of the synod," and was officially approved for publication and distribution on the basis of that recommendation (46). This difference in understanding culminated in the split in the North Carolina Synod and the creation of the Tennessee synod in 1820. ♦

## James R Crumley Jr. Archives

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## FEATURE: NEW TO THE ARCHIVES!

### New Scholarship in the Southeastern Synod

The Rev. Thomas Noon has contributed new scholarship to the Crumley Archives. His works include *The Life and Times of Boston Jenkins Drayton, 1817-1864*, *Early Lutheran Missions in Alabama, 1829-1880*, and *A History of Lutherans in Northeast Alabama and St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 1840-1926*.

The historical sketch of the Rev. Drayton contains an investigation into his youth, which Noon admits is shrouded in mystery; an introduction to the Rev. Dr. John Bachman, which details his relationship to Drayton and support of Drayton's desire to serve as a missionary; and finally, Drayton's missionary and political career in Liberia, Africa, a career that would span two decades.



BOSTON JENKINS DRAYTON  
Chief Justice, 1861-64

*The Rev. Boston Jenkins Drayton, 1817-1864*

The histories of Lutheranism in Alabama are significant contributions to the Southeastern Synod collection, and are preserved with other relevant materials in our Alabama collection. If you would like more information on these works, please write or call the staff of the Crumley Archives.

### Historic N.C. Synod Resource

The Crumley Archives recently completed the digitization of early minutes from the North Carolina Synod. These minutes span nearly an entire century, and also include a digital copy of the earliest NC Synod record, the famous Tryon Document. This document contains a petition to the governor for a "learned and orthodox minister of their language and persuasion" for the sixty "German Lutheran Protestant families" who settled in Rowan, Orange, Mecklenburgh, and Tryon counties, written in 1771.

We are grateful to the Peeler Fund for sponsoring this project! Visit <https://www.crumleyarchives.com/nc-synod> to learn more.

### Historical Account Provides Insight into Theological Split

At first glance, the small brown volume with the title "Luther" on a broken spine recently accessioned by the Crumley Archives may not seem that significant. A closer look at the title page with its typical 19th century protracted title might garner greater curiosity:

A Comprehensive Account of the Rise and Progress of the Blessed Reformation of the Christian Church by Doctor Martin Luther Began of the 31st of October, 1517...And how the church established by him arrived and progressed in North America—as also the Constitution and Rules of the Church in North Carolina and adjoining States, as existing in October 1817.

Is this a 300th year anniversary edition of Lutheran history?

According to the preface, this volume was compiled in order to address the lack of answers to the question of the nature, founding, teaching, and rules of the Lutheran Church in North Carolina in a format accessible to English speakers. However, the 1973 letter from The Rev. Dr. H. George Anderson to a former owner of this copy reveals an even greater significance to the understanding of the History of Lutherans in the Southern U.S. in the early 19th century.



Force, I realized that I have always been gifted for and called to the Ministry of Word and Service. Even when women could become ordained pastors in 1970, I discerned that was not my identity or path. Deacons are servant leaders who, as ministers of the church, equip the members of the body of Christ for service in the wider world. This fits me.

**Reeves:** How has your calling into the diaconate impacted your ministry?

**Setzer:** Looking back, I believe I was called into the diaconate when I was thirteen even though I didn't know the word and the Lutheran church had not embraced it as a form of ordained ministry. From my first job in the Christianity and Culture program, I worked on behalf of the church as a called baptized member. In each position, I have served to equip people to use their given God-gifts for service in the world. Currently, I serve as a spiritual director. Knowing that I am set apart by and accountable to the Lutheran church, even in my retirement, grounds who I am and everything that I do in the historic ministry of the body of Christ.

**Reeves:** Could you share one of your greatest moments in ministry as a family?

**Setzer:** Gladly. In the mid-eighties, the house next to the parsonage became available. Peter recognized this as a ministry opportunity for the congregation to provide needed housing for a group home for cognitively challenged adults. Some neighbors, however, took the church to court to block the "dangerous" new neighbors from moving in. The judge, who providentially had a mentally impaired sister, ruled in favor of the church establishing the group home. Kind, gentle adults moved in beside us and a couple joined the church, enriching our community. When I could not find David and Joy, then about ten and thirteen, I would go next door where they were typically laughing and swinging with the neighbors on their front porch. Several years later, the Gaston County Association for Retarded Persons gave our family the Good Neighbor of the Year award. Their presence beside us was enough.

**Reeves:** Would you share one of our greatest challenges or most challenging times in ministry together?

**Setzer:** I hesitate to recount those painful years, but will in case our story sensitizes members to similar common situations that their pastors and families may face. After seventeen loving years of ministry at Holy Trinity, Gastonia, Peter received an unsolicited call to serve as Senior Minister at St. Mark's, Charlotte. Holy Trinity had welcomed our babies and helped us raise them next door. None of us wanted to leave. Peter spent many months struggling to discern where he was most needed and finally accepted the call to shepherd a new flock in 1987.

Joy had finished the seventh grade; David, the tenth. Leaving lifelong friends in the church and community to make new ones was extremely difficult. David moved back to Gastonia to live with a friend's generous family during his junior year, wrenching apart our family. Joy struggled to adapt to her middle year in a new junior high school. Peter invested even more pastoral hours into the larger congregation. David returned home the summer before his senior year, but our family was never the same. He died at the age of thirty-nine from an accidental overdose of alcohol and opioids. I do not believe the move caused his tragic death because he showed signs of difficulties well before the move. Now David rests in the center of God's gracious heart, joined in 2020 by Peter.

**Reeves:** Your husband Peter was a close friend of Frankie San. How did you meet Frankie?

**Setzer:** Frankie San (Kyuzo Miyaishi) came into my life in 1966 the night before I married his former seminary roommate, Peter Setzer. Frankie bowed as he gave us a beautifully wrapped Japanese geisha doll for our wedding. Now covered in a glass box made by my father, the gift has been the focus of attention in each of our living rooms as a reminder of our lifelong friendship.

**Reeves:** Can you share a little more about Peter's friendship with Frankie San?

"Our Lutheran Church Visitor" Continues on next page



Frankie and Peter as seminarians, 1964  
"Get that tie right, partner"

**Setzer:** At six feet two inches, Peter towered over Frankie's slender frame. They represented West and East – former cowboy and former World War II kamikaze soldier. Drawn together by their mutual love of and devotion to Jesus Christ and his ministry, the two seminary roommates enhanced each other's faith throughout their lifetimes. They kept up an active correspondence for decades until Peter could no longer compose sentences. Frankie faithfully handwrote five or six pages, front and back, with stories of his work with prisoners and long quotations from scripture. Peter filed each one. He often invited Frankie to preach and share his prison ministry

with his congregations.

Not long after our marriage, Frankie visited us in Laurinburg to preach on Sunday. He insisted that we invite a dozen people for a banquet that he would buy, prepare, and serve all by himself. I hesitantly left my new kitchen with him. As newlyweds, we had no furniture in our dining or living rooms, so we borrowed folding tables, chairs, plates, silverware, and serving utensils. Members of the church council and their spouses filled the small parsonage for a delightful feast with chopsticks and authentic Japanese cuisine. Frankie left the kitchen cleaner than he found it! The council continued to support his prison ministry financially after meeting him. Uncle Frankie San later showered David and Joy with extravagant gifts and personal encouragement each time he visited. He continued the practice as Great-Uncle when Joy gave birth to our only grandchild named Pete in 2010. I remember hearing Peter ask Frankie once about how he could be so generous with everyone while receiving a prison staffer's salary. Frankie quickly replied, "Peter, don't you know that God has a bigger shovel?" ♦



Frankie and Sue, 2021

## Office Hours

Monday: 10 – 3

Tuesday and Thursday: 9 – 3

Wednesday: by appointment

Closed: Friday

Please contact us at: [crumleyarchivist@gmail.com](mailto:crumleyarchivist@gmail.com) or 803-461-3234 for an appointment.