Spring 2024

A Publication of the James R. Crumley Jr. Archives

Issue 38

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.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CRUMLEY ARCHIVES?

Members of the Board of Trustees of the James R. Crumley Jr Archives have heard that question a lot over the last few weeks, as news has spread of the move of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary from Columbia, South Carolina, to the main campus of Lenoir-Rhyne in Hickory, North Carolina, as of January 1, 2025. You may read the letter from Dr. Chad Rimmer, LTSS Rector and Dean, to Seminary alumni (https://www.lr.edu/ltss-future/updates/chad-rimmer-ltss-move-to-hickory) announcing this news.

Since the Crumley Archives are housed in Lineberger Library on the Seminary campus, the question is a good one. As one of the largest regional archives in the ELCA, the Crumley Archives contain records dating back to the 18th century, including documents, treasures, and artifacts ranging from the 1700's into the 2000's.

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The Archives Board of Directors will have the primary role in making the final determination of the new location of the Archives. The Board is made up of representatives of each of the Region 9 synods, as well as representatives of various partners of the Archives, such as Novus Way, who have deposited their records there for safekeeping.

A "Relocation Task Force" has already been appointed and has held its initial meeting. The Task Force has also heard from and met with Dr. Rimmer to discuss the future. A few things are already clear:

- The Archives does not need to move immediately. Lenoir-Rhyne has no immediate plans for the campus, and so we will not be required to vacate the Lineberger Library building by January 1, 2025.
- The Task Force will explore the best possible location for the Archives that will provide continued central access to records for our patrons.
- A new site actually presents some new and exciting opportunities to expand both our collection space (which we were already outgrowing), and will provide an opportunity to obtain more display space that could be become a center for recognizing the story of Lutheranism in the South.

"What Will Happen to the Crumley Archives?" Continues on page 6

REPORT OF THE PLANNING TEAM: 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA SYNOD

On a cold day in January of 1824, four Lutheran pastors in the Midlands of South Carolina determined they would begin a new Synod for the congregations that had emerged during the previous decades. "Gathering at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, now in Irmo, to form an independent Synod of their own - the Synod of SOUTH Carolina - and Adjacent States . . . The meeting was opened with "singing and prayer," exactly as we open our Synod Assemblies today, 200 years later. They elected the Rev. Godfrey Dreher as the first President of the Synod until the next meeting - what we today, would call, a bishop." (From Dr. Susan McCarver's presentation for the 175th Anniversary of the South Carolina Synod in 1999)

These facts summarize the rather inauspicious beginnings of our Synod. However, by the end of 1824, Pr. John Bachman of St. John's Lutheran Church in Charleston had agreed to serve as President of the new Synod and the number of congregations in the Synod had also grown by several hundred percent. In the Synod minutes from 1824, the record showed that the Synod budget was \$34. Much of it came as single dollar contributions, but Pr. Bachman was listed as having given \$20 of that amount. (No wonder they elected him President of the Synod).

During the last two centuries, the South Carolina Synod would grow to include more than 150 congregations and more than 50,000 members. More importantly, by the end of the 19th century, the ministry of the Synod would reach Japan and beyond. God's actions in this state also resulted in significant social changes in the state and the growth of a wide variety of institutions that would address the needs of education, care for society, environment, elderly people and a host of other issues and concerns. The 20th century brought many these institutions to maturity. And the last decade of that century also brought the Synod into the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

So many things have happened during the last 200 years of ministry that celebrating them all will take more than a year. And our celebration will

culminate during the Synod Assembly of 2025. To address the needs of storytelling and history celebration, the Synod Council formed a committee for the 200th Anniversary of the South Carolina Synod. This committee has been diligent during 2024 in planning how we will address the 200-year story of the South Carolina Synod and its members throughout the state. Already the planning team has produced a logo and "History Moments" released on eNews, Lutheran Living, SC Synod. An Introduction to the 200th Anniversary Year [1824-2024] was released in January. This was followed in February with an African America Focus, and in March "History Moments" on Ladies Sewing Society (1825), Women's Memorial Lutheran Church, and Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Societies. A video will be a part of the South Carolina Synod Assembly on June 8, 2024, featuring interviews with The Rev. Dr. James Aull, The Rev. David Donges, The Rev. Dr. Herman Yoos, and The Rev. Ginny Aebischer. These four bishops have served the South Carolina Synod since the formation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Because it is so multi-faceted, the story of the South Carolina Synod is not an easy story to tell. Nevertheless, telling it will enable us to find inspiration and hope for our future. Truly the South Carolina Synod has been blessed in many ways. God has been working in our state as we have shared together in witnessing to our faith. And, most importantly, the last two centuries have provided a tremendous foundation for the ministry that will unfold in this century and beyond.

We give thanks for all of God's blessings and pray that our life together will grow stronger through our celebration events during the coming year.

Yours in Christ,
Th Rev. Dr. Mark Scott
Planning Committee Chair
The 200th Anniversary Committee of the South
Carolina Synod •

CELEBRATING 200 YEARS OF MISSION & MINISTRY IN SOUTH CAROLINA TRAILER

Walking Together

South Carolina Synod



Featuring interviews with The Rev. Dr. James Aull, The Rev. David Donges, The Rev. Dr. Herman Yoos, and The Rev. Ginny Aebischer. These four bishops have served the South Carolina Synod since the formation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

You can preview the video here! https://youtu.be/SILS2IbPuT4

Watch for the full video as part of our Synod Assembly on June 8, 2024. •



Our Lutheran Church Visitor Crumley Archives Interview Celie Metz Addy

1. Can you tell us a bit about your earliest Lutheran memories?

I was born into a family of Lutherans, and grew up in St. Andrews Lutheran Church, Charleston. My earliest memories are of Vacation Bible School in the summertime, wonderful church picnics with fresh lemonade and softball games, Christmas pageants and reverent worship services. We had choirs for all ages, and the music was always beautiful. In the summertime we usually had a seminary student come work with our pastor, which made for some long-lasting friendships for all of us. In fact, I married one of those students!

2. What are your fondest Lutheran memories?

During the years that I worked in the synod office in Columbia, I had the privilege of serving as Director of Communications. This gave me an opportunity to hear stories from congregations all over the synod and learn about unique, creative ministries done in those places. It was inspiring to see the amount of love being poured out by folks I'd likely never meet, but who share this wonderful Lutheran story. And then when we gathered as a synod or as a Churchwide body, the worship times were powerfully moving. I also cherish deeply meaningful conversations with others during Lutheran retreats; sometimes you really do need "a place apart" to make time and space for that.

3. How has Lutheranism shaped your life?

I always knew that faith was vitally important in the lives of my parents and grandparents. They lived their faith every day, in their own individual ways. Their faith shaped their ethics and their decisions, and they modeled love as naturally as breathing. There was always love and laughter at home, and the atmosphere was one where we could ask questions about faith...or not...and it was okay. There was no pressure to always think a certain way; I credit Lutheranism with that. Luther was full of questions and struggles, so why would we think we had all the answers? I find my Lutheran background very freeing; a firm foundation, for sure – but with an openness and vulnerability, too. I appreciate that as Lutherans we never stop learning, and that we don't claim to corner the market on knowing all there is to know about God.

4. What have you perceived the greatest change in Lutheranism, and what has remained constant from its beginning?

I think the greatest change I've seen is the way we really strive to be inclusive, now more than ever. Most congregations of today don't look quite like the congregations of my childhood. There's more color, there are more languages, more types of family units, and more noisy children; there's more going on, and there are so many ways we are reaching out to our neighborhoods and our cities. What has remained constant is the passionate desire to love God and love our neighbors. Some of this is very hard work, and sometimes ideas clash. But we are the Church, and we serve with our whole hearts.

5. This year marks a historical moment for the SC Synod. What do you see for its future?

For me, one of my favorite hymns says it best: "The Church of Christ, in every age beset by change, but Spirit-led, must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead." (ELW #729) The SC Synod has come through some trying times in recent years, and some congregations have left to go their own way. While it's sad to see this happen, and there's a lot of grief to work through, I believe it's the nature of the Church, as a living entity, to grow and change and be pruned from time to time. I believe the pruning will bring new growth and new life as long as we stay faithful to the teachings of Jesus. Our challenge is to love God, and love others. No matter what. And whatever size or shape we will be, we will follow the Spirit and serve this mighty God who is always with us. •



1. Can you tell us a bit about your earliest Lutheran memories?

My father was a Lutheran pastor, so I was always surrounded by things Lutheran. The church was next door for most of my life before going off to college. I recall Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Sometime between the ages of five and eight I remember our teacher writing the word "joy" on a chalkboard and then explaining that to have joy we are to put Jesus first, others second, and yourself last. I can remember playing in the church yard with one or two friends while we waited to become old enough to attend Luther League meetings. I attended confirmation class weekly during the sixth grade so that we could be confirmed on Palm Sunday and then receive communion on Easter Day.

2. What are your fondest Lutheran memories?

My fondest Lutheran memories are from gatherings with other Lutherans. I was fortunate to be a part of a local Luther League group that participated in conference and synod activities. As a child, I attended a week of camp at Lutheridge two summers. Early in my high school years I served on the "executive committee" of the South Carolina Luther League. The retreats and planning meetings were very meaningful to me. I rose through the offices to become President, and the ones who served before me were mentors, friends, and guiding lights for me. As a pastor I was a delegate to five LCA conventions and a voting member of three ELCA assemblies. All these activities created wonderful memories.

3. How has Lutheranism shaped your life?

Lutheranism has shaped my life with its theology of grace alone, word alone, and faith alone. I was privileged to begin my ministry as a mission developer in Greer, SC, where there had not been a Lutheran Church. It was a joy to proclaim a loving and forgiving God who is present with us as we strive to serve him in our lives and in service to others.

4. What have you perceived the greatest change in Lutheranism, and what has remained constant from its beginning?

The greatest change I have seen in Lutheranism has been a growing emphasis on the grace of God, to the point that God has no other face than a smiling face of love and acceptance. It seems to me that as Lutherans we used to have more of a balance between law and gospel. A secondary change that has occurred in my lifetime has been the increase of formal cooperation with other denominations and even other religions. What has pleased me is that in most congregations there remains an appreciation for a familiar liturgy, good music, and, while sharing a wonderful gospel, an inclusion of confession and forgiveness.

5. This year marks a historical moment for the SC Synod. What do you see for its future?

In many circumstances, two hundred years is a long lifetime. In our early life we are dependent, small, and developing. Most of us hit a period of accomplishment, maturity, and confidence. Then, if we are fortunate to live long enough, a period of decline, dependency, and limited abilities intrudes. I pray that the life of our synod is not an absolute mirror of our personal lives, but that new life and growth can follow a time of drawing in. It seems parishes may struggle to find pastoral leadership, and pastors may have to serve more than one congregation. As a synod there may be a period of fewer resources to support the ministries that we have thus far enjoyed. Yet, the Holy Spirit is always leading us into new ventures and new avenues of service. There will be additional enthusiastic, wise leaders emerge to guide our synod, or, dare I say, its successor, in serving the Triune God in whom we have our being. •

- Any such move is going to require significant funding. Under a partnership arrangement with LTSS, the Seminary made our archival space available to us free of charge. In exchange, the Archives provided care and oversite for the Seminary's collection and records. That situation will obviously not remain the same going forward.
- Our mission will remain unchanged: to safeguard the documents, records, and artifacts of Lutheranism in the Southeast that help us understand where we have come from, the struggles we have faced, and the adversity we have overcome. The Crumley Archives will care for and preserve the precious records of that history with the same care it has always provided.

You will hear much more about the work to relocate the Archives in the coming months. To follow the progress of the Seminary's move, please check in often on the website, "Frequently Asked Questions" (https://www.lr.edu/ltss-future/faq) as it will be updated to provide the most current information.

If you have questions, comments, or suggestions about this issue, please feel free to contact Dr. Susan McArver, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Crumley Archives at susan.mcarver@lr.edu, or Shannon Smith, Archivist, crumleyarchivist@gmail.com. •

Annual Friends of the Archives Banquet!

JOIN US FOR THE

"Friends of the Archives Banquet"

FRIDAY, SEPT. 20, 2024 AT THE LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SOUTHERN

SEMINARY

Where we will celebrate our honorees Rev. James and Mrs. Celie Addy

ST MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, IRMO SC and

South Carolina Synod, ELCA

James R Crumley Jr. Archives

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Unsung Film Project Update

UNSUNG A CHRONICLE OF BLACK LUTHERANS

Boston Jenkins Drayton was the first African American Lutheran ordained in the South. In the 1840's Drayton was educated by Rev. Dr. John Bachman. and served as minister alongside Bachman to the significantly large black congregation worshiping at St. John's in Charleston. He was ordained by the synod in 1845 and sent as a Lutheran missionary to Liberia where he eventually moved into a political life thanks to his education and finally became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Liberia.

Drayton's story is just one of many such stories about the trials and accomplishments of Black Lutherans in the South that can be more easily accessed at the Crumley Archives thanks to the hard cataloging work done by Harvey Huntley. Our new documentary entitled, Unsung: A Chronicle of Black Lutherans, will focus on the history of African descent Lutherans and congregations, including their contributions and legacies throughout Region 9 of the ELCA. The documentary will be a compilation of interviews and historical analyses based on the primary records of churches and individuals maintained at the Crumley Archives. We hope that the final product will consist of five short films connected in theme, content, and style; one for each synod of Region 9.

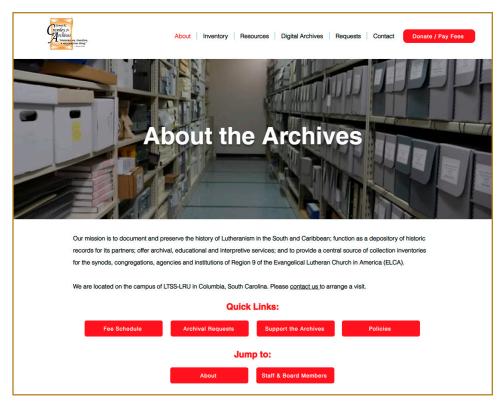
Production (preparation and film shooting) of the South Carolina Film segment is complete, and it should wrap up post-production (editing, etc.) by the end of summer. Filming for the Southeastern Synod portion of the project actually preceded our first shoot on the SC story by about a month, but we cannot get to Alabama to finish that SE Synod production until June. We aspire to broaden our research and filming to the Caribbean, Florida-Bahamas, and North Carolina synods in the not-too-distant future.

As for the SC Synod shoots, we began that part of the project January 12 at St. John's in Charleston and wrapped up filming on March 1 at St. Michael's in Irmo. A total of seven people were interviewed at the two churches. The interview at St. John's was with Rev. Dr. Ed Counts. At St. Michael's interviews were given by Dr. James Thomas, Dr. Susan McArver, Rev. Frank Anderson, Rev. Dermon Sox, Rev. Jackie Utley, and Rev. Leroy Cannon.

While the structure of this project is somewhat different from that of our Frankie San film, we are encouraged by the success of that earlier documentary and expect to achieve similar levels of excellence in production thanks to our partnership with Fisher Films. Prisoner by Choice: the Frankie San Story continues to garner recognition, having been selected and screened at The Beaufort International Film Festival, Reedy Reels Film Festival in Greenville, and the Vero Beach Film Festival just since February of this year. It won best documentary at the Greenville Festival and has also been selected for inclusion ins a festival in Orlando in May and tentatively invited for a screening at Duke University (date TBD).



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IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR WEBSITE!

We've recently made some changes to our website. You can view it at www.crumleyarchives.com. As news about the future of the Crumley Archives develops, you'll be able to find it there. •

Follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/CrumleyArchives

Subscribe to us on YouTube www.youtube.com/@archivesassistant9441

Office Hours

Monday: 10 - 3 Tuesday and Thursday: 9 - 3 Wednesday: by appointment

Closed: Friday

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

THANK YOU! FRIENDS OF THE ARCHIVES

We are most grateful for the gifts received since the last edition of the Archival Survey. These gifts enable us to preserve our church's history and to assist researchers, congregations and institutions in their work. Gifts listed below arrived between **November 1, 2023, and March 31, 2024.** Please advise if your gift 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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200th Anniversay SC Synod, ELCA		- Kay Ornelas					
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The Rev.& Mrs. Don Poole	Asheville, NC		Archives Continues on next page				

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Hendrix Scholarship

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The Rev. Dr. Scott and Mrs. Emilee Hendrix	Asheville, NC				
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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. 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

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Finding Aid for Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Concordia - Thornsby, AL

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Finding Aid for Holy Trinity - Hickory, NC Finding Aid for Bethlehem - Lake City. FL

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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

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