

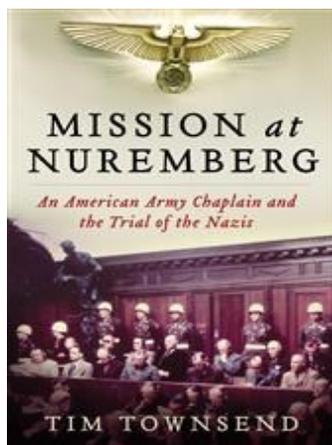
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 29, NUMBER 3

AUTUMN 2018

SAVE THE DATE:

Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic



Join us for the 2019
Annual Meeting Banquet and Program

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

Gettysburg College

College Dining Hall and Union Building
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

5:00PM Banquet Dinner
and Annual Meeting

Gettysburg College's Atrium Dining Facility
(located in the Dining Services building, directly
across the street from the College Union Building)

Menu: Buffet dinner of Balsamic Glazed Chicken, Flat Iron
Steak with Balsamic Glaze, Vegetable Kebobs, Rice Pilaf, Green
Beans, and dessert.

7:00PM Author Tim Townsend presents on his book
*Mission at Nuremberg: An American Army Chaplain and the
Trial of the Nazis*

Townsend was a 2017 St. Paul, Biglerville Prize Recipient

Location: Room 260 of the College Union Building, on the Gettysburg Col-
lege campus, and is co-sponsored by the Gettysburg College History Depart-
ment. The lecture is free and does not require pre-registration.

Parking is available in the nearby Musselman Stadium Lot.

Additional information and reservation form is located on page 3.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *New format planned for 2019 Spring Program*
- *Spring 2019 speaker awarded Biglerville Prize in 2017*
- *Many committee reports from September 2018 board meeting*
- *Lutheran Historical Conference meeting planned for 2020*
- *Archives for Evangelical Lutheran Church, Frederick, MD*

President's Corner - Autumn 2018

It has been a year since Lutherans around the world commemorated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Luther's posting of his 95 Theses on the doors of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517 marked



the beginning of the Reformation. It was only a beginning. Over the next decades

Lutherans will observe many 500th anniversaries. For example, 2021 will bring the 500th anniversary of the Diet of Worms where Luther made his bold declaration: "Here I stand..."

The 500th anniversary of the presentation of the Augsburg Confession will take place on June 25, 2030. Anniversaries such as these

offer the opportunity for us to reflect on the past and examine how those events continue to shape and guide our Christian life today.

One such anniversary on the horizon is the 200th anniversary of the formation of the Evangelical Lutheran General Synod of the United States of America. It was the first national Lutheran body in North America. The Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic, formally known as the Lutheran Historical Society, Gettysburg, has

The board of directors invites you to the 2019 annual meeting and program. It will have a new format with a banquet and evening public lecture

its roots in the General Synod tradition of Lutheran polity. The early leaders of the historical society including Samuel Simon Schmucker founded the society twenty-three years after the formation of the General Synod. Our society's board of directors has begun to consider ways in which the society might observe this anniversary and how we might help Lutherans in the Mid-Atlantic appreciate this important influence on Lutheran identity.

The board of directors invites you to the 2019 annual meeting and program. Next year's event will have a new format with a banquet and evening public lecture on the campus of Gettysburg College. The 2019 annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 9th on the campus of Gettysburg College. Our keynote speaker will be Tim Townsend, an award-winning author and journalist. Town-

send's book *Mission at Nuremberg: An American Army Chaplain and the Trial of the Nazis* (HarperCollins Publishers, 2014) explores the ministry of Lutheran pastor Henry Gerecke with twenty-one Nazi leaders awaiting trial. Townsend along with 2018 annual meeting speaker Mark Granquist received the society's St. Paul, Biglerville Prize in 2017. Details and registration materials are now available in this newsletter and on our website:

www.LutheranHistoricalSociety.com

We hope you will mark your calendars for this exciting event and please invite others to join us for what will be an exciting gathering for the society.

As our nation's observance of Thanksgiving approaches, I am grateful for the support the society's membership offers to help fulfill our mission. As the year draws to a close I invite you to consider a gift to the society as we seek to find new and exciting ways to share the wonderful Lutheran heritage of the Mid-Atlantic region. Thank you and may God be with you throughout the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Pastor Stephen R. Herr,
LHSMAs President*

Reformation Day

October 31, 2018

Welcome New Members

LHSMAs welcomes the following new members to the Society:

Annual Membership:

Rev. Matthew Best - *Carlisle, PA*

The following annual members have upgraded to **LIFE memberships:**

Cherie Loustaunau - *Annapolis, MD*

Sue E. Nace - *York, PA*

Tony J. Tanke - *Davis, CA*

Please notify us of any corrections.

by Jim Mummert

LHSMAs 2018 - 2019 Board of Directors

Board Members

Stephen Herr
President

John Deeben
Secretary

Sheila Joy
Archivist/Historian

John Fehring
David E. Flesner

James A. Mummert

Jill Ogline Titus

Mark Oldenburg
Vice President

Lee Knepp
Treasurer

Jane English
Maria Erling

Kevin Hepler

Paul Tomkiel

Board Emeriti

Susan Hill

Donald Housley

Michael J. Kurtz

Meet the Board: Sheila M. Joy

Sheila M. Joy is Archivist and Cataloger at the Seminary and Region 8 Archives, A.R. Wentz Branch Library, in Gettysburg, PA. Having grown up in Williamsport, PA she went on to receive a B.A. in History at Kutztown University in 2013 and a M.A. in Applied History at Shippensburg University in 2015.



Sheila is the primary contact for seminary and Region 8 archival reference requests and is responsible for the copy and original cataloging of library materials located on both campuses. She assists patrons with all their research needs and is continually working on projects to improve the Archives, especially digitization and outreach.

Sheila also oversees student workers, interns, and volunteers and maintains the Branches United Library Blog (<https://branchesunited.wordpress.com>). In her spare time she enjoys photography and yoga.



LHSMA 2019 Annual Meeting Banquet and Program Reservation Form

Reservations for dinner must be received by March 31, 2019. To reserve a spot for dinner please complete and return the following form with a check made payable to the Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic. Cost is \$15.00 a person.

If you have any questions contact at Dr. Jill Ogline Titus: jill.titus1959@gmail.com or Pastor Stephen Herr at lhsmidatlantic@gmail.com

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number of dinner reservations at \$15.00 per person _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Please return to Lee Knepp, LHSMA Treasurer, P.O. Box 76, McClure, PA 17801
To check on receipt of reservation or make a change contact Lee at 570-765-2358

LHSMA Board Happenings

By John Deeben

The board of directors of the Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic met at Valentine Hall on the Gettysburg Campus of United Lutheran Seminary



BOARD MEETING

on September 8, 2018. President Steve Herr called the meeting to order at 9:30AM, welcomed board members to the meeting, and led introductions around the table as well as opening devotions.

The minutes of the May 16, 2018 board meeting were distributed and a motion to approve was made by Lee Knepp, seconded by Mark Oldenburg. The agenda for the meeting was approved on motion by David Flesner, seconded by Mark Oldenburg.

Under **Officers' Reports**, President Herr reported that two submissions were received for the Wentz Prize and will be distributed to the committee members. A recommendation will be brought forward to the board electronically. Herr met with Mark Granquist in St. Paul and discussed the possibility of partnering with the Lutheran Historical Conference to hold their annual meeting in or near Gettysburg in 2020. Herr reiterated society goals for 2018-19.

Secretary John Deeben reported that the Summer newsletter issue was distributed in mid-August with minimal glitches. The deadline for the Fall/Winter issue will be October 15. Treasurer Lee Knepp distributed a report of the society's finances for the period January through end of August 2018, with a similar report from 2017 for comparison. Balances remain steady. An update of prize funds was also provided. Knepp suggested that a portion of the Wentz Prize Income category be transferred back to the Temporary Restricted category to earn more interest. The category designations for the prize funds were established by the Seminary and not the original donors, and were made at the request of the board. Maria Erling questioned the absence of any distribution to the Archives for upkeep of the society's collection. The report was approved on motion by Jim Mum-

mert, seconded by Jill Titus.

The board broke into committee meetings at 9:58 and reconvened at 10:20AM.

Under subsequent **Committee Reports**:

- **Membership** Chair Jim Mummert reported statistics of 35 life members, 61 annual (paid) members, and 11 non-paid annual members, for a total of 107. There are also four institutional members, two libraries and two congregations. Mummert presented a committee recommendation to purge names from the membership list after five years of inactivity and due diligence on the society's part to obtain their renewal. **Approved.**
- **Publicity** Chair Mark Oldenburg reported that the display boards were present at several synod assemblies. The boards will be updated for use; the committee would like to have a three-month leeway to adequately promote information for events. The committee suggested the idea of commissioning local communications professional Katy Giebenhaim to design a new logo for the society. A recommendation was made to authorize the committee to contact Katie and bring back design and cost recommendations for the officers to review. **Approved.**
- **Program** Chair Jill Titus discussed a proposal for the 2019 Spring program, highlighting the potential benefits of partnering with Gettysburg College and the costs involved. Biglerville Prize funds should be drawn upon to help subsidize the event. The committee presented a recommendation to move forward with the Tim Townsend program on April 9, 2019, which will include a banquet at 5:00 and program at 7:00. **Approved.** Titus also discussed possibilities for a Fall 2019 program to include a Congregational Heritage Workshop.
- For the **Historic Site Recognition** Committee, Sheila Joy reported that five submissions were received for consideration. Criteria for submissions and the application form are still being re-

(Continued on page 5)

Save the Date - April 9:

2019 Spring Program

By Jill Oglie Titus

The 2019 LHSMA Annual Meeting - to be held TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019 - will feature a lecture by historian and author Tim Townsend. Townsend's book, *Mission at Nuremberg: An American Army Chaplain and the Trial of the Nazis* (HarperCollins, 2014), which explores the ministry of Lutheran pastor Henry Gerecke with twenty-one Nazi leaders awaiting trial, was a co-winner of the society's St. Paul, Biglerville Prize in 2017. Townsend's lecture will take place at 7:00 PM in Room 260 of the College Union Building, on the Gettysburg College campus, and is co-sponsored by the Gettysburg College History Department.

In his talk, Townsend will place Lutheran chaplaincy and ideas of pastoral care at the heart of one of the most famous trials in world history, delving deeply into Gerecke's interactions with men such as Hermann Goering, Albert Speer, and Joachim von Ribbentrop as they neared the court's final judgement and their executions loomed. As noted by the publisher, Townsend's account of the Nuremberg Trials is "a compelling and thought-provoking tale that rais-

es questions of faith, guilt, morality, vengeance, forgiveness, salvation, and the essence of humanity."

Annual meeting business will be conducted from 5:00 - 6:45PM during a banquet in Gettysburg College's Atrium dining facility (located in the Dining Services building, directly across the street from the College Union Building). All are invited to join us for a catered buffet dinner of Balsamic Glazed Chicken, Flat Iron Steak with Balsamic Glaze, Vegetable Kebobs, Rice Pilaf, Green Beans, and dessert. Tickets for the dinner may be acquired for \$15. Reservations may be made on the LHSMA website, or by returning the included form (page 3). The final day to place a reservation for dinner is **March 31**.



LHSMA Board Minutes

(Continued from page 4)

viewed for possible updating.

- There were no reports for the Nominating, Biglerville Prize, or Wentz Prize committees.

There was no Old Business. Under New Business:

- The deadline for the Fall/Winter newsletter issue will be October 15. President Herr encouraged submissions of pertinent historical material and bios of more Featured Lutherans, as well as spotlights of new board members.
- Herr also continued discussion about the Lutheran Historical Conference meeting in 2020, which

would potentially be centered in Baltimore, with a day trip to Gettysburg. A motion to support the Lutheran Historical Conference meeting in 2020 was made by Lee Knepp, seconded by John Fehringer. **Approved.**

- Mark Granquist requested assistance with logistics for the Gettysburg component of the annual meeting.
- Jim Mummert suggested the idea that the society commission possible historical studies on appropriate topics of interest to the board.

The board meeting adjourned at 11:55 with closing devotions by Mark Oldenburg.

Tim Townsend - A Background

By Steve Herr and Jill Oglie Titus

(From the Autumn 2017 LHSMA Newsletter)



The Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic has announced that Tim Townsend and Mark Granquist have won the 2017 St. Paul, Biglerville Prize in American Lutheran History. Townsend's *Mission at Nuremberg: An American Army Chaplain and the Trial of the Nazis* (HarperCollins Publishers, 2014) explores the ministry of Lutheran pastor Henry Gercke with twenty-one Nazi leaders awaiting trial. "In placing Lutheran chaplaincy and ideas of pastoral care at the heart of his account of one of the most famous trials in world history, Townsend's account is a powerful story of American Lutheranism on the world stage. Mark Granquist's *Lutherans in America: A New History* (Fortress Press, 2015) offers a thoughtful reinterpretation of American Lutheran history, raising timely questions about unity, diversity, and the definition of a missional church history. We are delighted to recognize these two excellent works, both of which – in

their own distinctive ways – profoundly enhance our understanding of American Lutheran history," commented Dr. Jill Oglie Titus, chair of the Society's St. Biglerville Prize committee.

These monographs are the tenth and eleventh books to receive the award in the 23-year history of the Biglerville prize. The prize is awarded every two to three years by the Society to a newly published book of mature scholarship in American Lutheran history. It was established by St. Paul Lutheran Church in Biglerville, Pennsylvania to honor their pastor, the Rev. Frederick Weiser, at the time of his retirement. It includes a \$3000 award and was last awarded in 2014.

Townsend, formerly the religion reporter at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, holds master's degrees from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and Yale Divinity School. He has written for the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times* and *Rolling Stone*, among other publications. In 2005, 2011 and 2013, he was named Religion Reporter of the Year by the Religion Newswriters Association, the highest honor on the "God beat" at American newspapers.

Membership Renewal Reminder

By Jim Mummert

The formal Membership Drive for 2018 has ended, but if you forgot to renew your membership



for this year kindly consider activating your Annual Membership by submitting the annual fee of \$20.00 using the enclosed form on page 7 of

this newsletter. If you are receiving this newsletter but have not initiated membership, this is the perfect time to do so. Your membership will be extended to December of 2019. Avoid keeping track of deadlines for dues by becoming a Life Member at only \$250!



"The Sunday school teacher says this'll be a true test of my acting ability. What does she mean by that?"



Lutheran Historical Society Of the Mid-Atlantic

Application for Membership/Membership Renewal

(Please submit this Annual Membership Renewal form.)

(Please print or write clearly. Thank you!)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Congregation *(if applicable)*: Please list name, town, and denomination.

I desire membership in LHSMA as a ____ New Member or as a ____ Renewal.

Date of application: _____

____ \$250 Life Membership for an individual or institution

____ \$ 20 Annual Membership for an individual or institution

(Annual membership is for a calendar year.)

____ I wish to give a donation to the society (see below for details). Amount \$ _____

I am interested in the following:

____ Research

____ Reading

____ Publishing

____ Other: _____

Financial gifts to further the work of the Society are always welcome and greatly appreciated. Such gifts may be mailed to LHSMA, in care of the treasurer, Lee Knepp, at the address below. LHSMA is a 501C-3 organization and your gift is tax deductible as permitted by law.

Please complete this form and your check made payable to LHSMA. Mail to:

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

Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic

61 Seminary Ridge
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Email: info@lutheranhistoricalsociety.com
Web: www.lutheranhistoricalsociety.com

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

We're on the Web!

lutheranhistoricalsociety.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@lutheranhistoricalsociety.com

Subject: LHS Newsletter



VOLUME 29, NUMBER 3

From the Region 8 Archives

Among the diverse holdings of the ELCA Region 8 Archives at the A.R. Wentz Library, Gettysburg Campus, United Lutheran Seminary, are noncurrent records of Lutheran congregations, including historical records of disbanded congregations, from five Region 8 Synods, including Alleghany, Delaware-Maryland, Lower Susquehanna, Metropolitan Washington, DC, and Upper Susquehanna Synod. In this issue, we highlight the records of the following congregation:

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH,
FREDERICK, FREDERICK CO., MD**

(Delaware-Maryland Synod)

- Constitution: 1840
- Council Minutes: 1808-1851, 1838-1842, 1845-1858, 1856-1895, 1896-1907, 1908-1921
- Manuscript Notes by Dr. Abdel Ross Wentz
- Miscellaneous Papers from Dr. Abdel Ross Wentz
- Parish Register:
 - * 1742-1811 (includes 1747 Constitution)**
 - * 1811-1850**
- Sunday School Teachers Photograph

****These materials have been temporarily withdrawn by Evangelical Lutheran Church, Frederick, MD, as of October 28, 2013.**

For more information, researchers should consult the guidelines to Research Inquiries for the Region 8 Archives Collections on the United Lutheran Seminary website at

<http://library.uls.edu/subjects/guide.php?subject=region8policies>.