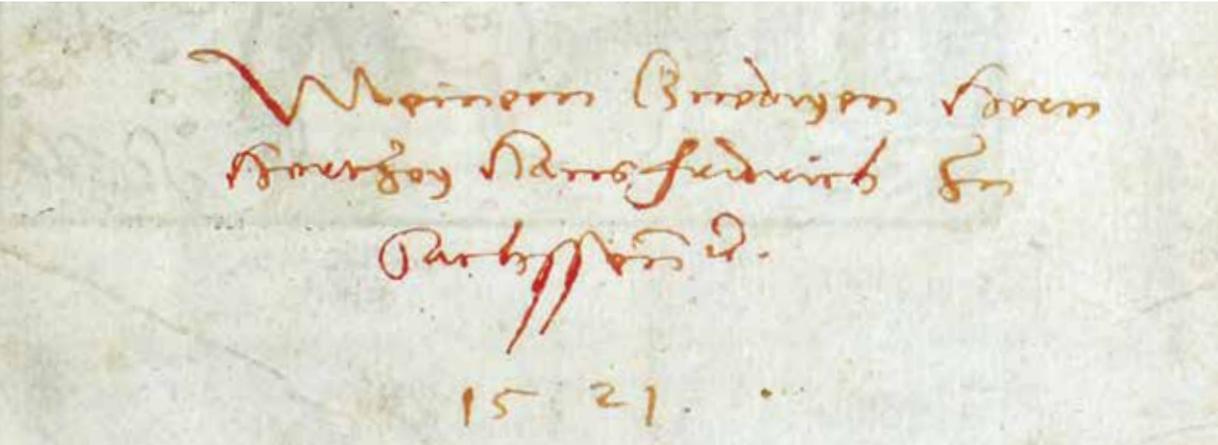


# Reformation Notes

NEWS FOR PARTNERS OF THE RICHARD C. KESSLER REFORMATION COLLECTION • SUMMER 2019 • NUMBER 54



The title page of this 1520 pamphlet bears a dedicatory gift inscription from Georg Spalatin (1484-1545) to his former student Duke Johann Friedrich (1503-1554), later the Elector of Saxony: *Meinem Gnedigen Hern Hertzog Hans Friedrich Zu Sachssen 1521* ("To my gracious lord Duke Hans Friedrich of Saxony 1521").

*Books More Precious than Gold: The Ongoing Work of the Kessler Collection*

Learning Through Images in the Kessler Collection. *Page 3*

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The Kessler Collection's Impact through Research. *Page 6*

## THE STORY OF OUR BOOKS

PRODUCING, COLLECTING, AND OWNING BOOKS OF THE 16TH CENTURY

*Richard Manly Adams Jr.*

*Margaret A. Pitts Assistant Professor in the Practice of Theological Bibliography and Director of Pitts Theology Library*

At the library, we instruct our patrons never to write in the pages of our books, and (generally) they follow these instructions. Thank goodness, however, that the owners of our rare books over the past six centuries did not heed such advice. Indeed, the rare books of Pitts Theology Library are covered with marks of the previous readers and owners. From annotations, to bookplates, to cartoon drawings, readers throughout the centuries have left their marks on our books, and these indications of those who have held them before us become part of the story of these books. Often the stories of who read them, how they read them, and why, are just as important, if not more so, than the words originally sent to the printer. Some of these stories are over 500 years old, and these bookplates, inscriptions, and other marks of ownership provide tiny glimpses into this fascinating past.

The stories of these books is the focus for the 32nd annual Reformation Day at Emory. Our theme will be "The Story of Our Books: Producing, Collecting, and Owning Books of the 16th Century." On Tuesday, October 29th, we will gather for a mix of academic conversation, corporate worship, and music, all to celebrate the Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection at Pitts Theology Library and explore the stories that brought it to Emory and to the many patrons who benefit from it every day.



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*continued on next page*

*The Story of Our Books (continued)*

Our day together will begin with tours of the Pitts Exhibition Gallery. The Pitts Fall exhibition, entitled “A Book More Precious than Gold: Reading the Printed Book Alongside Its Previous Owners and Readers,” highlights some of the more fascinating examples of where our books have been before. You can find more information on this and all of our past exhibitions at <http://exhibitions.pitts.emory.edu>.

We will then gather in the Pitts lecture hall for a brief presentation of the activities of the Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection. This presentation will show some of our newest acquisitions and preview some of the exciting scholarly activity and teaching that has been generated by the collection over the past few months.

The centerpiece of Reformation Day at Emory is a worship experience in Emory’s Cannon Chapel, which will follow the morning presentation. This year, we will be led in a service of the word by Bishop-elect of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Southeastern Synod, Reverend Kevin Strickland, though by Reformation Day he will be installed as the Bishop! Prior to being elected on June 2, 2019, he served as the Assistant to the Presiding Bishop, Executive for Worship of the ELCA. He has been serving in the churchwide office since August of 2014. He served as pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran (Nashville, TN), and St. Paul Lutheran (Maryville, TN), prior and has served at Incarnation Lutheran (Columbia, SC), St. Philip’s Lutheran (Newberry, SC), Lutheran Church of Redeemer (Newberry, SC), and Mt. Tabor Lutheran (West Columbia, SC) in the area of youth and family ministry. After worship, we will have lunch in Emory’s newly opened Convocation Hall, which many may recognize as the

previous home to Pitts Theology Library from 1917 through 2014.

The afternoon program will be in Emory’s Cannon Chapel. A panel of scholars will lead us in considering the production and ownership of books of the 16th century from three different angles.

Professor Nick Wilding of the History Department at Georgia State University will offer a lecture entitled “Fill Name Here: Printed Space and Manuscript Intervention in Early Modern Books.” Prof. Wilding will explore how printed works are often only completed by the scribal intervention of a reader. Prof. Wilding’s academic work focuses on Early Modern Europe, the history of science, and the history of the book. His publications, which include two books and dozens of articles and essays, have earned him international renown in scholarly circles, and his work has also received the attention of the general public, particularly his research on book forgery, which has been featured in the *New York Times* and *The New Yorker*.

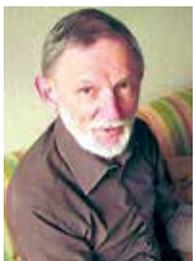
Joining Professor Wilding on the panel is Caroline Duroselle-Melish, the Andrew W. Mellon Curator of Early Modern Books and Prints and Associate Librarian for Collection Care and Development at the Folger Shakespeare Library, the world’s largest Shakespeare collection and also the home to major collections of Renaissance and early modern books and manuscripts. Ms. Duroselle-Melish will offer a lecture entitled “The German Reformation at the Folger Shakespeare Library: The Building of a Book Collection.” Prior to her work at the Folger, she was Assistant Curator in the Printing and Graphic Arts Department at the Houghton Library, Harvard University. Her publi-

cations reflect her research interests in the history of libraries, the Renaissance book trade, and the production and reception of early modern illustrated books. She is currently finishing a project on the woodblock collection of the sixteenth-century Bolognese author and naturalist Ulisse Aldrovandi.

Our third panelist will be Professor Ulrich Bubenheimer, who will be in residence as the inaugural Kessler Collection Research Fellow in the Fall of 2019. Prof. Bubenheimer’s lecture is entitled “The Handwriting of Martin Luther and the Luther Manuscripts,” and it will draw upon his deep experience identifying and examining the handwriting of major Reformation figures. Prof. Bubenheimer is Professor Emeritus at the Pädagogische Hochschule (University of Education) at Heidelberg. His research interests are in Reformation history, history of Renaissance art, paleography, and the history of libraries. His current projects focus on the paleography of sixteenth century manuscripts, an edition of Andreas Karlstadt’s works and letters, and the early reformation diplomacy of Luther and his Wittenberg colleagues.

As you can see, October 29th is going to be a full day at Emory. This busy schedule is a fitting tribute to this collection that grows its impact through tours and scholarship every year. We hope you will join us! ■

*Bishop-elect Kevin Strickland, Professor Nick Wilding, Caroline Duroselle-Melish, Professor Ulrich Bubenheimer*



# Old Master Prints in the Kessler Collection

## THE RECENT ADDITIONS OF TWO ARTISTS

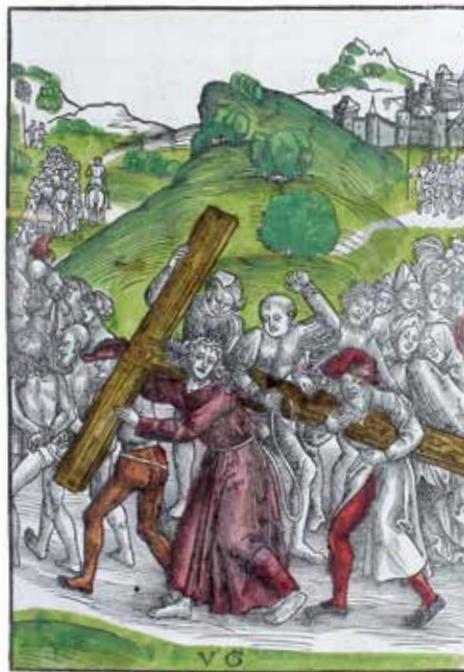
Armin Siedlecki • Head of Cataloging and Rare Book Cataloger

Woodcut printing developed in Europe around 1400. This followed the introduction of blockprint technology and papermaking from China, which made its way to Europe via Muslim Spain during the late Middle Ages. It was not until the spread of movable type book printing after the work of Johannes Gutenberg (c. 1400–1468) in the middle of the 15th century that woodcut images truly flourished. Movable type and woodcuts are both relief-printed, and they could, therefore, easily be used together. The letters or images are carved as raised lines to which ink is applied and then transferred to paper. As a result, many printers incorporated images into their books not only as illustrations to accompany the text, but also as title page borders or first letter initials. An alternative form of image printing was metal engraving, in which a picture was carved into a plate and ink was applied to fill the resulting groove. Engraving allowed for much greater precision, but it could not be used as readily in combination with text.

The impact of Albrecht Dürer (1471–1528) on woodcuts and engravings can hardly be overstated. Dürer also painted, but his preferred medium was printmaking (both woodcut and engraving), which allowed for his art to be reproduced easily and become more widely distributed. Most significantly,

Dürer incorporated artistic details into his woodcuts—like background landscapes—and achieved a level of definition and detail that was previously unknown. A good example of this are two large woodcuts added to the Kessler Collection in the past year: *The Crucifixion*, part of a series of woodcuts called *The Large Passion*, produced between 1496 and 1498 and supplemented with four additional images in 1510, and *The Martyrdom of Saint Catherine of Alexandria*. The Crucifixion was carved in 1498 and the copy held by the Kessler Collection was printed in 1511. *The Martyrdom of St. Catherine* was probably also carved around 1498 and is similar in style to his Apocalypse woodcuts, produced around the same time. The copy held by the Kessler Collection was likely printed after 1550, as signs of wear and tear are visible when compared to earlier prints produced from a more pristine woodblock. These two prints were a recent gift to the collection by a German collector and friend of the Kessler Collection.

An interesting comparison to Dürer is the work of Urs Graf (1485–1528), a Swiss artist and metalworker. Graf developed some innovative methods and is credited with inventing white line woodcuts, a technique where an image is defined by white lines against a dark background. Pitts recently added to the Kessler Collection two woodcuts by Graf from a series depicting the Passion of Christ, carved in the early 1500s, when the artist was very young, and printed in 1506. The style of these images, which were later colored, is noticeably different from Dürer's, lacking the detailed perspective and depth. To some extent, Graf's Passion echoes the emotive quality of late medieval



devotional images rather than the Renaissance realism applied by Dürer.

Pitts Theology Library provides unparalleled access to these artistic treasures through its Digital Image Archive (<http://pitts.emory.edu/dia>), an open-access collection of more than 65,000 images digitized from the rare book collections at Pitts. ■

A woodcut by Albrecht Dürer (1471–1528), depicting the martyrdom of Saint Catherine of Alexandria.

A woodcut by Urs Graf (1485–1528), depicting Jesus carrying the cross.

# Looking Back at Reformation Day 2018

# 31<sup>st</sup>

*501 Years Later: The 31st Reformation Day at Emory marked the 501st anniversary of Luther's posting of the 95 theses, a reminder that the work of the European reformations is not an event of the past, but continues to affect the church and the academy today. Visitors spent the day considering what difference these treasures make for the questions our institutions face today. The day featured*

*leading historians and theologians looking at topics like gender and technology through the lens of the 16th century, asking how the Kessler Collection might guide contemporary decision making. For more information and*

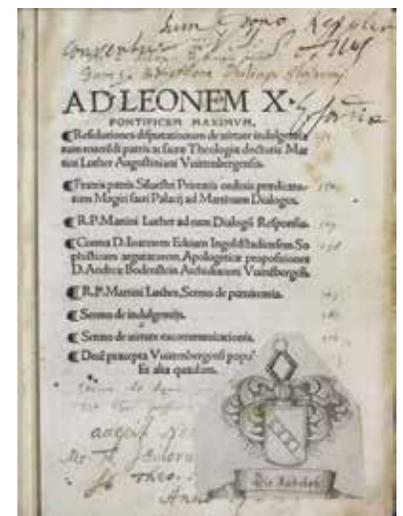
*to watch video of the events from that day, visit <http://pitts.emory.edu/reformationday>.*



## Pitts' Fall Exhibition: A Book More Precious than Gold

### READING THE PRINTED BOOK ALONGSIDE ITS PREVIOUS OWNERS AND READERS

Books often tell stories that go far beyond their printed text. Successive owners leave their mark through inscriptions, annotations, bindings, or illustrations, making an individual copy of a book a unique specimen. Some bear the marks of famous owners while others contain anonymous marginalia that provide information about the reception or the impact of an idea on readers of a different time or culture. Studying the provenance of a book thus enriches our understanding of how different people throughout history have interacted with the work. The Pitts Fall exhibition, co-curated by Dr. Armin Siedlecki and Dr. Ulrich Bubenheimer, will display some of the more interesting and important indications of previous owners and readers in Pitts' collections. Visitors will see the numerous ways we can discover previous ownership and the ways in which certain books functioned, looking at book plates, inscriptions, evidence of censorship, and bindings.



*The exhibition will include this title page from the Kessler Collection's copy of the 1518 first printing of a collection of Luther's works. Evident on this title page are inscriptions, notes, and bookplates from several previous owners.*

1 Richard C. Kessler and Roy Wise

2 Reverend Tiffany Chaney

3 Dr. Deanna Thompson, Dr. Amy Marga and Dr. Steffen Lösel

4 Dean Jan Love

5 Connie Rose

6 Melanie Johnson, Bishop Julian Gordy and Martha Kessler

7 The Candler Choir



photography by Dr. M. Patrick Graham

## Honor Roll of Donors

Histories of great libraries are largely the stories of generosity—gifts of books and other materials, funds for acquisitions, and much more. After only 32 years, the Kessler Reformation Collection has grown to become the nation’s largest collection of early printings of Luther’s works, an achievement made possible only by the generosity of its enthusiastic supporters. Since September 1, 2018, we have received gifts from the following:

Dr. Richard Manly Adams, Jr. and Mrs. Windsor Salet Adams

Mr. Terry Ray Eshenour

Mr. Richard Nick S. Fisher and Mrs. Marilyn Fisher

Bishop H. Julian Gordy and Dr. P. Morgan Gordy

Dr. M. Patrick Graham and Mrs. Doris J. Graham

Prof. Mary Jane Haemig

Mr. Richard C. and Mrs. Martha Kessler

Mrs. Carol A. Jeschke

Mrs. Cynthia O. Levelle and Dr. Jonathan P. Levelle

Dr. Jan Love and Dr. Peter Sederberg

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Dr. Paul F. Walter and Dr. Jonne Barney Walter

Mrs. Kathleen S. Wise and Mr. Frank E. Wise

Mr. Roy T. and Mrs. June Wise

# A Research Collection for a World of Researchers

*Richard Manly Adams Jr.* When Pitts Director Channing Jeschke first partnered with Richard C. Kessler to form this world-renowned collection, the two shared a vision not simply to amass rare materials, but to establish a research collection that would attract scholars from around the world and grow the impact of these materials on the church and the academy. Now 32 years later, research continues to be the driving focus of the Collection.

Scholars from around the world travel to Pitts Theology Library because of the unique items we hold. This summer, for example, we hosted Dr. Esther Chung-Kim, Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Claremont McKenna College, for a week of research to look at sixteenth-century sources concerning the role of Lutheran reformers in the Scandinavian Reformation, especially in the areas of poverty alleviation and

social welfare. She noted that during her visit, “staff with expertise were helpful in pointing to additional resources, the wait time between request and access granted was minimal, which made it possible to cover a lot of ground in a short amount of time, and a well-lit

quiet space to focus on research without distractions.

All of these things made my experience working with the Kessler Collection efficient and enjoyable.”

This Fall, we will host Prof. Ulrich Bubbenheimer from Germany as our first Kessler Research Fellow. Prof. Bubbenheimer is a noted expert in 16th century paleography, having published many works identifying the handwriting of 16th century reformers in the books of major libraries. He is well-known to many of us for having identified Luther’s handwriting on an inscription of a 1520 pamphlet in the Kessler Collection. He has since been on ongoing conversation partner for us at Pitts. During his Fall visit, he will work on other manuscript annotations in the Collection and give several lectures and presentations. We look forward to growing the Kessler Fellowship program in future years.

The impact of the Kessler Collection is not only on those with PhDs who are publishing books; these rare materials make deep impact even on young library visitors. After a visit to the Kessler Collection, a rising 10th grader at Atlanta’s Westminster Schools noted, “Learning about all of these different sources being used to write Bibles was something that really intrigued me, because in Intro to History, we really did focus on how the sources which people use can affect our view on history. Learning about this fight between Luther and the Catholic Church about which source to use when translating the Bible, they were fighting for the future, something I think is really cool to think about.” One of the student’s teachers noted, “Giving us access to Special Collections to see and touch the



*High School students on a recent visit explore a Kessler item with Dr. Armin Siedlecki (photo: Debra Madera).*

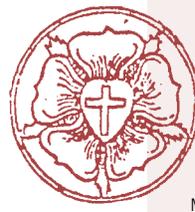
texts was a special treat for all involved, including the teachers. It was eye opening for the students and helpful for our later discussion on faith and works.”

There is no more immediate example of the combination of cutting-edge research and interest in broader impact than a recent publication that grows out of the Kessler Collection. Edited by former Pitts Director M. Patrick Graham and Professor David Bagchi of the University of Hull, the new book, *Luther as Heretic: Ten Catholic Responses to Martin Luther, 1518–1541* (Pickwick, 2019), offers readers English translations of ten of the most significant early Catholic responses to Luther, all translated directly from the Kessler Collection items. This book, supported by a generous grant from the Halle Foundation, broadens the conversation about the Reformation and provides access to the rich (and extremely pointed!) rhetoric of early reformation debates.

We are proud that research efforts like these bridge the gap between the scholar and the general public, and we look forward to using this collection to continue to educate through research. ■

*The cover of the Graham/Bagchi volume features the famous image of the “The Seven Headed Luther,” which accompanied Johannes Cochlaeus’ treatise of the same name, which is translated into English for the first time in the volume. This title page woodcut was a classic piece of Catholic propaganda, portraying Luther not only as a Doctor and Churchman, but as a Turk, a wild enthusiast and “Barrabas.”*





# A Collection that Continues to Grow

**Richard Manly Adams Jr.** This year's focus on the provenance of Pitts' collections turns our eye toward the past, to the fantastic fortunes that have built this world-renowned collection. What astounds me, though, is that we continue to build collections, a pleasure that is increasingly rare for libraries. Each year of the 32-year history of the Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection has been a year of growth, and 2019 has been no exception. Our supporters have put us in the enviable position of having to edit ourselves when people ask what we have acquired this year.

Perhaps my favorite acquisition of this past year is a large broadside that is an early example of Counter-Reformation legislation. Issued in Vienna in 1551, this edict in the name of Ferdinand I (then King of Bohemia, Hungary, and Croatia, later the Holy Roman Emperor) outlaws students in the Habsburg territories from studying in Protestant seminaries. Noting that the souls of students were in danger due to the spread of sectarian ideas, the edict threatens violators



*The edict issued by Ferdinand I in 1551, outlawing students in the Habsburg territories from studying in Protestant seminaries.*

with exile from Habsburg territories. No other copies of this edict are known to exist, so Pitts is proud to preserve it and make it available for researchers.

We have also, of course, added works by Martin Luther. The Kessler Collection boasts the largest holdings of works by Luther in North America, and every year it becomes more difficult to add more, since we own so many. This year, though, we hit the jackpot with a single acquisition. In January we acquired a *Sammelband* (the term used to refer to several works bound together), bound in a contemporary beautifully-tooled pigskin binding. The volume contains 5 works on the Psalms, 3 by Martin Luther and 2 by colleagues of Luther, all of which are new to Pitts.

Though Luther is the center of the collection, we also collect deeply works by Luther's colleagues and those who extended his reforms. For example, this year we added three works from the 1520s by Johannes Oecopladius (1482–1531), bound together beautifully in a vellum manuscript. The three works focus on Christ's presence in the Eucharist, a hot topic in the 1520s and one on which Oecopladius and many other reformers differed strongly from Luther. None of these works is known to exist in another library in North America.

It is rare for a library to have the resources and connections to grow a collection the way the Kessler Collection grows every year. I have to remind myself of that fact, and I am so thankful for our supporters who make this possible. I have mentioned here only a few, but I look forward to sharing all of our new acquisitions with you at the 2019 Reformation Day at Emory. ■

## Standing Advisory Committee for the Kessler Reformation Collection

Policy direction for the Reformation Collection is provided by a standing committee composed of representatives of Emory University and the local and national Lutheran community.

- Mr. Richard C. Kessler, Chair
- Mr. Roy T. Wise, Secretary
- Prof. Richard Manly Adams Jr.
- Dr. M. Patrick Graham
- Dean Jan Love
- Mrs. Betty Mori
- Mr. William (Bill) E. Pielop III
- Mr. Mathew Pinson
- Dr. Walker L. Ray
- Mrs. Laura VanTil

### EMERITI MEMBERS

- Bishop H. Julian Gordy
- The Reverend R. Kevin LaGree
- Bishop Harold C. Skillrud
- Dr. James L. Waits

### Scholars Advisory Committee

- Dr. Ulrich Bubenheimer, University of Heidelberg
- Dr. Kurt K. Hendel, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
- Dr. Scott H. Hendrix, Princeton Theological Seminary
- Dr. Robin A. Leaver, Westminster Choir College, Rider University
- Dr. Martin Treu, formerly, Luther Memorial Foundation of Saxony-Anhalt in Wittenberg
- Dr. Timothy J. Wengert, Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia
- Prof. John Witte Jr., Emory University

### Patrons (Cumulative Giving of \$25,000+)

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- The Kessler Enterprise, Inc.
- The Lutheran Brotherhood
- Mr. William E. Pielop III and Mrs. Janie S. Pielop
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- Mr. Roy T. and Mrs. June Wise

### Sustaining Partners (Cumulative Giving of \$10,000+)

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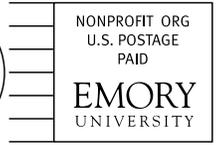
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- Dr. Frank L. Perry Jr.
- Dr. Russell E. Richey and Mrs. Merle Richey
- Southeastern Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- The Memorial Fund of St. Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bloomington, Illinois, and Bishop and Mrs. Harold C. Skillrud
- Mr. Clair E. Strommen
- Mr. Mark E. VanTil and Mrs. Laura VanTil
- Dr. James L. Waits and Ms. Fentress Waits
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Emory University  
Pitts Theology Library  
1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560  
Atlanta, Georgia 30322



# Reformation Day at Emory 2019

The Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection is a repository of rare and valuable documents produced in connection with the Protestant Reformation. The collection now contains more than 3,900 pieces written by Martin Luther, his colleagues, and his opponents, and printed during their lifetimes.

Supported by the vision and resources of Lutheran laypeople Richard and Martha Kessler and partners throughout the Southeast, the collection is housed in the Pitts Theology Library of Candler School of Theology. It provides a rich resource for scholars of the Reformation and for clergy and laity who seek to understand the history of the Christian faith.

For more information about the collection, contact:  
Richard Manly Adams Jr.  
Pitts Theology Library  
Emory University  
Atlanta, Georgia 30322  
404.727.4165  
rmadams@emory.edu

The 32nd annual Reformation Day at Emory will be held on Tuesday, October 29th. This year's program explores the theme "The Story of Our Books: Producing, Collecting, and Owning Books of the 16th Century." Register today by visiting [engage.emory.edu/ref2019](http://engage.emory.edu/ref2019). If you have registration questions, please call 404.727.6352.

- 9:00–9:45 A.M.** Registration, Reception, and Review of Exhibition Gallery—Lecture Hall, Pitts Theology Library (Room 360)
- 9:45–10:45 A.M.** Program introduction and presentation of recent acquisitions—Lecture Hall, Pitts Theology Library (Room 360)
- 11:05–11:50 A.M.** Chapel service, Rev. Kevin Strickland, Bishop-elect of the Southeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Preaching—Sanctuary, Cannon Chapel
- 12:15–1:15 P.M.** Luncheon musical program, David B. Daniel, director of chapel music and the Candler Singers—Emory's Convocation Hall, Room 210
- 1:30–4:30 P.M.** **Cost: \$15 per person, registration required at [engage.emory.edu/ref2019](http://engage.emory.edu/ref2019).** "The Story of Our Books" Panel presentations and discussion.—Sanctuary, Cannon Chapel

Based on full participation, 0.5 C.E.U. will be awarded by Candler School of Theology, Emory University. To receive credit, participants must attend all Reformation Day events, print the request form ([pitts.emory.edu/ceu](http://pitts.emory.edu/ceu)), and submit it, along with a \$10 payment check (checks made payable to Emory University) to Pitts Theology Library, 1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560, Atlanta, Georgia 30322.