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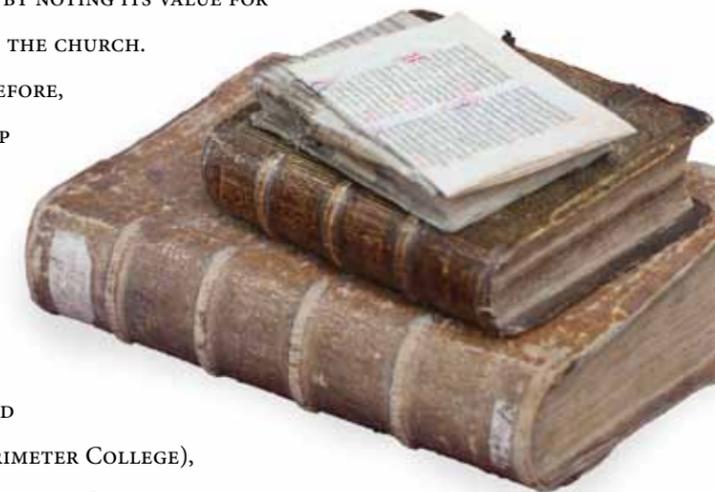
# REFORMATION NOTES

News for Partners of the Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection  
Summer 2012, Number 45

## 2012 Reformation Day at Emory

THE TWENTY-FIFTH REFORMATION DAY AT EMORY WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, AND TAKES AS ITS THEME, *THE KESSLER COLLECTION AFTER TWENTY-FIVE YEARS*. THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM CELEBRATES THE FIRST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF THE KESSLER COLLECTION BY NOTING ITS VALUE FOR SCHOLARS, STUDENTS, AND THE CHURCH.

WE ARE DELIGHTED, THEREFORE, TO HAVE PRESIDING BISHOP MARK S. HANSON OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA, DEWEY W. KRAMER (PROFESSOR EMERITA OF GERMAN, HUMANITIES, AND RELIGION AT GEORGIA PERIMETER COLLEGE), J. NEIL ALEXANDER (DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AT SEWANEE: THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH), AND REV. JAN RIPPEKTROP (DOCTORAL STUDENT AT EMORY UNIVERSITY) AS OUR GUEST SPEAKERS.



Several pieces acquired for the Kessler Collection during the past year

Jan Rippenrop, Lutheran pastor and doctoral student in liturgy at Emory's Graduate Division of Religion, has titled her illustrated lecture "The Spirit in Worship: Lutheran Theology of the Activity of the Holy Spirit in Hearing God's Word." Rooted in questions arising from the congregational context in which she served, Rev. Rippenrop will draw on Luther's theology of the work of the Holy Spirit. She will consider what is at stake for worshippers, approaching the topic by looking at Prayers for Illumination. She will

continued on page 2

## Reformation Day at Emory Schedule 2012

Each year Candler School of Theology celebrates Reformation Day with a program of lectures, worship, exhibits, and music. This year's Reformation Day at Emory takes place on Thursday, October 25, 2012, and celebrates the first twenty-five years of the Kessler Collection by noting its value for scholars, students, and the church. All events are free of charge and open to the public.

- 9:00–9:45 A.M.** Registration and Reception; Formal Lounge, Cannon Chapel
- 10:00–10:45 A.M.** "The Spirit in Worship: Lutheran Theology of the Activity of the Holy Spirit in Hearing God's Word," Rev. Jan Rippenrop, doctoral student, Graduate Division of Religion, Emory University—Sanctuary, Cannon Chapel
- 11:00–11:50 A.M.** Chapel Service, J. Neil Alexander, dean of the School of Theology at Sewanee: The University of the South, preaching—Sanctuary, Cannon Chapel
- 12:15–1:30 P.M.** Luncheon Musical Program, Rev. Barbara Day Miller, Associate Dean of Worship and Music and Assistant Professor in the Practice of Liturgy; and the Candler Singers. Please make reservations for the luncheon by calling 404.727.6352 or emailing [candleralum@emory.edu](mailto:candleralum@emory.edu).—Cox Hall
- 1:45–2:45 P.M.** "A Living, Daring Confidence," Bishop Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—Sanctuary, Cannon Chapel
- 2:45–3:15 P.M.** Refreshments and Break—Formal Lounge, Cannon Chapel
- 3:30–4:30 P.M.** "The Man Who Loosed Luther's German Tongue: New Approaches to Johann Tetzl," Professor Emerita Dewey W. Kramer, Georgia Perimeter College—Sanctuary, Cannon Chapel

.5 CEUs will be awarded to those who request continuing education credit. To receive credit, participants must attend all Reformation Day events, print and submit the request form (CE course 664) at [www.pitts.emory.edu/community/alumni/CEU\\_Request\\_Form.pdf](http://www.pitts.emory.edu/community/alumni/CEU_Request_Form.pdf) along with a \$10 payment (checks made payable to Emory University) to Pitts Theology Library, 505 Kilgo Circle NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30322. A certificate of attendance will be mailed following the event.

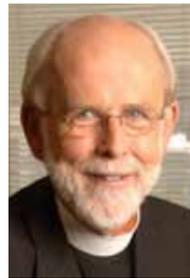
SCAN THE CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON REFORMATION DAY.



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 3,500 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:  
M. Patrick Graham  
Pitts Theology Library  
Emory University  
Atlanta, Georgia 30322  
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Mark Hanson



Dewey Weiss  
Kramer



J. Neil Alexander



Jan Rippentrop

first offer a sketch of what is known of the origins of these prayers, which call on God the Father to send the Holy Spirit to illumine the Word of God. From the perspective of one who is working with the materials of the Kessler Collection to excavate Lutheran liturgical developments, she will trace some of the disappearances and reappearances of Prayer for Illumination language, drawing out the implications these may have for our worship life and our understanding of how we hear the Word of God.

We are also pleased to welcome Professor J. Neil Alexander as the preacher for the Reformation Day at Emory chapel program. Alexander became the ninth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta in 2001, and in August 2012 he became dean of the School of Theology at Sewanee: The University of the South. He has served in the parish, taught at the General Theological Seminary (New York City) as the Trinity Church Professor of Liturgics and Preaching, and was the twenty-third Chancellor of Sewanee: the University of the South.

The Candler Singers and Instrumentalists, under the direction of Rev. Barbara Day Miller, associate dean of worship and music and assistant professor in the practice of liturgy, will present new hymns and songs as the luncheon program “Top Hits of the Past 25 Years!”

“A Living, Daring Confidence” is the title of Bishop Mark Hanson’s address. Drawing on Martin Luther’s

description of faith as a “living, daring confidence in God’s grace,” Hanson will explore the opportunities for a Lutheran witness to the Gospel and engagement with the public life of a richly pluralistic and diverse culture that at the same time is marked by increasing partisanship and disparities between rich and poor, privileged and marginalized people.

“The Man Who Loosed Luther’s German Tongue: New Approaches to Johann Tetzel” is the title of Dewey Weiss Kramer’s lecture, which examines Johann Tetzel’s *Vorlegung (Rebuttal)* (Leipzig: M. Lotter, 1518), a rebuttal to Luther’s *Sermon von dem Ablass und Gnade (Sermon on Indulgences and Grace)*, which was reprinted fourteen times in 1518. Examination of this document grows out of Kramer’s translation of Tetzel’s “double” pamphlet (Tetzel quotes Luther’s entire sermon within his response), which articulates succinctly both the initial impetus for the Reformation—Luther’s attack on the abuses of the indulgence system—and the major problem of the conflict between Church “*Magisterium*” and Luther’s “*Sola Scriptura*.” Her presentation will illuminate several contextual aspects of the conflict between Luther and Tetzel—including the conflict between the Dominicans and Augustinians and between the universities and their methods of theological research. It also addresses the greater complexity of early Catholic reaction to both Luther and Tetzel than is commonly assumed.

Through his written challenge to Luther, Tetzel becomes the catalyst for the reformer to examine more quickly and intensely the key concerns that would bring about his break with the Catholic Church, and to discover the reforming power of his native German. Expanding on the reassessment of Tetzel suggested by this work, Kramer will offer an overview of the steps taken during the twentieth century toward increased understanding between the Catholic and Lutheran communions. This movement derived importantly from both Catholic and Lutheran scholarship. It thus illustrates the importance of returning to original sources and has implications for today’s ongoing ecumenical relations.

All events are free of charge and open to the public.

## Collection Update

M. Patrick Graham

The year marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Kessler Reformation Collection, and with the addition of twenty-five new titles, the collection now stands at 3,540 pieces (1,020 of which are by Luther himself) and is insured for \$5,200,000. Sixty-four percent of this year’s acquisitions are not held by any other American library, and another 24 percent are only held by one other American institution. Such illustrates one of the major contributions that the Kessler Collection makes to scholarship by bringing many works from the Reformation period to the United States for the first time.

Acquisitions during the past year include seven works by Martin Luther and one each by other notable reformers: Martin Bucer, John Calvin, and Philipp Melancthon. One of the most important works acquired this year is the first edition of *Opuscula* (Leipzig, 1537), a large folio volume that gathers thirteen anti-Reformation tracts by Johann Faber (Johann Heigerlin). Faber had initially been receptive to Luther’s reforms but turned against him from 1522 on. He became bishop of Vienna in 1530 and was a member of the commission to evaluate the Augsburg Confession.

In addition, several of this year’s acquisitions that are not held by other American libraries are particularly interesting and worth comment. For example, the first edition of the collected sermons of Michael Helling, auxiliary bishop of Mainz and later Bishop of Merseburg, was added this year. The volume of sermons was printed in 1565, four years after Helling’s death, having been prepared for publication from Helling’s manuscripts by Philipp Agricola, preacher at the Mainz cathedral. These Catholic sermons are representative of Helling’s appreciation of the need to reform the church but his rejection of Protestantism.

Another intriguing piece is of a genre called “devil’s books” (*Teufels-Bücher*), which typically arose in Protestant regions

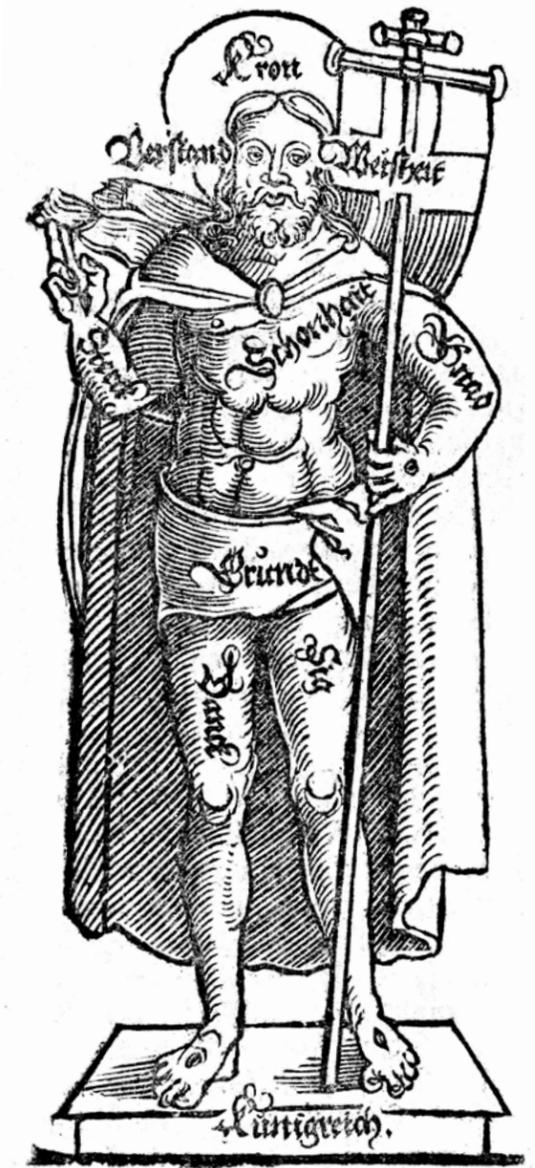
in the second half of the sixteenth century and attacked human vice as the work of the devil. Andreas Musculus was a student of Luther’s and issued a small book, *Wider den Eheteuffel* (1568), that attacked the idea of celibacy in these terms.

Christoph Mandel, a Jewish convert to Christianity, published a small volume in 1536 (*Das Jesus Christus sey dz ewig götlich Wort . . .*) that sought to defend elements in the Apostles’ Creed on the basis of the Hebrew Bible. A striking woodcut of the resurrected Christ, inscribed with ten elements from the influential Kabbalistic Tree of Life diagram (right), suggests to the reader that Christ is himself the new tree of life for Christian devotion.

Twenty-five years of hard work and generous contributions by friends and supporters of the Reformation Collection have created this splendid resource for the academy and the church. In the words of Professor Timothy Wengert (Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia), “The Kessler Collection . . . commemorates the most important religious event of the past 1,500 years: the European Reformations. Proper remembering of such an event involves two things: preservation and promulgation. The Kessler Collection does both amazingly well. On the one hand, in a relatively short time, it has assembled an amazing treasure of Reformation tracts and literature, in some cases rescuing them from private collectors (where few if any could view the material) and preserving them for students and scholars for generations to come. . . . On the other hand, especially in the Kessler Collection’s unsurpassed digitization of Reformation woodcuts and in its yearly special programs with their publications,

the bounty of this collection is promulgated far and wide.”

This program began in conversations between Richard Kessler and my predecessor, Channing Jeschke, and today we are all heirs to their vision and careful work and have much for which to be thankful.



Woodcut from Mandel, *Das Jesus Christus . . .* (Nuremberg: Guldenmundt, 1536)

# Reformation Day at Emory 2011

The twenty-fourth annual Reformation Day at Emory took “Luther and the Translation of the Bible” as its theme and featured lectures by Professor Jürgen Moltmann (Emeritus, University of Tübingen), Valerie Hotchkiss (University of Illinois), and Pat Graham (Candler School of Theology). Photos from the lectures, chapel service, and fund-raising dinner capture some of the moments during the day.

24<sup>th</sup>



left: Martha Kessler, Valerie Hotchkiss, and Jan Rippentrop

below: Barbara Day Miller and the Candler Singers



Richard Kessler, Barbara Clark, and Don Saliers



Joel LeMon



above: Neil Alexander



above: Marcus J. Miller and Steffen Lösel



left: David Parsons and Ted Runyon

right: Jürgen Moltmann and Jenny McBride



inside right: Valerie Hotchkiss



# Luther's Garden in Atlanta

Armin Siedlecki

As 2017 and the five hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation approaches, the city of Wittenberg has announced that it would establish a *Luthergarten* with five hundred trees, the planting of which would be sponsored by churches from all over the world and from all denominations (<http://luthergarten.de/english/>). The idea behind this plan is linked to words attributed to Martin Luther himself: "Even if I knew that the world would end tomorrow I would still plant an apple tree today." While this quotation cannot be authenticated as the genuine words of Luther, the project itself is admirable for both its global vision and its ecumenical orientation.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Richard C. Kessler Collection invites us to reflect on what has grown in our own Reformation Garden. Like the *Luthergarten*, the Kessler Collection has a global vision as it aims to make European sources accessible to North American researchers. Furthermore, through the

Pitts Theology Library's Digital Image Archive, the woodcuts and engravings found in Kessler Collection books are made available worldwide. The Kessler Collection is also ecumenical in its orientation as it strives to collect works by Lutheran, Catholic, Reformed, and Anabaptist authors insofar as they relate to the Lutheran Reformation in Germany. This commitment to collect voices from all sides of the debate makes the Kessler Collection one of the premier research collections for all scholars of sixteenth-century church history.

Looking at the authors represented in the collection is just one way to survey what has grown in the "Kessler Garden." About 1,020 titles in the collection were authored by Martin Luther himself, more than can be found in any other American collection of materials down to 1570. There are more than 220 titles by Philipp Melancthon and more than 150 titles by three of his most important Catholic opponents, Desiderius Erasmus, Johann Eck, and Johannes Cochlaeus. German-speaking Reformed authors such as Ulrich Zwingli, Martin Bucer, or

Johannes Oecolampadius are represented with more than twenty-five titles in the collection.

Another path through the garden traces the centers of printing, highlighting the geographic distribution of Reformation activity. By far the most productive city in this regard is Wittenberg with more than 820 imprints, followed by Augsburg, Basel, and Nuremberg with a combined output of 921 works. Yet another track through the garden follows the genres of materials. There are more than 450 titles pertaining to the biblical text—Bibles, commentaries, dictionaries, and grammars—as well as more than 560 sermons, 270 polemical works, and more than 150 titles dealing with church governance or the topic of church and state.<sup>1</sup>

Finally, one way of appreciating the "Kessler Garden" is by considering its signature pieces, such as Luther's *September Testament* (1522), the first translation of the New Testament into German from the Greek original, of which only seventeen copies survive. There is also the first edition of Luther's Large Catechism (1529), the first German and Latin editions of the Augsburg Confession, the unused copy of an indulgence printed in 1515, and the petite Low German hymnal printed in the city of Magdeburg of which no other copy is known to exist. In a way, however, each of the 3,540 titles in the collection is unique, as each piece has had almost five hundred years of its own history of ownership and provenance, reflected in bindings, markings, and annotations.

After twenty-five years, the Kessler Collection has indeed grown into a rich and fruitful garden, and like the *Luthergarten* at Wittenberg, it is a testimony to the enduring legacy of the Lutheran Reformation.

An excellent summary of the holdings of the Kessler Collection is Roy T. Wise's *Complete Holdings of the Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection*, available online at [www.pitts.emory.edu/DigiTexts/Documents/Wise.pdf](http://www.pitts.emory.edu/DigiTexts/Documents/Wise.pdf).



D. Erasmus, *Novum Testamentum omne* . . . (Basel: J. Froben, 1519)

# Visiting Lecturers for the 2012 Program

## DEWEY WEISS KRAMER

Dewey Weiss Kramer received a BA in German and music from Vassar College, with the junior year spent in Munich, and was then awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to Graz, Austria. She earned an MA and PhD in Germanic languages and literature at the University of Texas-Austin. She has taught at Florida State University, Marquette University, Agnes Scott College, Georgia State University, and Spring Hill College, and is professor emerita of German, humanities, and religion at Georgia Perimeter College.

In addition to topics in German literature and music, she has written and lectured on Benedictine and Cistercian monasticism, spirituality and the arts, the feminine dimension of God, Hildegard of Bingen, Julian of Norwich, German Dominican women of the Middle Ages, and Thomas Merton. She has published in the *American Benedictine Review*, *Reinhold Schneider Jahresblatt*, *Vierteljahresschrift der Adalbert Stifter Gesellschaft*, *Magistra*, and the *Merton Annual*.

With her husband Victor she was a founding editor of the *Merton Annual: Studies in Culture, Spirituality, and Social Issues* (1988) and served on that editorial board for twenty years. She was also founding member of the International Thomas Merton Society and served a term as its vice president. Also with her husband she coauthored *An Oral History of the Abbey of Our Lady of the Holy Spirit*. She was commissioned to write the history of that monastery, *Open to the Spirit: Tradition and Continuity at Holy Spirit* (3rd expanded edition, 2010). She has received grants from the NDEA and the Goethe Institute, as well as from the Aston Magna Institute (music and the Reformation).

Kramer regularly conducts retreats and workshops on figures such as Hildegard of Bingen and Julian of Norwich. She plays the recorder for liturgies and workshops as well as in performance. She is a certified spiritual director.

## MARK S. HANSON

Mark S. Hanson graduated from Augsburg College with a BA in sociology and was a Rockefeller Fellow at Union Theological Seminary, where he received a master of divinity degree. He also attended Luther Seminary (St. Paul) and was a Merrill Fellow at Harvard Divinity School.

He served as pastor of three Minnesota congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), as bishop of the Saint Paul Area Synod, and in 2001 was elected to become presiding bishop of the ELCA. From 2003 until 2010, he was president of the Lutheran World Federation, a position he held concurrently with his position as presiding bishop of the ELCA.

Hanson is widely known as a leader with an evangelical passion and imagination who embraces the Christian tradition, the Christian community, and the world with both generous goodwill and thoughtful insight. He has been an articulate advocate for the renewal of the church's preaching and public voice, for the strengthening of ecumenical and interreligious relationships, and for reconciliation and justice in society, with attention especially to those who live with poverty and discrimination.

Since being elected presiding bishop, he has received several honorary degrees, including doctor of humane letters from Augsburg College, Wittenberg University, and Grand View University; doctor of humanities from Capital University; and doctor of divinity from Lenoir-Rhyne College, Wartburg Theological Seminary, Susquehanna University, Wartburg College, and the Academy of Ecumenical Indian Theology and Church Administration.

He is the author of *Faithful Yet Changing, the Church in Challenging Times*, and *Faithful and Courageous, Christians in Unsettling Times*, both from Augsburg Fortress, Publishers.



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