

LUTHERAN HISTORICAL CONFERENCE

# NEWSLETTER

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### Lutherans and Learning

Lutheran Historical Conference Biennial Meeting

October 1-3, 2010

Luther Seminary

St. Paul, Minnesota

Martin Luther's Reformation began in the university and saw education as central to its success. As Lutherans immigrated to North America, they brought with them a strong commitment to education. Lutherans in North America sponsored and supported numerous schools, creating one of the largest parochial school systems in the United States, as well as founding numerous colleges and seminaries. Lutherans promoted learning through various programs and publications. Following the original spirit of Martin Luther, this learning was not for its own sake, but for service to church and society.

Paper topics may include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ Lutheran educational institutions from elementary schools through seminaries;
- ◆ various educational programs at the congregational, regional, national, or international level;
- ◆ the use of church publications, art/music, and media technology to educate;
- ◆ the connections between education, ethics, and vocation.

Paper topics outside of the theme are also invited.

Presenters will be given 20-25 minutes for their presentation, followed by a question and answer session. Paper proposals should include a title and brief description of the paper's content and significance. Proposals and inquiries are due April 16, 2010, and should be addressed to the Program Chair:

Kathryn Galchutt  
Concordia College  
171 White Plains Road  
Bronxville, NY 10708  
[Kathryn.Galchutt@concordia-ny.edu](mailto:Kathryn.Galchutt@concordia-ny.edu)

Presenters should be or become members of the Lutheran Historical Conference. Presenters are responsible for covering conference fees and travel costs and are encouraged to apply for financial support from their home institutions. Students are encouraged to submit paper proposals and to apply to the Board of the LHC for limited scholarship assistance for travel-related expenses.

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*Baseball team, 1908, from the other Luther Seminary, the Joint Synod of Ohio's institution at Lake Phalen, St. Paul, Minn.*

## WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LUTHER LEAGUE?

In a talk titled "Lutheran Youth Movement: What Happened to the Luther League?", Maria Erling, LHC Board member, will explore youth work and youth ministry in 20th-century American Lutheranism and will discuss its contribution to Lutheran leadership and to Lutheran unity efforts at the spring program of the Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid-Atlantic, held April 20 at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. In addition, the winners of the first annual Youth History Contest will be present.

There is no charge for the spring program, with lunch reservations available for \$10 per person. For more information visit <http://lhsmidatlantic.com/>. Registrations can be sent to Lee Knepp, P.O. Box 76, McClure, PA 17841.



*The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., answered questions at a session following his address to the 1961 convention of the Luther League of The American Lutheran Church, Miami Beach, Fla.*

## CHI NEWS

Larry Lumpe of St. Louis began Feb. 12 as executive director of Concordia Historical Institute (CHI), which is the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod's Department of Archives and History. A CHI news release notes that he is serving in the position "on a volunteer basis."



*Marvin Huggins*

The Rev. Marvin A. Huggins, the Institute's long-time archivist and interim executive director since 2008, had announced that he will retire June 30. Huggins, who is 65, will serve part-time after that date.

As CHI's executive director, Lumpe "will work primarily to develop increased financial support for the Institute and to increase awareness of the services that [it] provides for the church," according to the news

Lumpe, 81, has been a member of the Institute's Board of Governors for the past 12 years. A retired banker, he was executive director of the International Lutheran Laymen's League from 1986-96 and from late 2007 until July 2009.

release.

At its building on the campus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, the Institute maintains offices, archives, and changing exhibits related to church anniversaries and work. CHI last summer opened its new state-of-the-art museum at the Synod's International Center in Kirkwood, Mo.

## NEW MEMBER

Jonathan Haseley  
10420 Lockport Rd.  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

## NEW RESOURCES

### Chapel in the Sky

Knox College's Old Main and Its Masonic Architect

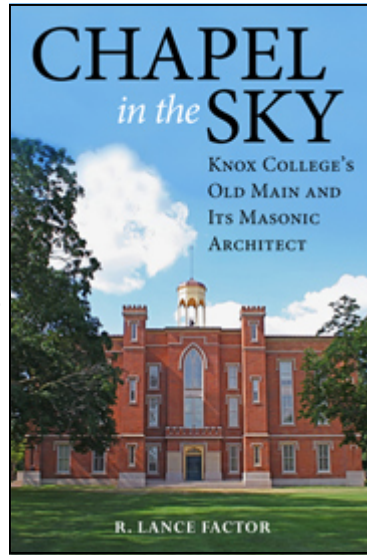
By R. Lance Factor

Knox College's Old Main—a national landmark and the only extant building that was a site of the Lincoln-Douglas debates—is a campus treasure with a secret. Built in 1857, Old Main was designed by Charles Ulricson, a Swedish-born immigrant who was trained by Freemasons. In *Chapel in the Sky*, Knox faculty member R. Lance Factor decodes the symbols of this beloved building and explores how an ardently Anti-Mason administration came to hire Ulricson. The mysterious Masonic architect left his legacy on both Knox's Old Main and the Augustana Lutheran Church in Andover, Ill.

Ulricson (1816–1887), born to an elite family in Stockholm, emigrated to the United States in 1835, arriving in New York City with empty pockets. Ulricson found work as a

draftsman in the firm of Ithiel Town and Alexander Jackson Davis, America's premier antebellum architects and the leaders of the Greek, Gothic, and Tuscan revivals. From Davis, Ulricson learned that architects belonged to a "sacred priesthood." From Town, Ulricson learned the secret doctrines of "alchemical" architecture, its search for geometric philosopher's stones, and its techniques for drafting with a Masonic cubit and for transforming buildings into talismans, which they believed carried the protective energy of the Divine Architect and Geometer of the Universe.

These lessons found expression in Ulricson's hidden codes for Old Main and Augustana Church. Ulric-



son's unique designs, rigorous geometry, elaborate windows, and interior decorations all contain tell-tale signs of Freemasonry. Ulricson essentially hid his symbols in plain sight of clients—vehement Anti-Masons who condemned all secret societies as "ungodly" and viewed all forms of alchemical architecture as "geomancy" or black magic. *Chapel in the Sky* explains how a

dispossessed immigrant Masonic architect came to be the architect for the Anti-Masons, and how the meanings of his designs change our understanding of the architectural and ethnic history of Illinois. Factor's story will interest Knox alumni, architects, Freemasons, Swedish Americans, and those who love a tale of irony.

## MEMBER NEWS

**John Daggan**, LHC Treasurer and ELCA Metropolitan New York Synod Archivist, suffered a stroke in early November. Back home since January, John continues with physical therapy. His son Clint reported recently that John is out of his wheelchair and walking quite well on his own. Messages and well wishes can be left for John at [www.caringbridge.org/visit/johndaggan/guestbook](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/johndaggan/guestbook).



John Daggan

**Luther Oelke**, Archivist for the ELCA Region IV-South Archives, reports that a closing congregation in San Antonio, Zion Lutheran on Cincinnati Ave., is paying off the synod office building and donating \$16,000 for Archives work. Luther has been working with

the congregation for almost a year,

a good example of how the dissolution process should work.

Prayers are requested for **Ray Kibler III**, currently interim pastor at Grace Lutheran, Ventura, Calif. He is suffering from very painful bone cancer and is currently being evaluated for possible treatment. Ray, a former LHC board member, is on the board of the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau and has been active in the Society of the Holy Trinity. He can be contacted through Grace Lutheran's email at: [churchoffice@gracelutheranventura.com](mailto:churchoffice@gracelutheranventura.com).

Joel Thoreson, Editor  
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## BOOK REVIEWS

Those interested in contributing book reviews or wishing to suggest a book, please contact David Settje at [David.Settje@CUChicago.edu](mailto:David.Settje@CUChicago.edu).

Each review should be between 500 and 750 words long, be sent as a MS Word document or in a compatible format, and specifically evaluate the book and its Lutheran content/context.

## NEEDED: YOUR NEWS!

This newsletter is intended as a clearing-house of information for archivists, historians and librarians. It needs **you** to provide material for it.

Please send material for publication to the editor. Items of interest include notice of research in progress, new appointments, publications, meetings and celebrations planned or held, bibliographical materials, and anything of general interest to LHC members.

The LHC Newsletter is issued four times a year: February, May, August and November.

Please send items to  
[Joel.Thoreson@elca.org](mailto:Joel.Thoreson@elca.org).

## Have You Renewed Your Membership?

If the mailing label on your newsletter shows an expiration date (Exp:) of "08" or less, please renew now for 2009. Send a check for \$35.00, payable to the "Lutheran Historical Conference" to

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