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



Jeanette Bergeron, *Archivist*  
Kyra Moore, *Archives Assistant*  
Mary Ann Shealy, *Dir. of Development*  
Don Poole, *Survey Editor*

# ARCHIVAL SURVEY

## The Crumley Archives: Are They Really Important?

By John Barichivich  
President, James R. Crumley Jr. Archives

**W**hy are the Crumley Archives important? What does the Archives have to do with being Christ's body here on earth, or as we know it, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America? After all, the Archives is just the place that we put old dusty records that we do not know what to do with or do not want cluttering the church office, right?

Wrong! The Archives are important. The Archives houses the collective voices of all the Saints who have gone before us. It is their stories that witness to us and remind us who we are and whose we are. Their stories point us to Christ and remind us that we belong to God. These stories help guide us still today as we live out our faith as Lutherans.

Not only that, but have you ever considered what it would feel like to lose the Parish Register? Most people may not think about it, so let me ask you for a second to think about the most cherished family heirloom. Maybe it is a family Bible with all your relatives' names, birthdates, marriages, and deaths written in it. Now imagine you came home to find it gone with no trace. Or how about the way you feel when you are working on the computer and you have been working so hard on this project, and the lights flicker and you lose it because you did not save it or back it up. That is the feeling I am talking about. That is why it is important to have your important records saved or backed up. That is why the Archives are very important. If something should happen in the church office, maybe it's a hurricane or maybe a fire, such as the fire that recently destroyed the buildings and some records of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pomaria, SC... then there would be a back up. Those stories and voices of the Saints would not be lost.

It is ironic that we never think about saving important records until they are gone and can not be retrieved again, and the voices of the Saints are silenced. If you have not thought about protecting your records and important documents, maybe now would be a good time. After all, the Crumley Archives are more than just a depository for records. We also provide aid to congregations with record retention and much more. Why not contact Archivist Jeanette Bergeron today? ◆



## Tribute to a Man Named Carl

One minute he was here and the next he was gone. The passing of our beloved former Archives President the Rev. Dr. Carl F.W. Ficken on January 8, 2013, was a shock, despite the long years he struggled with illness.



Of all my mentors, Carl was my favorite. Working with him made me a better person. This gentle, soft-spoken, easy-going man was the ideal of what a leader and a friend should be. He was a visionary who could see the forest, but he also knew that sometimes we have to deal with the trees too, and so he was cognizant of the details.

*Cont. on page 2*

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Another wise mentor once told me that some leaders are people leaders whom everyone likes but who don't get much done; some are project leaders who get things done regardless of the cost on people they lead; and only rarely do we get to experience a leader who gets the project done and manages to keep the workers happy as well. Carl was one of those rare ones.

As Carl's health weakened in recent years, he told me what he missed the most was an activity to engage his mind. He especially missed his gardening at that point. So I proposed that he help the Archives by processing a large collection of presidential papers in the comfort of his home office. He would drive from Stone Mountain, GA; I would drive from Columbia; and we would meet in Augusta to exchange the boxes he had worked on for a new batch. Yes, his drive was twice as long as mine, proving once more what a gentleman he was. I am happy to report he got through the whole collection on the first pass, and was midway through a second round of bringing subjects together, which is now my honor to finish.

Carl searched the Internet for a role model of how to organize and catalog a higher education presidential collection, never found a suitable one, and created his own by talking to presidents and archivists. After so many decades as a man of God, professor, historian, writer, civil rights activist, husband, father and friend, at the end he also paved new ground as an archivist. Carl, you left us way too soon.

Carl was a graduate of Lenoir-Rhyne College, Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (S.T.M.) and the University of South Carolina (Ph.D.). He served as pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran Church on Sullivan's Island, S.C.; Lutheran campus pastor at USC; English professor at Elon College; professor at Southern Seminary; and director of the Lutheran Theological Center in Atlanta.

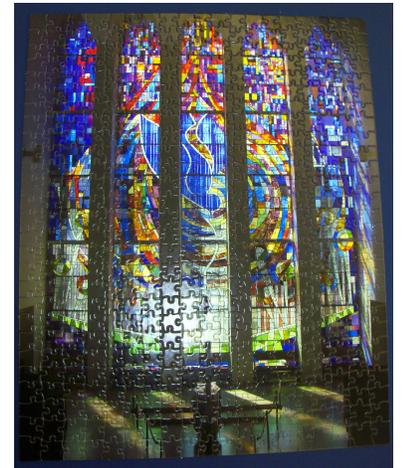
An associate pastor at Atlanta's Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, he was active in many community organizations especially ones addressing hunger, peacemaking and interfaith activities. He was a prolific researcher and author, many times returning to the theme of the intersection of Christianity and literature. Carl had just retired as Southeastern Synod representative on the board of the James R. Crumley Jr. Archives.

His family, also good friends of the Archives, are in my prayers—wife Anne; daughter Catherine Fink and her family; and son Mark Ficken and his family. One of Carl's great blessings was the time he got to spend with his growing grandchildren. I'm sure he is still looking out for them. *Peace and Blessings, Jeanette Bergeron* ♦



### Seminary Students + Archives = FUN!

On March 23 the Archives sponsored game night with the LTSS Unity Committee to familiarize more students with the work of the Archives. Archives student assistant Joshua Morgan set up a display of historic artifacts and images and served as host of the event. The students assembled a puzzle of the chapel stained glass window on the quadrangle. They plan to mount, frame and exhibit it on campus and someday donate it to the Archives. ♦



### Mark Your Calendars -- Archives Friends Banquet on Friday, September 13

The Rev. Dr. H. George Anderson will be honored with the Walton H. Greever Award at the 2013 Archives Banquet. The keynote speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Scott H. Hendrix. The event will once again be held at the Embassy Suites at 200 Stoneridge Dr. in Columbia. A reception and silent auction will start at 6:00 p.m. The dinner and program will begin at 7:00 p.m.

A block of rooms for out of town guests will be available at a reduced rate of \$129 nightly until Aug. 23. For reservations call 1-800-362-2779 and mention the group code JRC for the James R. Crumley Archives Dinner.

Please join us so that we can honor the Andersons and the 25th Anniversary of the ELCA with an excellent turnout.

### Congregations and Other Organizations directly served By the Archives June 2012-March 2013

If your organization is on this list (or even if it isn't), won't you consider making a donation to the Archives so that these services to congregations and other groups can continue?

**St. Matthews Lutheran Church**, Charleston, SC—church archives  
**North Carolina ELCA Synod** staff, Salisbury, NC—historical information

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**Resurrection Lutheran Church**, Columbia, SC—church archives onsite help  
**South Carolina ELCA Synod** staff, Columbia, SC—historical information  
**Lutheran Services for the Aging** staff, Salisbury, NC—historical information  
**Mt. Olive Lutheran Church**, Hickory, NC—church archives  
**Florida-Bahamas ELCA Synod** staff, Tampa, FL—historical information  
**St. John Lutheran Church**, Concord, NC—church archives  
**Lutheridge-Lutherock Ministries Inc. Florida** location—historical information  
**Twin City Newspaper**, Batesburg-Leesville, SC—historical information  
**Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary** staff, Columbia, SC—historical information  
**St. Luke Lutheran Church**, Conover, NC—historical information  
**German Historical Institute**, Washington, DC—historical information  
**North Carolina Synod Historical Works Committee**—historical information  
**Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church**, Omaha, KA—historical information  
**Roanoke College**, Salem, VA—historical information  
**Lutheran Chapel**, China Grove, NC—historical information  
**Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church**, Kannapolis, NC—anniversary celebration  
**St. Timothy Lutheran Church**, Forest Park, GA (closed)—legal information  
**St. John Lutheran Church**, Lexington, SC—church archives  
**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**, Mt. Pleasant, NC—church archives  
**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**, Valdosta, GA—archives for closing congregation  
**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**, Greenville, NC—church archives  
**St. Paul Lutheran Church**, Pomaria, SC—church restoration  
**Richland County Government** staff, Columbia, SC—historical information  
**St. Luke Lutheran Church**, Oglethorpe, GA—church archives  
**St. John Lutheran Church**, Lenoir, NC—anniversary  
**Grace Lutheran Church**, Winchester, VA—church archives onsite help  
**St. Philip Lutheran Church**, Raleigh, NC—church archives  
**The Village at Orchard Ridge** (retirement community), Winchester, VA—historical information  
**St. John Lutheran Church**, Knoxville, TN—church archives  
**Incarnation Lutheran Church**, Columbia, SC—church archives  
**Southeastern Synod ELCA** staff, Atlanta, GA—historical information  
**Lutheran Church of the Ascension**, Savannah, GA—church archives onsite help  
**Caribbean Synod ELCA** staff, Dorado, PR—synod archives

## The \$2,500 Question

By Jeanette Bergeron

Recently, members of a disbanded Georgia congregation contacted the Archives to locate documents to settle a dispute with the IRS. The church was unable to close out its remaining checking account until the issue was resolved.



Sure enough, among the records previously sent to the Archives for permanent keeping was the pastor's contract, which clearly indicated he was responsible for paying his own Social Security and Medicare out of an allowance from the church. Monthly treasurer's reports provided further documentary support. Once the church is removed from the tax dispute, the checking account can be closed and the church has offered to donate the funds, estimated at \$2,500, to the Archives to cover long-term care of the church's records.

It is not the first time records in the Archives have been used in IRS cases. Our records have also been used in lawsuits, insurance claims, next-of-kin searches, Daughters/Sons of the American Revolution (DAR) applications and Daughters/Sons of the Confederacy applications. They have been used to write theses, dissertations, books, and magazine and newspaper articles. They have been used for lectures, films and displays. They have been used in class projects from elementary school to graduate school, in the United States, Africa, Europe and Asia. They have been used for congregation histories and for family genealogy histories.

We like to think that every question is a \$2,500 question to someone, worthy of serious consideration and the best response we can give. But sometimes a question comes along where \$2,500 or more is really on the line. Helping with those is extra satisfying. ♦



**Who is this? Where is this? Do You know?**

This is a photo which I would like to challenge our readers to identify. It was found in a scrapbook of photographs taken in 1952 by Rev. G. T. Weddington of the Lutheran churches in the North Carolina Piedmont. This photo may or may not be from that era and place. Pastor Weddington later served as a missionary to India. Some of the churches he photographed are no longer with us, and the images he captured of Lenoir Rhyne, Lutheridge and Southern Seminary from 1952 provide an invaluable view of those institutions at the time. ♦



### Fire Destroys Buildings of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pomaria, SC

On January 10, 2013, fire destroyed the buildings of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pomaria, SC, one of the oldest congregations in Newberry County. The church, founded in 1761, was worshipping in a building that was constructed between 1936 and 1938 and was built using local Pomaria granite. Nothing remains untouched on the sanctuary or ad-



joining buildings, and many records were lost in the fire. The congregation, however, remains strong. The Sunday following the fire over 600 people gathered on the grounds for worship. Currently restoration plans and fundraising are underway.



## Editorial

### Is it Money Well Spent?

As a preacher there have been times when I struggled with a sermon... not because there wasn't something to proclaim, but because there was just too much to proclaim! What do I leave out? What do I emphasize? I am in that same boat as I write this, because there are two issues that need to be addressed: Congregational archives and the life and death of the Crumley Archives. Others speak to one or both of those issues elsewhere in this newsletter. But I need to get these things off my chest... so let me start with a word about the first issue: Congregational archives.

When I learned of the fire that destroyed the buildings (but not the congregation!) of St. Paul's, Pomaria, SC, I hurt for that congregation. I had been in their shoes. On early Sunday morning, July 8, 1979, St. John's, Rincon, GA... the congregation I was serving at the time... burned (less than 50 feet from the parsonage!) The fire was contained, and although it did not do damage to the extent that St. Paul's suffered, the decision was eventually made to tear down the church building and build anew. Fortunately the church records were kept in the office... which was located on the other side of the parsonage, even further away from the church. Unlike St. Paul's Church, we did not have the anguish of losing our valuable records. St. Paul's did lose many records... and very little had been maintained in the Crumley Archives for safekeeping. There are lots of reasons why neither St. John's nor St. Paul's entrusted their archival material to the Region 9 Archives. One reason is that most congregations do not like giving up "control" of what they consider to be theirs. I understand that. Another reason is that congregations do not want to spend money, however much or little it might be, to see that their records are safeguarded, either in their own fire-proofed archives, or the Crumley Archives. There's something here, I'm afraid, that smacks of being "penny wise and pound foolish." Okay, I've said it. We don't like spending money on something we think will never happen... like the church burning down. Well, we've got insurance to cover that. BUT, there is no "insurance" that covers destroyed historical documents. Even copies stored in the Crumley Archives are of great value if the originals are lost. Money needs to be spent for this preservation! Is it money well spent? Think about it!

The other issue I need to speak about concerns the very survival of the Crumley Archives. In years past I've written of this concern, but it is becoming a major issue and major worry for all who are involved with the Archives. Put simply: we do not have enough income to carry on at the level we have been for the past several years. Unlike the Federal Government, we cannot just print some more money to carry us through... or borrow against the hope of improved income years from now. We need MAJOR DONATIONS NOW! Not six months or six years from now. The supporting Synods are tapped out. The Archives, as important as they are, are not the top priority for Synods that are struggling to maintain their own ministries and support new ones. It is not a matter that we have a "poor" constituency. It is a matter that too many of the members of our supporting Synods are not aware of the importance of the Archives and/or are not committed to seeing it last... and prosper. Right now the Crumley Archives is almost bursting at the seams. We are in need of larger facilities (and such may be available on the LTSS campus... BUT it costs big bucks to prepare it for use by the Archives.) The Archives needs people who are committed to preserving the history and traditions of the Lutheran Church in the southern United States and Caribbean. It needs people who are willing to say "Yes! This IS money well spent!" Think about it! - Don Poole ♦

#### An Easy Way for Your Congregation to Support the Archives

Please consider giving the Archives an annual contribution equal to \$1 for each year your congregation has been organized. This size gift is small in terms of congregational budgets, but huge in terms of what it collectively means to the Archives and our ability to continue serving congregations with anniversary, archives and history support. Thank you!

## *Friends of the Archives*

Since the last issue of the *Archival Survey* (Fall 2012), the following friends have made contributions to the James R. Crumley Jr. Archives. We are most grateful for these gifts because they enable us to preserve our church's history and to assist researchers, congregations, and institutions in their work. If you have made a contribution since Fall 2012 and your name is not listed here, please accept our apologies and send us a note indicating the amount and date of your gift. Also, if you've made a donation in honor of others, be assured we have written them directly. Space prohibits us from naming honorees and memorials.

If your congregation could make a gift to the Archives, that would be a wonderful support. We would be glad to supply any information you might need to help you make such a request at your church. Many thanks for your gifts!

### **Contributions in memory of Carl Ficken**

Terry Agner, Arden, NC  
George & Christine Anderson, Decorah, IA  
Jim & Ginny Aull, White Rock, SC  
Jeanette Bergeron, Columbia, SC  
Paulwyn & Betty Boliek, Augusta, GA  
Mack & Jennie Branham, Irmo, SC  
Dan & Betty Brown, Salisbury, NC  
Bob & Lib Carswell, Columbia, SC  
Jim & Annette Crumley, Chapin, SC  
Ann Dasher, Arden, NC  
John Carl Dennis, Spartanburg, SC  
David & Carolyn Donges, Columbia, SC  
J. C. Epting, Jr., Hickory, NC  
Donald & Leola Fanning, Beaufort, SC  
Larry & Carleen Fink, Faith, NC  
Carl & Miriam Fisher, Charlotte, NC  
Martha Haigler, Chapin, SC  
Doris Harrington, Columbia, SC  
Scott & Emilee Hendrix, Pittsboro, NC  
Ozzie & Virginia Herlong, Chapin, SC  
Harvey Huntley, Jr., Boone, NC  
Sigrid & Charlie Hyman, Columbia, SC  
Paul & Marilyn Jersild, Norfolk, VA  
Diane & David Keck, Sr., Mooresville, NC  
Adele Lindberg, Elgin, SC  
Don & Ruth Matkins, Burlington, NC  
Gene & Marie Mauney, Hickory, NC  
Charles & Ruth Nicholson, West Columbia, SC  
Harold & Betty Park, Chapin, SC  
Don & Brenta Poole, Horse Shoe, NC  
George Rhyne, Dallas, NC  
Tom & Ann Ridenhour, Portland, OR  
Susanne Rolland, Brevard, NC  
Helen Sanders, Chapin, SC  
Mark & Karen Scott, Newberry, SC  
Marilyn Stauffer, Columbia, SC  
Paul & Debra Summer, Hiawassee, GA  
Becky & John Sutusky, Summerville, SC  
Betty Wilds, Columbia, SC  
Dave & Judy Weir, Tucson, AZ  
Deborah & Larry Wood, Fort Mill, SC

### **Other Contributions from Individuals**

Randy & Mary Alice Akers, Columbia, SC  
Mel & Nancy Amundson, Columbia, SC  
Wayne Benton, Savannah, GA  
Keith & Genie Brown, Roanoke, VA  
Jim & Annette Crumley, Chapin, SC  
Carl & Anne Ficken, Stone Mountain, GA  
Erik & Kris Fink, Prosperity, SC

Larry & Carleen Fink, Faith, NC  
Joseph & Barbara Fudjack, Severna Park, MD  
Scott & Emilee Hendrix, Pittsboro, NC  
Norman Hjelm, Wynnewood, PA  
John & Frances Holman, Towson, MD  
Wayne Kannaday & Helen Doerpinghaus, Columbia, SC  
Jerry & Janice Livingston, West Columbia, SC  
Marjorie McDaniel, Hickory, NC  
June Metz, Columbia, SC  
Wayne & Jill Nelson, Salisbury, NC  
Charles & Ruth Nicholson, West Columbia, SC  
David Poole, Charlottesville, VA  
Don & Brenta Poole, Horse Shoe, NC  
Susanne Rolland, Brevard, NC  
Gary & Brenda Safrin, Greer, SC  
Mary Ann & Jim Shealy, Gilbert, SC  
Murray & Christine Shull, Moore, SC  
Mark Smith, Savannah, GA  
Marilyn Stauffer, Columbia, SC  
Virginia Strickland, Augusta, GA  
Carolyn Sung, Bethesda, MD  
Paul & Jonne Walter, Atlanta, GA  
Tommie Wicker, Newberry, SC

### **Institutional Support**

Florida-Bahamas Synod, ELCA  
Lutheran Homes of South Carolina  
Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary  
Lutheridge+Lutherock Ministries Inc.  
Newberry College  
North Carolina Synod, ELCA  
South Carolina Synod, ELCA  
Southeastern Synod, ELCA  
Virginia Synod, ELCA

### **Congregational Support**

Grace Lutheran Church, Lakeland, FL  
Ascension (Fehrenkamp Fund), Savannah, GA  
Augsburg (Hine Fund), Winston-Salem, NC  
Corinth, Saluda, SC  
St. James, Greeneville, TN  
Reformation, New Market, VA

### **Other**

South Carolina Women of the ELCA  
Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA  
Thrivent Choice Dollars Program

## 376 Persons Served in Six Weeks

In the first six weeks since the new 2013 fiscal year began February 1, the Archives has already handled 376 inquiries for information, either from visitors coming to our location in person or from inquiries received by email, telephone or US mail. Spring is always our busiest time of year.

Researchers generally fall into four broad categories: 1) professional historians, 2) student researchers, 3) genealogists (including people seeking their own baptism records), and 4) staff at Lutheran churches, synods and other institutions, which is our top category.

We also analyze our researchers in terms of geography, looking at both their home location as well as the collection they are researching. South Carolina leads this category presently, followed by North Carolina, Southern Seminary, Alabama, Tennessee, Florida, Virginia and the Caribbean. ♦

## Bringing Young People to the Archives

I am working with Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church in Kannapolis, NC, on its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A question early on was how to get young people involved in this project. Let me tell you some of the ways. I would love to hear more from our readers and include them in the next issue.

Thanks. – [jeanette@crumleyarchives.org](mailto:jeanette@crumleyarchives.org)

1. Create a section of your church's web site for sharing your congregation's heritage, and get young people to populate it with photographs and brief descriptions of text. Hint: At some point, print out these pages so that you can permanently preserve them in your church archives.

2. Let them create a Facebook page, again with church history items and comments and encourage them to "like" it (that is, link it to their own) and tell others about it. Hint: Print out Facebook material for your church archives as well.

3. Ask the young people to conduct a church workshop on Facebook, Twitter and other social media tools and trends, in order to educate their elders about them.

4. Appoint a couple of young people as the designated church photographers for the year, capturing digital images on their phones or cameras of the year in the life of the congregation. Have a media show at the end of the year for everyone to enjoy the images.

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5. Ask young people to do a skit of several heritage moments in the life of the congregation for a dinner or other function, complete with costumes.

6. Ask them to create a historical display for a bulletin board.

7. Ask them to conduct and record oral history interviews with some of the older members of the congregation.

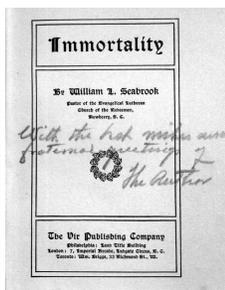
8. Ask them to research and prepare a few popular food dishes that would have been served at a dinner on the grounds when the church was started (in this case, 1913). ♦

## Finding Joy in the Archives

This spring Bill Seabrook, of Burlington, NC, visited the Archives in search of material on his grandfather, the Rev. W.L. Seabrook, and he hit the jackpot, finding sermons and other material from Seabrook's tenure at Redeemer Church in Newberry, SC.



(L to R) Ron & Marcia Blackwell; Jeanette Bergeron; Bill & Lib Seabrook



## 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:

*The James R. Crumley Jr. Archives.*

Donor name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please find enclosed my/our gift for the continuing support of the Archives.

\_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$75 \_\_\_\$100 \_\_\_\$250 \_\_\_\$500 \_\_\_\$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_ Other

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & address of person(s) to be notified of gift: \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Don't forget to make the Archives your choice with Thrivent Choice!*

*Thank you for your gifts!*