

ARCHIVAL



SURVEY

Representing the Lutheran Southeast and Caribbean

Representing the Lutheran Southeast and Caribbean
Fall 2022 A Publication of the James R. Crumley Jr. Archives Issue 35

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.

ARCHIVES RESEARCH LEADS TO MORE LEADS

Dr. Harvey Huntley

Currently I am doing an annotated inventory of the holdings in the James R. Crumley Jr. Archives that pertain to historically or currently predominantly African descent ELCA congregations in Region 9 of the ELCA, which includes six synods: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Southeastern, Florida-Bahamas, and the Caribbean. To my surprise I have identified thus far close to 40 such congregations, many of which remain active today. The Archives has considerable materials related to my research focus; however, there is much historical information that is missing.

My research over the past four months is yielding a rich history that is impossible to cover in a few paragraphs. Some day it is my hope a scholar will be interested in writing a narrative on some or all of the congregations I have researched so that their impact and witness can

be shared more broadly across the church. In the meantime, I will simply share a few observations based on what I have gleaned to date.

Before beginning my work in the Archives, I was largely unaware of the extensive mission work among African Americans in the Deep South conducted by the former American Lutheran Church (ALC) beginning at the end of World War I. I was aware of the 100th anniversary of Martin Luther congregation in Mobile, AL, being celebrated this year; but I did not know of similar mission work in Montgomery, AL, and surrounding rural areas, Anniston, Birmingham, and Tuscaloosa, as well as in Jackson, MS. Initially, the ALC built and staffed elementary schools because of the inferior quality of public education. That effort expanded to at least a couple of high

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Sunday School teachers at Martin Luther Church, Mobile, AL

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James R Crumley Jr. Archives

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

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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. Below is a current listing.

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 Miyaiishi)
Collection Guide to Rev. J.P. Margart
Collection Guide to Rev. Adam Miller

Congregations

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

Ministries

Content Finding Aid for Lutheran Association for Maritime Ministry (LAMM)
Collection Guide to Williams-Henson Home for Boys

Other Collections

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

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

Name: _____
Address: _____
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Enclosed is my/our gift for the support of the Archives \$ _____

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Person to be notified of the gift: _____

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Mail to: James R. Crumley Jr. Archives, 4201 N Main Street, Columbia, SC 29203

Thank you for your gift!

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 May 1, 2022, and September 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.

Gifts

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The Rev. George Rhyne, Salisbury, NC ♦



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!

ST MATTHEW'S CELEBRATES 285 YEARS!

Shannon L. Smith

The Crumley Archives staff was honored to celebrate St Matthew's Lutheran Church's history and homecoming in October. St Matthew's, Cameron, is the oldest Lutheran congregation in the SC Synod. Congratulations on your milestone!

If your church is celebrating a significant event and would like the Crumley Archives to attend your celebration, please contact Shannon Smith, archivist, at crumleyarchivist@gmail.com. ♦



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Significant Dates and Events in the History of “A Congregation of Souls”

St. Matthew’s Church, Orangeburg and Calhoun Counties, SC From the Collection of Paul G. McCullough

Ashley B. Ragland

This history, like so many treasures in the Crumley Archives, can be found in our St Matthew’s Lutheran Church, Cameron, SC.

1704: First Royal Land Grant is made in the Orangeburg/Calhoun area.

1737: Rev. John Ulrick Giessendanner, Lutheran Minister of (of Swiss Origin) arrives in the Orangeburg/Calhoun area. Rev. Geissendanner is married by Major Mott of the St. Matthews area.

1738: Rev. John Ulrick Giessendanner dies and is buried in the town of Orangeburg, SC in the old cemetery.

1739: John Giessendanner, nephew of John Ulrick Giessendanner, assumes responsibilities of the ministry after the death of the elder Rev. Giessendanner.

1740: John Giessendanner is ordained in Charleston, SC by officials of the Presbyterian Church. Rev. John Giessendanner records first records first church activity on Jan. 1st in the Amelia community.

1741: The Theus-Saxe Gotha connection is recorded.

1749: A Royal Land Grant is made to John Conrad Holman.

1750: Rev. John Giessendanner travels to England and is ordained as an Episcopal Rector. The expense of his trip is paid by colonial government.

1752: First record of Amelia Church appears in the Giessendanner Record.

1753: The Rev. Zubly is possibly pastor at both St. Matthew’s and Amelia Church. Application for aid to complete church building is rejected by the colonial government.

1757: First appearance of reference to Amelia Chapel. Amelia Chapel in active use by the inhabitants of the area. Described by Rector John Giessendanner as “a congregation of souls.”

1760: Rev. John T. Friedrichs, Lutheran Minister, arrives.

1761: Arrival of Franklow, Episcopal Minister.

1765-1768: St. Mathew’s Parish established. Pastor Friedrichs dies. After the death of Pastor Friedrichs, the church was without a rector for 27 years.

1778: Rev. Frederich Daser and Unio.

1786: Rev. Frederich Daser incorporates the church as Lutheran (St. Matthew’s).

1799: Franklow arrives at St. Matthew’s.

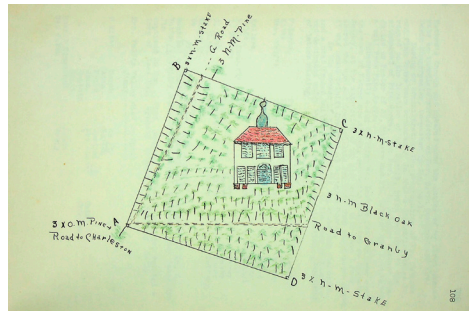
1800: Parish Church (St. Matthew’s Episcopal) is moved six miles.

1815-1819: St. Matthew’s (Episcopal) moved, re-erected and dedicated.

1824: Organization of the SC Synod.

1825: Second meeting of the organization of the SC Synod.

1901: Second church erected. ♦



An early sketch of St Matthew’s, Cameron, SC



Drs. Susan Wilds McArver and Wayne Kannaday discuss the significance of Lutheran history.

A SHORT FILM PROJECT TO RAISE AWARENESS AND TELL OUR STORIES

T. Scott Reeves

As an instructor in the humanities and an archivist, I have watched the troubling trend of a reduction in traditional humanities departments like Philosophy, History, Religion, and English in our colleges and universities. One small college where I have served has shut down all such departments and fills the minimum necessary classes in these fields with adjunct instructors. This is arguably related to the grade school emphasis on STEM courses often at the expense of history and the arts. While such a loss of departments sometimes works to provide more teaching opportunities for adjuncts like myself, I find the overall trend disturbing. After all, as Dr. Susan McArver has noted, when a community loses its history, it is like a person with Alzheimer’s...institutional history is akin to personal memory, so with the loss of history comes the eventual loss of identity which is dependent upon our memories and histories.

We at the Crumley Archives have noted of late another way in which a loss of a sense of history can affect an institution like an ELCA regional archives. As the guardians of part of that institutional history, we are keenly aware of the difficulties of gathering the documents and artifacts that need to be archived from our congregations and synodical institutions. We are dependent upon others to work with us and value those various items that embody organizational memory enough to pass them on to us for proper preservation. Recently we completed a project to help us communicate to congregations and pastors both the value and methods of archiving; it was a project partly inspired by our work on the Frankie San project.

While the institutional educational focus on history has been in some decline, recent polls have shown that Gen X and Millennial adults regularly watch documentaries and even make changes to their lives based on things they have learned from documentaries. So, instead of simply sending out print media appeals for churches to engage more consistently with the archives and archival process, we worked with Fisher Films (the cinematographers and producers for the Frankie Project) to create a short docuseries on the Crumley Archives and the value and process of archiving, particularly in relation to local congregations. We are indebted to the NC Synod’s Peeler Grant, with which this project could not have been accomplished.

This short series includes five web-based videos, each approximately six minutes long, about the value of archival work, the history of Crumley Archives, and how congregations should maintain their records. Along with these five main segments, Fisher Films, which saw the merit in the stories told of John Bachman and the Salzburgers, created two additional episodes. Knowing these stories to be so important to Lutheran history, the film crew wanted to make sure these stories were told.

This series features interviews with Dr. Susan McArver, the Rev. Dr. Wayne Kannaday, Dr. Harvey Huntley, Dr. Dorothy Jeffcoat, Henry Fulmer, Shannon Smith, the Rev. Frank Anderson, the Rev. Dr. Mary Anderson.

You can enjoy these videos by visiting our Facebook page and our YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG2IY3W1cmFeW-brC-IXsbsA> ♦



H. George Anderson receives the Walton H. Greever Award from Bieman Otherson (2013)

WALTON H. GREEVER AWARD RECIPIENTS

Shannon L. Smith

The Walton H. Greever Award is the Crumley Archives's prestigious award for individuals who have devoted their time, wisdom, and financial resources to the preservation of Lutheran history. The award is named after an individual who exemplified these talents.

Walton H. Greever was a beloved pastor, editor of the Lutheran Church Visitor and American Lutheran Survey, and Professor of Apologetics, Ethics and Symbolics at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. He was also the secretary of the United Lutheran Church in America for nearly 15 years. But more than that, he can be credited as almost single-handedly establishing the seminary at its current address in Columbia, SC. Through his assiduous efforts, the seminary moved and was established permanently in Columbia in 1911, 80 years after its inception, and has remained there for more than a century.

This year's banquet celebrated a two-year suspension of one of our most cherished events. In light of this, the Board of Directors awarded three couples with the Greever Award: The Rev. Donald and Mrs. Brenta Poole, the Rev. Dr. Scott and Mrs. Emilee Hendrix, and the Rev. Dr. James and Mrs. Virginia Aull. Here's a look back at some of our previous recipients:

- The Rev. Dr. H. George Anderson (2013)
- The Hon. Sen. Fritz Hollings (2014)
- Ms. Jeanette Bergeron (2015)
- Ms. Martha Haigler (2016)
- Ms. Marilyn Stauffer (2017)
- The Rev. Dr. David and Carolyn Donges (2019) ♦

Office Hours

Monday: 10 – 3

Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday: 9 – 3

Wednesday: by appointment

Please contact us at: crumleyarchivist@gmail.com or 803-461-3234 for an appointment.

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"Archives Research" Continued from page 1

schools over a period of several years. Some of the schools in the 1920's and 1930's had enrollments of 300-500 students. Several graduates of these Lutheran schools went on to become pastors - one of whom became a seminary professor and a bishop. In the late 1930's the ALC recognized its efforts had not taught the people in Alabama and Mississippi much about Lutheranism; therefore the emphasis shifted from education to worship through the establishment of chapels in the previously identified locations. The history gets complicated, but a number of these congregations are still active now or have merged with other parishes to form racially inclusive ministries. There is a great deal we can learn from the early mission efforts of the ALC in reaching out to African Americans who have no Lutheran background. I am not sure the learnings from this period are widely known or shared. The archival collection is invaluable for retrieving such learnings.

In the latter third of the 20th century, the Lutheran Church in America (LCA) launched an urban initiative among African Americans in three cities across the Southeast - Atlanta, Greensboro, and Columbia. None of those efforts survives, largely due to lack of funding and insufficient growth. What is common between the ALC mission and the later efforts by the LCA is the ultimate expectation that

new starts in respective communities over time would become self-supporting. In only a few instances was such a goal attained.

Another trend among still active ELCA congregations is the transition from predominantly or exclusively Caucasian parishes to racially integrated congregations or congregations that became predominantly African descent in membership. Examples include Our Savior, Freeport, Grand Bahama Island; Emmanuel, Atlanta, GA; St. Paul's, Decatur, GA; and Holy Spirit, Savannah, GA. The history of the congregation in the Bahamas is of particular interest, because of its uniqueness. The congregation began in the mid-1960's as an ALC ministry to expatriates working on the island. When the Bahamas left the British Empire to become a free nation ruled by native Bahamians, the composition of the congregation also changed along with its leadership. It is a totally different ministry now than when it began. How these congregations and others like them successfully made such transitions is not evident from the materials in the Archives. It is my hope the Crumley Archives will acquire materials in the years ahead so a very significant part of Lutheran outreach in the South can be catalogued, preserved, and shared widely. For a church that seeks to be more inclusive, the success stories are vital for future efforts so we can learn from past experiences. ♦



A Confirmation Class, Mobile, Alabama - Rev. Louis Route, Pastor

FRIENDS OF THE ARCHIVES BANQUET

Shannon L. Smith

Our annual banquet is a time to gather, reflect, and celebrate Lutheran history and the work of the James R. Crumley Jr. Archives, and this year's event was no exception! For two years, we had to postpone this memorable occasion due to COVID-19, which made this year's reunion twice as wonderful! Here are some highlights from the banquet, held in Columbia, SC, at the Historic Survey Print Building on Friday, September, 23:

