

Report to Bethlehem Area Moravians, Inc.  
from



MORAVIAN ARCHIVES  
BETHLEHEM

## The Moravian Archives 2020

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The Moravian Archives thanks Bethlehem Area Moravians for their financial support during 2020, including the additional contribution of \$10,000. 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 2020*

1. The financial support received from Bethlehem Area Moravians was gratefully accepted. BAM contributed \$20,000 + an additional contribution of \$10,000 in 2020, which represents 9% of the Archives' 2020 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 26% of our operating budget in 2020. 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 and Diane Shaw. Rose C. Nehring, who has served on the board since 1999, ended her board membership. We welcomed 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. During the first weeks of the year, the sidewalk in front of the archives was repaired. Overgrown shrubs and trees were removed with the help of various board members. We thank BAM for their assistance with this work.
4. The HVAC system for the storage vaults was replaced during the last week of May. We thank the Larger Life Foundation and the Society for Propagating the Gospel for their financial support.
5. The wireless network in the reading room was upgraded. The Archives purchased software to enable staff to work remotely. New LED lights were installed in the exhibit area.
6. On March 17 the general lockdown affected the Archives. Our staff began working remotely; only Kelly Givens, our office and finance manager worked in the building. In June fulltime staff began working onsite again with strict rules in place. The occupancy of the reading room was reduced to two additional persons (volunteers or researchers).

7. During the past year, our two volunteer librarians cataloged a total of 287 books. The book catalog currently contains 20,843 titles (compared to 20,556 last year).
8. Progress on the Moravian Roots project that started in 2016 slowed down because for months no volunteers were able to come in. Currently only two additional, non-staff people are allowed in the reading room (volunteers and/or researchers).
9. Because of the pandemic we received only two acquisitions from church agencies during the past year: records from the Board of World Mission and from the Moravian congregation at Lititz, PA.
10. Other acquisitions include a miniature portrait of John (Johann) Krause (1794-1874) as a young man (ca. 1810); a portrait of Christian Renatus von Zinzendorf (1727-1752); a collection of 18<sup>th</sup>-century Czech manuscript books from the collection of late Rev. Dr. Andrew Slabey; three letters written by Johannes von Watteville to Johann Nitschmann and Abraham von Gersdorf; engraving of the laying of the foundation stone of the Gemeinhaus in Herrnhut by D. Chodowiecki, ca. 1780; portrait of Anne Wood Henry by Benjamin West Henry; portrait of an unidentified Moravian sister; view of Calypso Island by Gustav Grunewald; view of Bethlehem and the Lehigh Valley by Ruben O. Luckenbach and many other valuable items from the Wolle family; portrait of Ellen Johnson Danneberger by Fred Bees.
11. The Moravian Archives accepted a map of Mauch Chunk (Jim Thorpe) by Solomon White Roberts, 1826, as a deposit from the Mauch Chunk Museum & Cultural Center in Jim Thorpe, PA.
12. A special discovery was a hitherto unknown painting by Moravian painter John Valentin Haidt showing the Nativity at an auction in Southern Germany. The Moravian Archives was able to acquire it with the help of friends of the Archives.
13. We received a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) in Washington, DC, to digitize the records from the Moravian Church in Labrador. Thanks to this grant we were able to increase the hours of our digital archivist Jonathan Ennis to full time for the period of the grant project.
14. The digital content of our online finding aid continues to grow. During the past year, we saw an increase in the use of our online material.
15. Issues 20/1 and 20/2 of the *Journal of Moravian History* were published with Pennsylvania State University Press.
16. On October 20, German Consul General David Gill opened our new exhibit "Zinzendorf in America." The Consulate General is a sponsor of this exhibit. While a small number of people was present in the reading room for the exhibit opening, we livestreamed the event to 165 participants online. The opening lecture was given by Board member and Bucknell professor Dr. Katherine Faull, speaking live from Great Britain. The exhibit will be up through June of 2022.
17. Our annual German Script Course was in its fiftieth year. Because of the pandemic we offered the course online. Fourteen participants attended.
18. Our Summer Soirée for Friends of the Archives could not take place in the usual way. Instead, we produced a short video, showing the work of each staff member, that was made available to the Friends of the Archives.
19. In order to make up for lost income from programming, office and finance manager Kelly Givens increased the sales activities of our gift shop, the Moravian History Store. In November we were at Christkindlmarkt and during December we had additional Saturday hours. A selection of gift shop items was sold at Moravian Village. Kelly assisted Jennifer Granda at Moravian Village with other matters as well.

20. The bi-annual Bethlehem Conference on Moravian History & Music, that BAM sponsors and that was scheduled for October, had to be postponed to April 2021.
21. On October 7 we hosted an online meeting for Moravian archivists around the world. Represented were the Moravian Archives in Winston-Salem, NC; London, England; Herrnhut, Germany; Liberec, Czech Republic; Paramaribo, Suriname; and the Moravian Music Foundation.
22. Four research scholarships were awarded from the Rev. Vernon H. Nelson Memorial Fund:
  - Kelly Douma, Pennsylvania State University, "To Be Proposed As Useful: Moravian Women's Marriage and Migration in the 18th Century Atlantic World"
  - Jessica Ferguson, Woodbury, NJ, "Moravian Church at Oldman's Creek - Minotty Update"
  - Benjamin Pietrenka, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, "Radical Pietist Revisionings of the Bible in Early American Protestantism"
  - Eileen F. Shanahan, Pitman, NJ, "The Early History of the Moravian Church at Oldman's Creek"
23. On February 16 Dr. Jeffrey Gemmel, Millersville University of Pennsylvania and Moravian Congregation at Lititz, presented a lecture on "The Lititz Collegium Musicum" The following lectures were offered online: "The Moravian Star: Its History and Origins" by Thomas McCullough (Moravian Archives) on November 14, "Benigna von Zinzendorf in America" by Dr. Marita Gruner, Greifswald University, Germany, on November 17, and "Highlights from the Zinzendorf Exhibit" by Paul Peucker on December 8. By offering lectures online we have been able to reach a new audience for our programs.
24. Paul Peucker and Thomas McCullough both presented at the online conference "Becoming American: Moravians and Their Neighbors, 1772-1822" on Sept. 23-26 (Wake Forest University). Paul spoke on "An Archives of Truth: Moravian Record-keeping and Archival Selection" and Tom on "Moravians and Early American Holidays"
25. Cataloging work in 2020 focused on the following collections: Executive Boards of the Eastern District; Hope Conference & Renewal Center; Personal Papers of Charles B. Adams and of Allen P. Zimmerman; Moravian Church Canaan, ND; Moravian Church Graceham, MD; Moravian Church Lititz, PA; Photo Collection; Posters and Broad sides; Drawing and Prints; Postcard Collection; Moravian Prep School; records of the Nicaragua Province; Congregational Accounts; Reports of European Prayer Days; Reports from the Unity; Collection of Various Manuscripts; American Indian Missions; various memoir collections
26. During the lockdown we produced a series of short videos on the history of the Moravian Archives. These, together with recordings of our lectures, can be watched on our YouTube Channel.
27. We contributed a short video on the history of the Moravian Star to the 10-hour Moravian Christmas Marathon live stream on Christmas Day.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Peucker, Archivist

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**Board of Directors in 2020:**

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, resigned in  
November)  
David S. Parker (Board appointee)  
Brad Sennick (BAM representative)  
Marian Shatto (PEC appointee)  
Donald A. Squair (Board appointee)

**Staff (fulltime and part-time) in 2020:**

Paul M. Peucker (archivist)  
Thomas J. McCullough (asst. archivist)  
Kaitlin Trainor (processing archivist)  
Kelly F. Givens (office and finance manager)  
Jonathan Ennis (digital archivist)  
Emma Horning (office assistant)