

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 24, NUMBER 1

SUMMER 2013

Spring Program:

“Faith on the Firing Line”

Spring Program Draws Record Crowd

By Judy Simonson

An impressively large audience gathered in the Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary Chapel on April 16, 2013, for the Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic's Spring Program, “Faith on the Firing Line.” This year the lectures opened the new Gettysburg Seminary Spring Academy and drew over 200 listeners from all registrants for the week's activities.

Barbara Franco, Founding Executive Director of the Seminary Ridge Museum, began the program by speaking on the two themes, “faith and freedom”, that have emerged as the Museum developed. The Museum has three foci: the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg; the

care of the wounded; and exploring ideas of faith and freedom as understood in the 19th century. Franco highlighted the evolution of attitudes toward slavery in colonial times and onward. She noted that Samuel Simon Schmucker himself struggled with two concepts as the husband of a slave owner and his understanding of biblical imperatives. The main question: How did a country so steeped in faith and freedom become so divided? The Museum will highlight the lively debate in the 1830's and onward, using tracts, pamphlets and newspapers. New research reveals such ideas as the thought that slavery could be a positive good because it exposed slaves to Christianity!

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LHSMA 2013 Annual Meeting

By John Deeben, Secretary

President Steve Herr called the annual meeting of the Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic to order at 1:05 PM in the Valentine Hall Auditorium, Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary, and welcomed the membership.

The minutes from the April 17, 2012 meeting were approved as amended. The amended portion regards the St. Paul/Biglerville Prize and states the prize “may” be awarded next year instead of “will” be awarded.

Officer's Reports:

- President Herr again updated the membership regarding the Muhlenberg Journals Restoration Project, reporting that the Society raised

over \$3600 towards the restoration of one journal volume. Several members of the board attended a donor recognition dinner in the fall where they viewed the restored volume and heard remarks from the lead conservator of the project.

- Membership chair Barbara Luebbe reported the Society had 82 paid members, and expected the number to rise to 102 after other members are paid up.
- Treasurer Lee Knepp submitted a written report on the Society's finances from January 1 to April 10, 2013, showing all accounts in order.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Several church architecture styles discussed during Fall 2012 program
- Four board members re-elected at April annual meeting
- Spring 2014 program to focus on women's work in Lutheran history
- Seminary President and ELCA Presiding Bishop speak at Battle of Gettysburg commemoration

President's Corner - Summer 2013

Since its reorganization twenty-four years ago the Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic has been blessed with dedicated Lutheran leaders to serve on its board of directors. These board members, both lay and rostered leaders, have worked tirelessly to promote the importance of our Lutheran history and heritage in the Mid-Atlantic region. Their commitment and passion to serve the society and its mission has been critical for the society's life and work.

On February 6 board member emeritus Dr. Charles H. Glatfelter joined the church triumphant. His passing is a loss to the society and the community of church historians. Glatfelter (1924-2013) was one of the driving forces behind the reor-

ganization of the Lutheran Historical Society. He served on the board and was an officer of the society.

His wisdom, scholarship, and energy contributed greatly to the work of the society. LHSMA gives thanks to God for Charles' life and contributions to the history of churches, congregations and their leaders throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.

I also wish to thank our current board of directors. Their enthusiasm and effort help to bring the many initiatives of the society to life. In addition to the board, the society benefits from members who contribute their time and talent. If you would like to get involved in the society's work outlined on our webpage and in this newsletter, please contact me at:

pastor@christgettysburg.org or at 717-334-5212. Have a blessed summer.

Sincerely in Christ,

Stephen Herr, President

June 2013



Welcome New Members

LHSMA welcomes the following new members since our Fall 2012 Newsletter:

Annual Memberships:

Theodore & Marian Schlack -
Allentown, PA

Life Memberships:

Marlene J. Stifler - *Dillsburg, PA*
Paul Tomkiel - *Carlisle, PA*

Please notify us of any corrections to the list.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE!

Did you forget to send in your renewal dues by our newly requested March 31 date?

If so, please go ahead and send them in now. It is a great help to us to receive them by March 31, but your late dues will not be rejected. *We will still love you!*
Your dues help the Society to do its work "to preserve, to document, and to stir interest in the rich Lutheran traditions which are the foundations of the church."
You may use the Membership/Renewal Application in this newsletter.

Your support, by way of your dues and your presence at our programs, is greatly appreciated. We hope to see you at our next program, to be announced at a later time.

LHSMA 2013 - 2014 Board of Directors

Officers

Stephen Herr <i>President</i>	John Deeben <i>Secretary</i>
Mark Oldenburg <i>Vice President</i>	Lee Knepp <i>Treasurer</i>

Other Board Members

Briant Bohleke	Kevin Hepler
Peggy Brookshire	Susan Hill
Maria Erling	Barbara Luebbe
John Fehringer	Judy Simonson

Board Emeriti

Donald Housley
Michael Kurtz
Fred Wentz

2012 Fall Program Recap: Church Architecture and Spirituality

Submitted by Sue Hill

The post-modern mainline church is facing contextual challenges that require it to reinvent itself without compromising its essential identity as the bearer of God's redeeming Word to the world. Some see our time, potentially, as a new era of Reformation. Not only are theology, liturgy, and ministry under scrutiny as the institution reexamines its way of proclaiming from a twenty-first century point of view, but also worship space. Some congregations are re-imagining their worship space to better meet the sacred yet communal needs of a dynamic, searching, questioning contemporary group of believers.

Dr. Gerald Christianson, Professor of Church History emeritus at Gettysburg Lutheran Theological Seminary, quoted Winston Churchill in his presentation on October 20, 2012 at St. James Lutheran Church, Gettysburg, "We shape our buildings, then our buildings shape us." Entitled "Church Architecture and the Shape of Spirituality: Early and American," Dr. Christianson's remarks discussed the deep implications of worship space as it defines and informs its gathered congregation.

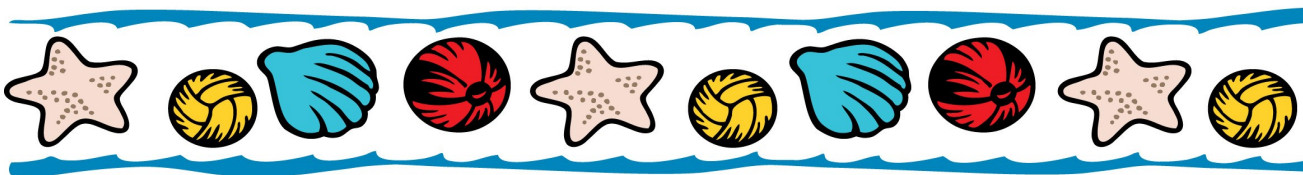
Dr. Christianson claims that our church buildings, gathering places with religious significance, say something *to* us as well as *about* us. He illustrated by citing two historical church types. First, by placing the altar in the middle of the worship space and the clergy in the

apse, the "domus ecclesiae" or house church model emphasizes God's presence among the people but de-emphasizes a sense of awe in God's presence. On the other hand, "domus dei," the house of God, is a model that relates to God's royal residence. God is transcendent but may be encountered in the church building. The architectural plan is formal and authoritative cloistering the altar and the clergy in the apse. The primary emphasis of mystery and awe acknowledge God's majesty but weaken the sense of community.

Both "domus ecclesiae" and "domus dei" forms were present in the ancient world. Each one has encouraged a particular Christian behavior. The former, modeled after the Roman villa, invites the spirit in with incense and celebrates a personal relationship with God. The Eucharist is offered to the assembly there. The latter space elevates the altar and carves a pathway from back to front encouraging a righteous journey toward an awesome but distant God.

American churches rooted in the old world struggled to find a distinctive design to call their own. Repeatedly, American church architecture relied on the past as a guide to artistic identity and authenticity but with little theological reflection or liturgical development in our young country. The result, according to Christianson, was an end to organic development and

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ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER NOTICE!

The Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic will start offering its annual newsletter (3 issues per year) in electronic form (PDF file format) to interested members. If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, please send an email to newsletter editor John Deeben at jdeeben@aol.com and put "LH SMA Newsletter" in the subject heading. Members who elect to receive the newsletter electronically will NOT have a hardcopy sent to their mailing address in an effort to reduce postage costs.



Fall Recap

(Continued from page 3)

an extended debate only about “styles.”

These styles proliferated everywhere. For instance:

- **Puritans** originally worshipped in “house” churches during the American colonial period. Their sense of community was compromised, however, when they eliminated the Eucharist and elevated the preaching box.
- **Traditional medieval** forms reappeared in Victorian era churches harkening back to the accustomed long center pathway to God (for example, the old Seminary Chapel).
- In the late eighteenth hundreds, the Sunday School movement, led by the laity when pastors were in short supply, adopted the “**Akron plan**” (for example, First Lutheran, Carlisle and pre-1970 St. James, Gettysburg) with sloped flooring and rounded pews to facilitate conversation and instruction.

- The nineteenth century **Oxford Movement** (for example, Prince of Peace Episcopal, Gettysburg) longed for a return to “simpler” pre-industrial times and so inspired a return to “tradition” as expressed in medieval design.
- **Neo-Gothic** (Muhlenberg College Chapel) architecture also recalled the medieval style using the arts prolifically to stir spiritual experiences in the faithful.
- The **Neo-Colonial** (Gettysburg Seminary Chapel) architecture hearkened back to the American colonial style which was rooted in a balanced British Georgian design.

A period of **liturgical renewal** began in the mid-twentieth century. In this new emphasis, worship space and liturgical principles are linked. Liturgical renewal recognizes that the gathered body of Christ hallows space and not the other way around.

So in conclusion, Christianson asked, “How do we ‘read’ the contemporary worship space?” Spaces in-

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Spring Program

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The Museum will try to “embrace the complexity” of the issues rather than trying to make it simple. Director Franco pointed out that the Museum, as a private institution affiliated with the Seminary, will be able to ask these fundamental questions about the role of religion, something that would not be possible if the National Park Service were administering the facility.

The second speaker of the morning was Colonel W. Thomas Vossler, the former Director of the U.S.

Army Military History Institute at Carlisle Barracks, Pa. He explored the role of military chaplains during the Civil War. Both Union and Confederate regiments had chaplains—the Union chaplains numbered 2,138, with Lutherans only accounting for 25 of those. The largest contingent was Methodist at 631. Vossler pointed out that there were also 12 Confederate Lutheran chaplains.

For many of the chaplains, service during the war represented an abrupt change from a quiet congregation to army life. One such chaplain kept a detailed diary of his thirteen-month service, writing, as noted above, “I am surrounded by Methodists.” Col. Vossler also presented information gleaned from such records that give a unique view of the conflict.



The lectures were followed by an opportunity for members of the Society to tour the Seminary Ridge Museum prior to its official opening in July. Many ventured all the way to the cupola to see the dramatic view. There was a docent present who was able to point out which structures would have been visible at the time of the battle. ■

2013 ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY

(Continued from page 1)

In addition, the total amounts of the prize funds are as follows: Wentz Prize, \$80,000; St. Paul/Biglerville Prize, \$51,000.

New Business:

- Vice President Mark Oldenburg reported for the Nominating Committee and presented the following candidates to fill 5 expired seats on the board: Maria Erling, John Fehringer, Susan Hill, Barbara Luebbe, and Jim Vigen. The floor was then opened for additional nominations. There being none, nominations were closed and the 5 candidates were elected on a unanimous ballot.

Program Updates:

- Wentz Prize: President Herr reminded the membership to encourage graduate students/first degree seminarians to submit papers.

- St. Paul/Biglerville Prize: The last prize was awarded in 2011. The prize committee is working to get a better process organized to identify/receive nominees for consideration.
- Youth History Contest: President Herr reported that this program needs more publicity, as the Society has received no submissions for this year.
- Historic Site Recognition: The program is in the process of being retooled. Phil Teigen reported the Site Recognition committee will have revisions/new ideas ready for the August board meeting so the program can be re-launched next year. He also will be sending out a call for volunteers to compile more background information about the sites that have already



been recognized (these are listed on the Society's web site) as there appears to be little documentation about them.

Announcements:

- Next year's spring program will be held on April 29, 2014, and will focus on women's work in Lutheran history. The program will include presentations by Maria Erling, Jean LeGros on Mary Stuckenberg, Marianne Brock on Mildred Winston, and Susan Hill on Elsie Singmaster.
- President Steve Herr again offered words of remembrance for the late Charles H. Glatfelter, emeritus board member.
- The annual meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM and the membership proceeded to Schmucker Hall for a preview tour of the new Seminary Ridge Museum. ■



From the mouths of babes...

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

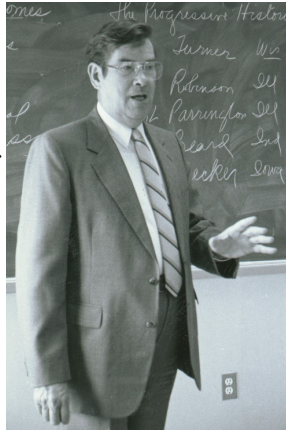
The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The nun made a note, and posted on the apple tray: "Take only ONE. God is watching." Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

Emeritus Board Member Charles Glatfelter Dies

Submitted by John Deeben

The Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic and the local history community lost a venerable member recently with the passing of emeritus board member Dr. Charles H. Glatfelter, who died on February 6, 2013, at his home following a brief illness. Professor of History Emeritus of Gettysburg College as well as a noted historian and author, Dr. Glatfelter was born on May 11, 1924, in Glen Rock, York County, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Glen Rock High School in 1941 and from Gettysburg College in 1946, and received his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University in 1952. He was a member of the faculty of Gettysburg College from 1949 until 1989, where he served as Dean of the College, Chairman of the History Department, a Franklin Professor of History and was Professor Emeritus since 1989. He received the Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1987 and authored a 2-volume history of the college, *A Salutary Influence: Gettysburg College, 1832-1985*, in 1987.

Among other accomplishments, Glatfelter also was a past President and Secretary of the Iota Chapter of



Pennsylvania, Phi Beta Kappa. He served as the Executive Director of the Adams County Historical Society from 1959 until 2001 and was designated as the Official Adams County Historian in 2001. He was a life member of the Pennsylvania Historical Association of which he was a past President, Vice President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. He also was a former Director of the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania and the Preservation Society of Gettysburg and Adams County. He also served as a member of the Gettysburg Bicentennial Committee and Chairman of the Adams County Bicentennial Committee. Dr. Glatfelter was a Director of the Casper Glatfelter Association of America from 1944 until 2005, serving as Treasurer, Historian and President during that time and was designated Director Emeritus in 2006. He also was a former Director of the Pennsylvania German Society. He was a former member of the Board of Theological Education, Lutheran Church in America and of the Commission on the Ministry, Central Pennsylvania Synod of the Lutheran Church of

America and was a member of Christ Lutheran Church, Gettysburg.

He received many honors for his historical work, teaching and community service, among them the Commendation Award from the Concordia Historical Institute, Austin L. Grove American Legion Post #403 Good Citizenship Award, Distinguished Alumni Award of Gettysburg College, Achievement Award from the PA German Society, the Dr. Henry James Young Award from the South Central PA Genealogical Society, Outstanding Citizen Award from the Gettysburg Adams Chamber of Commerce, the Executive Director's Award from the PA Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations and the Heritage Profile Award from the York County Heritage Trust. He also wrote numerous publications including *Pastors and People: German Lutheran and Reformed Churches in the Pennsylvania Field* 2 vols. and documented the history of local Adams and York County communities, organizations, churches, buildings, cemeteries, families and people. His meticulous research skills helped him discover much local history, which he shared in his many speaking engagements. ■



Fall Recap

(Continued from page 4)

spired by liturgical renewal design not only appeal to the senses but also to the communal exchange inherent in liturgy (for example, Grace Lutheran, State College, St. Paul's, Lititz). The table is in the midst of the assembly. Worshippers gather around the table for seat-

ing and for the meal. An ambo, rather than an elevated pulpit, sits on a small platform close to the congregation engaging them in the Word. The diverse nature of the American congregation is reflected in the flexibility of movable furniture and the potential for variety in worship. Tradition and innovation join to address the particular in American worship space, hoping to better serve and to answer God's call to re-tell the story for all to hear. ■

ELCA Seminary Marks 150th Anniversary of Battle of Gettysburg

ELCA News Service

(July 1, 2013) GETTYSBURG, Pa. (ELCA) -- Exactly 150 years ago on July 1, 1863, Union cavalry commander Gen. John Buford observed Confederate soldiers advancing on Gettysburg from the west. He surveyed the advance from the cupola of a Lutheran seminary building. Within a few hours the fields surrounding the seminary became a battleground, turning the seminary building into perhaps the largest field hospital of the three-day Battle of Gettysburg.

The Seminary Ridge Museum opened July 1, 2013, inside that building, historically known as Schmucker Hall on the campus of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. The seminary is one of eight in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

In a special ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by Civil War re-enactors, tourists, dignitaries and others, the museum opened with its 20,000 square feet of interactive exhibit galleries that tell the story of the first day of the battle on Seminary Ridge, the care of the wounded and human suffering within the walls of the building, and an examination of faith and freedom.

"When the seminary building and campus were overrun by warring armies 150 years ago, this place became a fierce battleground where the future of the nation was at stake," the Rev. Michael Cooper-White, seminary president, said in welcoming remarks on the steps of the museum. "In the battle's aftermath, it was a place of healing for hundreds, and a hospice where some 70 soldiers closed their eyes for the final time. We can, we must ponder the meaning of those who, in the words of one, 'have come here to stay.'"

Care for more than 600 wounded Union and Confederate soldiers continued in the building until September 1863.

The building itself is a historical artifact, according to Barbara Franco, executive director of the museum. The museum is designed to preserve Schmucker Hall in the historical interpretive period from 1832 to 1914.

About 80 percent of the brick Federal Style building is original, according to Cooper-White. From the dark wooden floors to the wainscoting, to the famous cupola, the museum's purpose is not "to preserve the past; rather, in opening this interpretive center we look to the future," he said, adding that its purpose remains "education, the patient and persistent search for truth, for answers to the great questions of conflict and reconciliation, freedom and human bondage, faith and doubt, which remain the same as they were 150 years ago."

Tens of thousands of people from across the country have gathered here to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the battle -- from viewing skirmishes and re-enactments to photographing the more than 1,300 monuments and markers that line the Gettysburg landscape.

"People come for the re-enactment, but my prayer is that people leave with a recommitment to reconciliation for racial justice and peace," said the Rev. Mark S. Hanson in remarks following the ribbon cutting. "The 50th anniversary of the civil rights movement combined with the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg (serves as occasions where we) can come together and ask, 'What is the unfinished work bequeathed to us? What is the unfinished work of freedom?'" ■

A Friendly Reminder to Society Members:

Please remit your 2013 dues as soon as you receive your renewal notice from Treasurer Lee Knepp: \$20 per calendar year.



Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic

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Gettysburg, PA 17325

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Web: www.lhsmidatlantic.com

*“Preserving, documenting,
and sharing the history of
Lutherans and Lutheranism in
the Mid-Atlantic and
surrounding areas.”*



**Lutheran Historical
Society of the
Mid-Atlantic Newsletter**

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The Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic, in the interest of the preservation and cultivation of Lutheran history in Central and Western Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, and the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. area issues this newsletter two to three times a year.

Notes of announcements, projects, historical celebrations, genealogical concerns, notes of church or Synodical activities, and notes from other historical societies are solicited.

Address corrections are helpful.

Send replies via email to:

Stephen Herr

info@lhsmidatlantic.com

Subject: LHS Newsletter



VOLUME 24, NUMBER 1

**Lutheran Historical Society
of the Mid-Atlantic
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____
Email: _____
Congregation (if applicable): _____

I desire membership in LHSMA as a: _____ New Member or, as a: _____ Renewal.

_____ \$ 250 Life Membership

_____ \$ 20 Regular Membership (*renewable annually by March 31*)

_____ I wish to give a Special Gift. Please send me more information on the Special Gift Program of the society.

I am interested in:

_____ Research

_____ Reading

_____ Publishing

_____ Other: _____

Please complete this form and your check made payable to **LHSMA** and mail to:

Lee Knepp, LHSMA
PO Box 76
McClure, PA 17841