

Report to Bethlehem Area Moravians, Inc.

from



The Moravian Archives

2024

The Moravian Archives is grateful to Bethlehem Area Moravians for their continued financial support. 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 2024

1. The financial support received from Bethlehem Area Moravians was gratefully accepted. BAM contributed \$20,000, which represents 3.4% of the Archives' 2024 operating budget. Combined with the financial support from the Northern Province, the Larger Life Foundation and the Society for Propagating the Gospel, we can say that the Moravian Church as our main constituency covered 11.7% of our operating budget in 2024. The remaining funds come from the Friends of the Archives, from endowment income, and from program income.
2. Brad Sennick currently serves on the Archives' Board of Directors on behalf of BAM. We are grateful for his service.
3. We are blessed with a large number of volunteers who help us with different projects. Many of our volunteers are member of one of the BAM churches but we are also glad to have many non-Moravians among our volunteer community! On May 14 we had an ice cream social for our volunteers at The Cup.
4. During the past year we received records from the following Moravian agencies and churches: Advent, Bethlehem, PA; Berea, MN; College Hill, Bethlehem, PA; Covenant, York, PA; Graceham, MD; Gracehill, IA; Lebanon, PA; Moravian Open Door, NY; Provincial Women's Board; Schoeneck, PA.
5. We were also glad to add the following oil painting to our collections: a portrait of Maggie Lind by John Little.
6. During the past year, the following collections have been processed: Records from the following Moravian Churches: Advent, Bethlehem, PA; Altura, MN; Aurelia, ND; Battle Hill, NJ; Bethany, MN; Egg Harbor, NJ; Elizabeth, NJ; Evangel, NJ; Hebron, MN;

Hope, NJ; Lebanon, PA; Lititz, PA; Newport, RI; Oakland, MO; Osborne, KS; Palmyra, NJ; Tagus, ND; Woodmount, MO. Records from the following agencies: Provincial Elders' Conference; Provincial Helpers' Conference; Provincial Women's Board; Moravian Open Door. And the following personal collections: Vernon Couillard Personal Papers; Howard & Shirley Cox Papers; John Valentine Haidt Papers; Drudea Hubener Papers; Rice Family Papers; August Gottlieb Spangenberg Papers; Henry Van Vleck Papers; and records from the Lehigh Zinc Company.

7. Digitization has become an integral part of our work. The digital content of our online finding aid continues to grow. This year we added the digital content from the following collections to our online finding aid: photo collections (PhotCollUS PA); Keim photo albums; PEC (letter books); PHC (minutes); records from the Eastern West Indies. The digitization of the EWI records was supported by a grant from the Moravian Ministries Foundation.
8. Issues 24/1 and 24/2 of the *Journal of Moravian History* (joint publication of the Moravian Archives and Moravian Historical Society) were published with Pennsylvania State University Press.
9. We offered the following lectures: "Who Was Anton Ulrich? The Life of an Enslaved Man from St. Thomas," May 30, by Christina Petterson and Paul Peucker; "Jesus Makes My Heart Rejoice: The Origins of a Popular Moravian Hymn," Aug. 20, by Paul Peucker; "On Tour with the Nation's Guest: Lafayette in America, 1824-25," Sept. 24, by Diane Shaw. We also offered a 3-part webinar series on Moravian Settlements (Oct./Nov.), by Paul Peucker. Tom McCullough offered three "Coffee Hour with an Archivist" webinars in spring 2024.
10. On August 9, Jeremy Johnson, Cultural Education Director, and John Thomas, Elder of the Delaware Tribe of Indians in Oklahoma, visited the Moravian Archives.
11. Paul Peucker gave various lectures and presentations at the Bach Choir in Bethlehem, West Side Moravian Church, Bethlehem, the German Studies Association in Atlanta, Georgia, and Moravian Village in Bethlehem. Tom McCullough gave lectures and presentations at Moravian University Golden Greyhounds, Moravian Historical Society / Northampton County Parks and Recreation, Palatines to America: Pennsylvania Chapter, and Ross Township Historical Society.
12. This year's German Script Course was held with fifteen participants from Canada, Denmark, Rumania, and the United States. We also offered two online refresher workshops.
13. The following classes from Moravian University came to the Archives: HIST 270, MATH 121.2, POSC 355. Kaitlin Trainor and Tom McCullough also spoke at the public history class at Moravian University. Two history classes from Liberty High School visited the Archives during the past year.
14. We were happy to host four interns during 2024: Jenna Lenko and Fatimah Bouri from Moravian University, Jessica Schwindenhammer from Penn West Clarion University, and Brandon Sherer from Lycoming College.

15. On November 8 we held the opening for our exhibit “Bridging Bethlehem: 100 years of the Hill to Hill” (through Dec. 2025). We are pleased to include loans from Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites, Lehigh University, and the National Museum of Industrial History.
16. We hosted various events for other Moravian entities: an open house for the Moravian Music Foundation in March, meeting space for the Moravian Ministries Foundation in May, and an open house for the delegates of Eastern District Synod in June.
17. Our gift shop, the Moravian History Store, was invited to set up a store at Central Church’s putz this year. We were able to raise additional funds to balance our budget. The store was very successful.
18. We invited a selection of scholars to contribute chapters and sections to a biography of Moravian leader August Gottlieb Spangenberg. This volume is being edited by Christina Petterson and Paul Peucker and will be submitted to our publisher by the end of 2025.
19. We were happy to be invited to participate at Blossom Fest at the Sun Inn, and at the Holiday Market at Moravian Village.
20. In 2024, the following research scholarships were awarded from the Rev. Vernon H. Nelson Memorial Fund: Winelle Kirton-Roberts, “Contribution to an Edited Spangenberg Volume”; Sigrid Nielsby Christensen, “A Religious Breakthrough? An Examination of the Moravian Society in Copenhagen (1739-1771)”; Luke Soderblum, “Visions of Childhood: Moravian Ideals and the Construction of Religious Experience.”
21. The annual German-English Advent Singstunde took place on December 3.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul Peucker, Archivist

Board of Directors in 2024:

Diane Shaw, Bethlehem, PA President (PEC appointee)
 Thomas Bross, Nazareth, PA Vice President (Board appointee)
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Staff (fulltime and part-time) in 2024:

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 and archives assistant)
 Heather Reinert (office assistant)