

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 2

SUMMER 2014

LHSMA 2014 FALL PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Saturday, October 4, 2014, 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Paul's Run Liberty Lutheran Campus & Philadelphia Lutheran Seminary Archives

9896 Bustleton Avenue / 7901 Germantown Pike, Philadelphia

“TRADITION OR CONTEXT?”

German Lutheran Congregations Confront the Melting Pot”

Presenters:

Dr. Friederike Baer

Assistant Professor of History, Pennsylvania State University, Abington

Topic for the day: “Like ‘wolves in sheep skins:’ The Struggle to Introduce English into Philadelphia’s St. Michael’s and Zion, ca. 1790 to 1830”

Dr. John Frantz

Professor of History, Emeritus, Pennsylvania State University

Topic: “The Ecumenical Henry Melchior Muhlenberg”

Rev. Dr. Karl Krueger

*Library Director and Professor of History of Christianity
Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia*

Topic: “What Goes Around Comes Around: The Language Wars at Philadelphia Lutheran Seminary, 1885-1895”

(Please complete registration form on page 4.)

IMPORTANT NEWSLETTER NOTICE!

The cost of producing the society’s newsletter consumes most of our annual budget. Due to escalating printing costs, the Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic will start issuing the newsletter in electronic form (PDF file format)



ONLY to all members who have provided an email address, beginning with the Summer 2014 issue. This decision is being implemented to make more effective use of our limited income resources. Members with no email address on file **will continue** to receive the newsletter by mail. We will dispense with professional printing and revert to desktop publishing, and therefore only a limited run of hardcopies for each issue will be produced.

If you would like to continue to receive the newsletter in **print**, please send an email to newsletter editor John Deeben at jdeeben@aol.com. If you did not provide an email address with your membership application or renewal and would like to receive the newsletter electronically, please contact the editor as well.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- LHSMA to save money with electronic newsletter
- Site Recognition Committee encourages nominees
- St. Paul Biglerville Prize awarded to Dr. James Burkee
- Chronology of efforts to recruit African-American pastors in Maryland during 1880’s
- ELCA and partner groups work to address hunger, both domestically and globally

President's Corner - Summer 2014

This summer marks several significant anniversaries in our nation's and the world's history.



On June 6, the 70th anniversary of D-Day occurred reminding

us of those momentous events that helped shape our history. Once again, we are confronted with the reality that a generation is passing as there are fewer and fewer veter-

ans remaining from that day of days.

Then on August 1, the world will mark the 100th anniversary of the beginning of World War 1 known as the Great War and the War to

End All Wars. The next four years will bring observances and opportunities for citizens of nations around the world to recall the events of 1914-1918 and to reflect on the war's impact, cost, and significance. These an-

niversaries underscore the importance of history's role in telling the story of past events and interpreting those events for current and future generations.

Telling the story and providing historical interpretation remains an important component of the Lutheran Historical Society. For the last twenty-five years this society has been committed to telling the Lutheran story in America and specifically here in

"For the last twenty-five years this society has been committed to telling the Lutheran story in America and specifically here in the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States."

the Mid-Atlantic region of the United States. We held an excellent program in April recounting the contributions and leadership of several

women in Eastern Lutheranism. This fall we will have an opportunity in Philadelphia to hear about the German Lutheran congregations and many of the challenges and issues they faced in the

1700s and 1800s. The society's programming remains an integral part of our mission. It is a time when we can come together to engage one another and the public in conversation, mutual learning, and exploration. I hope you will mark Saturday, October 4th on your calendar and join us in Philadelphia for our fall program.

On behalf of the board of directors, I thank you for your participation in and support of the society. I encourage you to spread the news of the society's work and programming. Help us grow the society by inviting others to join with us in our efforts to preserve and promote the Lutheran heritage and history of our region. God's blessings to each of you for a healthy and enjoyable summer.

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Stephen Herr,

LHSMa President

July 2014



LHSMa 2014 - 2015 Board of Directors

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Stephen Herr	John Deeben
<i>President</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
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Nominate a Historic Site!

By Phil Teigen

The Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic (LHSMA) seeks nominations for its Historical Site Recognition Program. The program recognizes individuals, congregations, and other institutions in Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Region 8, whose history or biography bears witness of their baptismal covenant to present and future generations. The Site-Recognition Program aims specifically to recognize sites where an event important in the history of Mid-Atlantic Lutheranism took place or where an individual (clerical or lay), congregation, or synodical agency practiced an innovative or sustained ministry. The Program also recognizes sites possessing distinctive architecture, singular artistic value, or exceptional craftsmanship, and sites possessing unusual potential for documenting the history of Mid-Atlantic Lutheranism, e.g., archaeological sites, archives, special collections, gravesites, out-door sculpture.

Recognition consists of a commemorative essay prepared by the Site Recognition Committee; appropriate images of the site added to the LHS-

MA website; presentation of a plaque for mounting at the site itself; and a \$750 grant for preserving the site's historical records, or for disseminating knowledge of the site's history.



The Site Recognition Committee welcomes nominations from members of the Society. To nominate a site please print out and complete the questionnaire on the LHSMA website at <http://lhsmidatlantic.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/Historic-Site-Recognition-Nomination-Form-2014.pdf> and mail before **September 1, 2014** to:

Site Recognition Committee
LHSMA
61 Seminary Ridge
Gettysburg, PA 17325

To contact the Site Committee with questions, or for additional information, email phil41@icloud.com.

Celebrate Our Heritage

LHSMA 2014 Spring Meeting Recap

By Maria Erling

For the second year, the spring meeting of the Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic was held in conjunction with Gettysburg Seminary's Spring Academy on April 29, 2014. Attendance at our morning session was very good, with members of the society joined by very many interested participants from the seminary and from congregations in the region. Our program highlighted the work of women in Eastern Lutheranism, and was delivered by a unique ensemble of women researchers. Maria Erling, church historian at the seminary, introduced the theme and three scholars, Jean LeGros, Susan Hill, and Marianne Brock, presented brief glimpses into their own work on significant women who had made a mark in Eastern Lutheranism. The under told stories of Mary Stuckenberg, Elsie Singmaster Lewars, Mary Markley, Mildred Winston, LaVene Grove, Bertha Paulssen, and, in addition, the interesting transitions experienced by organizers of the Seminary

and Administrative Staff wives of the Seminary brought to our listeners many interesting insights into the lives and exploits of women in the churches as roles for women went through dramatic and consequential changes.

At the spring meeting President Steven Herr was privileged to award the Abdel Ross Wentz prize for an outstanding essay touching on Lutheran History in North America to two students: Victoria Larson, Gettysburg Seminary, for her essay "The Case of the Last American Missionary in China: The American Lutheran Response to the Imprisonment of Paul J. Mackensen, Jr., 1952-1957," and to Kristofer Coffman, Luther Seminary, for his essay, "Lord, I Have Come into This Your House: A Brief History of the Norwegian Liturgy in America." Herr also awarded the St. Paul/Biglerville prize for a work of mature

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Spring Meeting Recap

(Continued from page 3)

published scholarship in American Lutheran history to Dr. James Burkee for *Power and Politics and the Missouri Synod: A Conflict that Changed American Christianity*, published by Fortress Press in 2011. The society invites further submissions for both prizes; the descriptions of these prizes are posted on the website.

At the business meeting the society elected new members to the board, and heard reports from the president, treasurer, and several committees. Membership in the society is growing, and the work of the society is adapting to meet new challenges. One decision made at the meeting that will have an effect on all of the members is that the newsletter will now be

available in printed form only upon request. Costs for printing make this the prudent choice. Those members

who supply their email address to newsletter editor John Deeben, will receive the newsletter as an attachment.

If members prefer to receive the newsletter through the mail they may also request this by contacting the editor at jdeeben@aol.com.



Dr. James Burkee receives the St. Paul, Biglerville Prize from Pastor Stephen Herr, President of the Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic.

The Fall Program – A Different Place: Getting there Can be Easy!!

Since the language issue has been a “hot topic” within Lutheran parishes throughout generations several persons, members and also non-members of the Lutheran Historical Society, may be ESPECIALLY intrigued by our exciting Fall Program, “*Tradition or Context: German Lutheran Congregations Confront the Melting Pot.*”

Consider arranging transportation help within your congregation: **CARPPOOLING:** As Many Cars as Needed – or a **BUS**. If there is interest, two carpool options might be available from Gettysburg and Camp Hill (see registration form below). There will surely be interesting conversation, especially on the return trip!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Please complete this form and mail it along with your check made payable to LHSMA to:

Lee Knepp, LHSMA
P.O. Box 76
McClure, PA 17841

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number or Email Address: _____

Registration Fee: (\$40 per person) x _____ persons Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please indicate if you would be interested in carpooling to Philadelphia (see above article). Two potential pickup options are available:

From Gettysburg (Seminary van): _____

From Camp Hill (Trinity Lutheran van): _____

A Note on the Maryland Synod and Its Search for African-American Pastors

By Phil Teigen

The Maryland Synod (1820–1987), anchored by Gettysburg’s educational institutions, holds a place in the yet-to-be-written history of Lutherans and African-Americans in the United States. As a small contribution to that effort, I’ve prepared a short chronology of the Synod’s effort to recruit African-American pastors during the 1880s.

1880: Rev. John George Butler (1826–1909), pastor of Luther Place Memorial Church in the District of Columbia and chairman of the Synod’s Beneficiary Education Committee, issued this invitation: “If any of our pastors can develop candidates for the ministry, of piety and promise, among the Freedman, your Committee is in a position to help them, regardless of denomination. The funds for this purpose are not from our churches.”

1881: Butler, still chairing the Synod’s education committee, announced that this committee was now supporting the theological studies of Daniel E. Wiseman (1858–1942), at Howard University in the District. Wiseman, a native of St. Thomas in the West Indies, had immigrated to Brooklyn, New York, early in the 1870s, there attended school and belonged to St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church, Rev. Michael W. Hamma (1836–1913), then the pastor. Wiseman may have first intended to study at Gettysburg Seminary but

Butler, a professor in Howard University’s School of Theology, apparently convinced him to enroll at the urban school.

1882: Butler’s committee added Mr. A.M. Park to theological students they supported at Howard and sought money from the synod to supplement the non-synodical funds Butler had already obtained to support the African-American students.

1883: The Education Committee began supporting three more African-American students, in addition to Wiseman and Park: W.P. Pfifer (North Carolina), Frank B. Jones, and John A. Schumpert, the last two from Prosperity, South Carolina. The Education Committee also urged the Synod to set up a standing Committee on “Freedman’s work” and to “cooperate with any similar committee of our Southern Synods.”

1884: Daniel E. Wiseman graduated with honors from Howard University and the Maryland Synod licensed him to preach during its annual convention in Taneytown, Maryland.

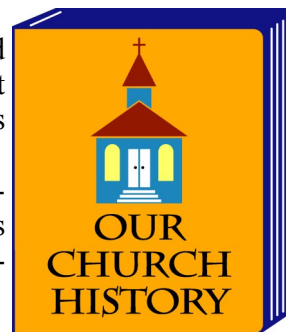
1885: Rev. Wiseman organized a Sunday-School mission near Howard University. The Synod began supporting Henry Dunham at Howard University, while A.M. Park and W.P. Pfifer continued studying there. The Synod’s proceedings do not mention Frank B. Jones and John A. Schumpert.

1886: Rev. Wiseman was ordained on 6 June at Rev. Butler’s congregation (Luther Place Memorial), and later that month his mission

was organized as the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, with Rev. M.W. Hamma preaching at the dedicatory sermon. Our Redeemer was the Maryland Synod’s first African-American congregation. A.M. Park, W.P. Pfifer, and Henry Durham, all from Rowan County, North Carolina, continued their theological studies at Howard with synodical support.

1887: Park, Pfifer, and Durham all continued studying successfully at Howard. The Freedman’s Committee agreed to support another student at Howard, Mr. Stokes, but ill-health prevented his matriculation.

1888: The Maryland Synod licensed W.P. Pfifer at its annual convention in October, although he did not have a pastoral charge yet. The Freedman’s Committee reported that the North Carolina Synod had three ordained African-American pastors and wished to continue cooperating with the Maryland Synod in se-



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A Note on the Maryland Synod (cont.)

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curing African-American Lutheran pastors.

1889: The North Carolina Synod examined A.M. Park and recommended him for ordination as soon as he “settled over a church.” W.P. Pfifer, already licensed by the Maryland Synod, planned to teach in a North Carolina public school, until he found “an open door to preach the Word.” In August he moved to North Carolina and became a candidate for ordination there. Ill-health forced Henry Dunham to suspend his studies in January. Mr. Stokes returned to good health, but having married in the meantime, was no longer eligible for the Synod’s support.

1890: “As in the past, so in the future, we assure our [North Carolina] brethren of our willingness to aid in the education for the ministry of any well ac-

credited candidates whom they may send to our care. And further we encourage them to appeal to their own churches for the establishment of colored missions upon their own territory, in which we will encourage our own people to second their efforts in such manner as Synod may recommend from time to time.” Thus ended the Maryland Synod’s experiment in recruiting African-Americans to the Lutheran ministry.

Aftermath: W.P. Pfifer eventually served a congregation of the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States (now Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod) in North Carolina. When he tried to affiliate this congregation with the Maryland Synod in 1900, the Synod’s president rebuffed him. The fates of Park, Jones, Schumpert, and Durham remain unknown—although assiduous and systematic research may well reveal the outcome of

their efforts to become Lutheran pastors. Rev. Daniel E. Wiseman served Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in the District of Columbia for fifty-seven years, until his death in 1942. Wiseman and Butler, and their respective congregations, worked cordially and cooperatively. When Butler died in 1909, services were held at Luther Place and Our Redeemer; when Wiseman died in 1942 services, likewise, were held at Luther Place and Our Redeemer.

Sources:

Proceedings of the Annual Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Maryland (1880–1890, 1900); Abdel Ross Wentz, *History of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Maryland of the United Lutheran Church in America, 1820–1920* (1920); *Washington Star*, 12/29/1909 and 12/30/1909, and 10/1/1942; *Washington Afro-American*, 10/10/1942; *The Lutheran*, 25 (4/11/1942), 30-31.

Phil Teigen

(phil41@icloud.com) is writing a biography of Rev. Wiseman.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER!

We send a big **THANK YOU** to all who have sent their membership renewals, for they provide extensive support for the ongoing work of the Society.

However, if you have not yet done this for 2014 we hope you will use the Renewal Form on the back page of this newsletter and send it with your dues. Your continued membership support is important.

If you’re not a member, **Come Join Us!** An application form is on the back page of this Newsletter. If you have never been a member and join between October 1 and December 31, the last quarter of the year, your annual dues will also include all of 2015! We’ll be delighted to welcome you!

We deeply appreciate the involvement and support from our present members, and we are always eager to greet new members.



ELCA World Hunger

More than 800 million people — that's 1 in 8 people in our world today — are hungry.

As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond. We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work.

Working with and through our congregations, in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, **ELCA World Hunger** is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

Our Approach

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. — Matthew 25:35

God richly provides for daily bread — the earth can produce enough food for everyone. Yet, many of our sisters and brothers still go hungry.

By providing immediate relief to those who are hungry, we meet basic needs and recognize the universal human right to food. But ending hunger is about more than food. By connecting people with the resources they need to produce food and gain access to clean water, education, health care and sources of income, long-term, sustainable change can be accomplished.

We start with relationships marked by conversation and listening. We believe people know their own communities best. It is our congregations and our global companion churches that first identify the local needs and related solutions to help make a difference. Then, we partner with communities to help make those solutions a reality.

Working through ELCA congregations, global companion churches, The Lutheran World Federation and other partners like Bread for the World, Church World Service, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and Lutheran World Relief, the ELCA reaches more places more effectively than we could ever do alone. In addition to funding relief and development projects that assist our sisters and brothers in need, we engage members of the ELCA in education and advocacy to help change the systems that perpetuate poverty.

Through this comprehensive approach, we work to address hunger from all angles — both domestically and globally. - See more at: <http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger/Our-Approach#sthash.Jcp9T33O.dpuf>

Hunger Facts

- 868 million people — that's 1 in 8 — are chronically hungry and cannot lead active daily lives. [1]
- 1.2 billion people live in extreme poverty, living on less than \$1.25 per day. [2]
- In the United States, more than 50 million people do not know where their next meal will come from. [3]
- 46.2 million Americans are living in poverty. [4]

[1] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2012

[2] The World Bank Poverty Overview

[3] USDA, 2011

[4] US Census, 2012

See more at: <http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger#sthash.dTp94q0W.dpuf>



Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic

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

We're on the Web!
www.lhsmidatlantic.com

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

ISSN 1049-6424

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 25, NUMBER 2

**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
21 North Brown Street
PO Box 76
McClure, PA 17841