

Report to Bethlehem Area Moravians, Inc.
from

The Moravian Archives 2019



The Moravian Archives thanks Bethlehem Area Moravians for their financial support during 2019. This support enables us to continue our programming, to preserve the history of the Moravian Church, and to share this history with the public.

Mission statement: The Moravian Archives collects and preserves records and historical materials of Moravians in North America and makes them available to the public. It is the official repository of the records of the Moravian Church in America, Northern Province. The Archives fulfills its mission through archival processing, research services, education, publications, and public programming.

Highlights from 2019

1. The financial support received from Bethlehem Area Moravians was gratefully accepted. BAM contributed \$20,000 in 2019, which represents 5% of the Archives' 2019 operating budget. Combined with the financial support from the Northern Province and the Larger Life Foundation, we can say that the Moravian Church as our main constituency covered 17% of our operating budget in 2019. The remaining funds come from the Friends of the Archives, from endowment income, and from program income.
2. Current board members who serve on behalf of BAM are Michael A. Long, Rose C. Nehring, and Diane Shaw. In 2020 we will welcome Brad Sennick as an additional (non-voting) representative of BAM. We appreciate the interest the BAM organization takes in the work of the Moravian Archives!
3. A total of 93 researchers visited the reading room for research on 263 days during the past year. In addition, the Archives' staff addressed numerous research requests by email and telephone.
4. Thirty-five volunteers, many from the BAM churches, helped us with a variety of projects (a total of 2,985 hours). We also hosted several internships for local college students. On April 28 we thanked our volunteers at a Volunteer Appreciation Event.
5. During the past year, our two volunteer librarians cataloged a total of 1,027 books. The book catalog currently contains 20,556 titles (compared to 19,529 last year). On May 28 we had a special celebration with our catalogers when the number of cataloged books reached 20,000.
6. The Moravian Roots project that started in 2016 continues to make good progress. Volunteers enter data from more than 250 church registers into the Moravian Roots database. Currently, there are 70,000 entries in the database.
7. During the past year we received many acquisitions to our collections, including records from the Provincial Elders' Conference and the following congregations: Advent MC, Bethlehem; Bethany MC, MN; Central MC, Bethlehem; Edgeboro MC, Bethlehem;

- Grace MC, IA; Great Kills MC, NY; Hebron MC, MN; Main Street MC, Northfield, MN; Redeemer MC, Columbus, OH; Schoeneck MC, Nazareth.
8. On April 10 we hosted a reception for the German Consul General David Gill with representatives from institutions, businesses, and colleges throughout the Lehigh Valley. David Gill is a Moravian. At several occasions, incl. the official celebration of the German national holiday in Central Park on October 2, he publicly expressed his appreciation for the work of the Moravian Archives.
 9. On April 22 the 15th work anniversary of Paul Peucker was celebrated with a reception at the Moravian Archives.
 10. Besides the many new publications on the Moravians we purchased for our library, we were also able to add the following items to our collections: ledger of Charles Frederick Kremser, cooper in Bethlehem (1838-1870); a rare French translation Johann Arndt's *Of True Christianity* published by Zinzendorf (1723); a German translation of one of the most important anti-Moravian publications in English by Henry Rimius (1760); a letter from Zinzendorf to Walbaum (1727); report of a *Gemeintag* (church day) held in Herrnhag (1739); map of part of West Bethlehem (1888).
 11. We were able to finish most of the work relating to the Archiving Antigua grant, and the Eastern West Indies Records Preservation and Digitization Project. Digitized material is now available on the website of the Digital Library of the Caribbean.
 12. After the purchase of a professional book and manuscript scanner we digitized several collections, including Drawings and Prints. The digitized content is available on our online finding aid.
 13. Issues 19/1 and 19/2 of the *Journal of Moravian History* were published with Pennsylvania State University Press.
 14. The exhibit "Sing O Ye Heavens" on Moravian music and instrument making continued through the end of December.
 15. We offered our annual German Script Course (attended by 12 participants from five different countries) as well as a series of workshops.
 16. Assistant archivist Thomas McCullough traveled to Oldenburg, Germany, in May to teach German paleography and primary source analysis at the university there.
 17. A highlight was our Summer Soirée for Friends of the Archives on August 27.
 18. We continued to offer business hours on select Saturdays throughout the year to enable people who cannot visit the Archives during the week to come to the Archives. On December 7 we hosted an open house, including a free workshop and tours of the vault.
 19. We offered tours and/or hosted the following groups for presentations: Fellowship Community Tour, Mar. 8; Moravian College public history class, Mar. 27; Ethnomusicology class Lehigh University, Apr. 1; Moravian – Episcopal Dialogue Group, Sep. 25; Moravian History Class, Moravian Theological Seminary, Oct. 3; Moravian College Reeves Library Staff, Oct.
 20. The German Script classes for middle and high schools continued. Over 150 students participated.
 21. Archivist Paul Peucker took a sabbatical from Sept. 1 – Nov. 30 to work on a book on the early history of the Moravian Church in Herrnhut.
 22. In October the Archives participated in the organization of the Sixth Conference on Moravian History & Music. The BAM organization sponsored travel expenses for several international speakers: Pieter Boon, South Africa; Mary Kategile, Tanzania; Inga Strungyte-Liugiene, Lithuania; and Marilva Eiflaar, from the Moravian Archives in Suriname. In addition, Marilva spent two weeks at the Archives.

23. The traditional German-English Advent *Singstunde* was held in the Old Chapel on December 3.
24. Christina Giesler ended her work as finance manager for the Moravian Archives on October 29.
25. For the first time the reading room of the Moravian Archives was used to host a wedding reception (Rev. Timothy and Usha Naisby, Dec. 8)
26. Three research scholarships were awarded from the Rev. Vernon H. Nelson Memorial Fund:
 - Brendan Collins Jordan, New York University, "Divine Interventions: Churches and Disaster Ecologies in Nicaragua's Twentieth Century"
 - Shelby Balik, Metropolitan State University of Denver, "Church in the City: Life in the First Moravian Church of New York during the Eighteenth Century"
 - Jared Burkholder, Grace College, "North American Moravians on the Evangelical Landscape"
27. On May 21 Dr. Katherine Gerbner, University of Minnesota, presented a lecture at the Moravian Archives on "Christian Slavery: Religion, Race, and Freedom in the Moravian Missions to the Caribbean"
28. The lights in our second vault (books) were replaced with energy efficient LED lights. Repairs were done on the heating system, toilets, the vault door, and the alarm system.
29. Cataloging work focused on the following collections: Memoir Collection, Drawings & Prints, Heidelberg Moravian Church, First Moravian Church (New York, NY), First Moravian Church (York, PA), Bethesda Moravian Church, Graceham Moravian Church, Board of Foreign Missions, Board of World Mission, MC Edgeboro, MC Sharon, Western District Executive Board, Western District Synod, Personal Papers of Clarence & Pauline Henkelman, Photo Portraits, Moravian Illustrated Lecture Bureau, MC Unionville, MC Port Washington, Personal Papers of Walser Allen, Photograph Albums, Gustav Conradi Photo Collection, Bahnson Family Photographs, MC Canton, MC Riverside, MC Faith, Mor. Fellowship Washington, and the Moravian Bookshop
30. In December, assistant archivist Thomas McCullough received a master's degree in library and information science with an archives concentration from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
31. The following lectures were presented by archives staff during 2019:

Paul Peucker:

 - "Letter Writing in Early Bethlehem," Feb. 20, Moravian Academy
 - "The Role of Traditions in the Moravian Church," March 6, at Central Church
 - "Treasures from the Moravian Archives," April 11, Moravian Village
 - Introduction to the history of Bethlehem, Road Scholars, Bach Festival, May 9 and 16
 - "Madness in Herrnhut: Johann Siegmund Krüger and His Role in the Division of Herrnhut 1726/27," July 16, Moravian Archives
 - "Opening the Blue Cabinet: Moravians and Marriage," Oct. 27, at the Moravian Museum

Thomas McCullough:

 - "Brewing in Bethlehem," Domaci, Bethlehem, Feb. 19
 - Genealogy Workshop, Northampton Area Public Library, Mar. 11
 - German Genealogy Workshop, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Aug. 1

- "Moravian Christmas Traditions," Southern Lehigh Public Library, Nov. 13
- 32. During 2018 we were involved with events at the following Moravian churches and institutions in the Bethlehem Area: Edgeboro Putz, Moravian Village Christmas Market, Central Church, Moravian Museum, Moravian Academy, and Moravian Village.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Peucker, Archivist

Board of Directors in 2019:

Thomas Bross, President (PEC appointee)
Diane Shaw, Vice President (BAM appointee)
Alice Mosebach, Secretary (PEC appointee)
Karl Butz, Treasurer (Board appointee)
Katherine Faull (Board appointee)
Scott Paul Gordon (Board appointee)
Michael A. Long, (BAM appointee)
Rose C. Nehring (BAM appointee)
David S. Parker (Board appointee)
Marian Shatto (PEC appointee)
Donald A. Squair (Board appointee)

Staff (fulltime and part-time) in 2019:

Dr. Paul M. Peucker (archivist)
Thomas J. McCullough (asst. archivist)
Kaitlin Trainor (processing archivist)
Kelly F. Givens (office manager)
Jonathan Ennis (digitization assistant)
Victoria Ritter (office assistant)