

ELCA Region 4-South Archives

The ELCA Region 4-South Archives exists to assist the church in remembering the history of the antecedent synods of the ELCA located in Texas, Louisiana, and in parts of New Mexico and Arkansas. We are housed in the Lutheran Ministry Building on the campus of Texas Lutheran University. The bishops of the three Texas-Louisiana synods provide oversight to the archives, established in 1988 by the newly formed Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

The collection includes the parish records of disbanded congregations, historical information about disbanded and active congregations, synod files of deceased rostered leaders, minutes and various records of judicatories, their institutions and organizations, and historical photographs, films, and recordings. It also maintains a library of publications related to Lutheran church history.

Staffed by volunteers, the archives continues to

- update rostered leaders biographical information;
- maintain active congregation files with important events and historical data;
- receive and catalog pertinent documents/photos/records/books relating to the history of the Lutheran Church in the three synods;
- welcome guests who wish to research topics relating to the churches in our synods,
- process requests from all over the world (Australia, Canada, France) and many states in the United States for copies of documents/photos/records pertaining to baptisms and family history;
- help with research requests for individuals who cannot come to the archives;
- furnish information to congregations who want to know about preserving records in their own congregations.

If your congregation has published a more recent history or celebrated an important anniversary, please send a copy of the history and/or bulletin to the archives (1090 Oestreich Dr., Seguin, 78155) so that we may place it in the congregation's active file.

Our online catalog may be accessed at swtsynod.pastperfectonline.com

We may be reached by telephone at 830-379-9900 or by email at archives@swtsynod.org. Johnana Clark is the archivist, assisted by librarian Shirley Bowie, and historian emeritus Rev. Luther Oelke.