

Reformation Notes

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“Scripture and Reform”

—Revisit the Reformation Day 2015 discussion. *Page 4*

Reflecting on how far we've come in nearly 30 years of the Kessler Reformation Collection. *Page 6*

Lucas Cranach the Elder's *Gesetz und Evangelium* (1529) highlights the theme of Reformation Day at Emory 2016.

REFORMATION DAY EXPLORES LAW AND GRACE

M. Patrick Graham

L*aw and Grace: Martin Luther, Lucas Cranach, and the Promise of Salvation* is the title of the 29th-annual Reformation Day at Emory program, scheduled for Thursday, October 27 (complete program on page 8). This year we will explore the renowned Reformation painting of Lucas Cranach the Elder, *Law and Grace*, from the standpoints of art history, biblical studies, and theology. The day's events will begin with registration and reception, followed by a review of highlights from the year's acquisitions and the new exhibit devoted to the elaboration of the Cranach painting.

This year's chapel service features the Candler singers, musicians, and a sermon by Anthony A. Briggman, assistant professor of the history of early Christianity (Candler School of Theology), entitled, “Grace Then, Grace Today, Grace Always.” Prof. Briggman came to Candler in 2011 and in 2016 won a Crystal Apple Award for Excellence in Graduate Education/Instruction. His research has focused on Irenaeus of Lyon and the theology of the early church. As in years past, the Candler Singers will offer a musical presentation at the luncheon that follows, this year under the direction of David B. Daniel, Candler's new director of chapel music.

The afternoon program will consist of three engaging lectures that unfold the significance of Cranach's iconic painting. Opening the afternoon program is Prof. Bonnie Noble's lecture, “Law and Gospel and the Strategies of Pictorial Rhetoric.” This illustrated presentation examines



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Lucas Cranach the Elder's *Allegory of Law and Gospel* (circa 1529), the first definitively Lutheran painting. On the left side of this divided composition appear motifs that exemplify what Luther contended was the legalism of the old (Catholic) church. The opposite side of the image delineates the tenets of Lutheran faith and so teaches the beholders Luther's biblical truth. Noble is associate professor of art history at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, recipient of the Harold J. Grimm Prize from the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference as well as several grants and fellowships. Her research specialty is the art of the Northern Renaissance, particularly 16th-century German painting, and her investigations of Cranach's work have appeared in the internationally recognized Khan Academy's curriculum.



Noble, LeMon, Strom, Briggman

Prof. Joel M. LeMon, associate professor of Old Testament at Candler School of Theology, follows with an analysis of the rich biblical aspects of Cranach's painting. The work contrasts several iconographic motifs from the Old Testament that stand in contrast with New Testament images. The lecture will explore the remarkably complex role that Scripture plays in this work and discuss the iconography of Scripture in the painting. LeMon joined the Candler faculty in 2007, and his research focuses on the Psalms, the reception history of the Bible, and the historical context of the Old Testament. His recent work includes *Yahweh's Winged Form in the Psalms: Exploring Congruent Iconography and Texts* (2010); *Image, Text, Exegesis* (coeditor, 2015); and *Picturing Righteous Violence in the Psalms and Ancient Near Eastern Art*. LeMon has studied at Stellenbosch University in South Africa (2001–2002), where he currently holds the title associate professor extraordinary. He is an ordained elder in the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Prof. Jonathan Strom has appeared in several Reformation Day at Emory

programs, and this year his lecture will close the afternoon program: "Cranach, 'Law and Gospel,' and the Protestant Theological Tradition." Here Strom illuminates the impact of Cranach's work on the Reformation and the years that followed. Arriving at Candler to teach church history in 1997, Strom is currently associate dean of faculty and academic affairs and the director of international initiatives. His research interests include Pietism in continental Europe, the history of the Protestant clergy, and the emergence of modern forms of piety and religious practice. He has written widely on the clergy, lay religion, and reform movements in post-Reformation Germany and is the author/editor of three books, most recently *Pietism and Community in Europe and North America, 1650–1850* (Brill, 2010). A Fulbright Scholar, Strom has also received grants from the Lilly Foundation, the Association of Theological Schools, and Emory's University Research Committee.

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

Impressions of Law and Grace

Armin Siedlecki Lucas Cranach the Elder (1472–1553) was one of the best-known German artists of the 16th century. Appointed court painter to the Saxon Elector Frederick the Wise, he also sat on the city council of Wittenberg and served as mayor on

we see Moses with the tablets of the commandments, Adam and Eve next to the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, God sitting in judgment, and death as a skeleton pursuing a man toward people engulfed in the flames of Hell. On the side of life Christ emerges from



Lucas Cranach the Elder, *Gesetz und Evangelium* (1529)

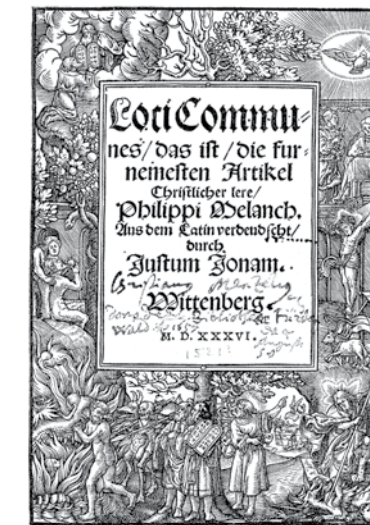
several occasions. Cranach was not only an early supporter of Luther, but also one of his closest friends, serving as a witness at his wedding and as godfather to his first son Johannes. The image that most have of Martin Luther is based on his portrait of the reformer, and many of Luther's writings were published with woodcut illustrations by the great artist.

Cranach's allegorical image of *Law and Grace* (*Gesetz und Gnade*) may be the most succinct visual representation of one of the central theological tenets of the Lutheran Reformation—justification by grace alone. He first painted the image of a tree dead on one side but flourishing on the other in 1529, but he produced various other paintings and woodcuts of the same allegory, all of which share common motifs. On the side of death

the tomb and subdues death; the person shown fleeing on the left side appears on the right next to John the Baptist, who points to Christ on the cross; and various other features of Christian imagery decorate the panel.

The allegory became very popular and was quickly adapted to a variety of media. Examples can be found among the title page borders of publica-

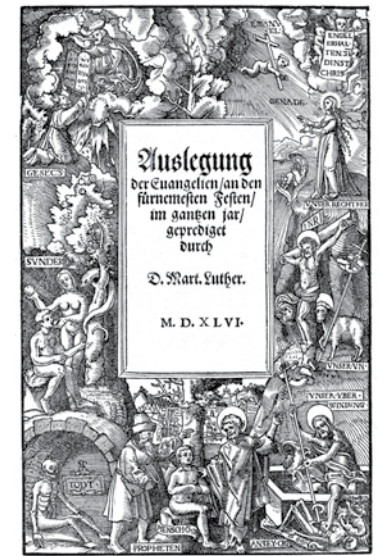
tions, such as the German translation of Melanchthon's *Loci communes* (Wittenberg, 1536), the first systematic theology written by a Protestant author.



Philipp Melanchthon, *Loci communes* (1536)

A similar border appears in a 1546 Leipzig edition of Luther's lectionary sermons. In case of the latter, the allegory is made explicit by the use of explanatory labels with each symbolic component.

Another adaptation of the image is found in book bindings, which were typically commissioned by a book's owner rather than being provided by the printer in the 16th century. A common decorative technique was blind tooling, in which brass stamps or rollers were heated and then pressed or rolled over leather stretched over wooden boards. Sometimes the initials of the owner or a date would be tooled into the leather, and often an image would be blind stamped onto the front and back covers. A special case is the Kessler Collection's copy of Veit Dietrich's *Summaria vber die gantze Bibel* (*Summary of the Entire Bible*; Nuremberg, 1548), which has a 16th-century binding of blind-tooled pigskin that adapts Cranach's allegory of law and grace by depicting the left half of the image on the front cover and the right half on the back cover. The book's cover thus mirrors the Bible's story, as it moves from judgment and death in the Garden of Eden to grace and life in Christ's final victory in Revelation. ■



Martin Luther, *Auslegung der Euangelien* . . . (1546)

"Here I stand . . ." Luther Exhibitions USA 2016

2017 marks the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's *95 Theses*, his protest against the sale of indulgences and commonly viewed as the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. This anniversary will be observed with exhibits, lectures, and other programs around the world.

In the United States three major exhibits will commemorate Luther's work, thanks to the generosity of the German Federal Foreign Office and the creativity of four German museums: the State Museum of Prehistory Halle, the Luther Memorials Foundation of Saxony-Anhalt, the Deutsches Historisches

Museum Berlin, and the Foundation Schloss Friedenstein Gotha. Each exhibit is different but all open simultaneously in October at the Morgan Library & Museum in New York, the Minneapolis Institute of Art, and the Pitts Theology Library in Atlanta (here with support of the Halle Foundation, Atlanta).

These three splendid exhibits feature materials that have never before left Germany and reveal something of the cultural and historical richness of Luther's homeland in Central Germany. Together they introduce American audiences to the world of Luther and invite all to visit Germany in 2017 to see the rest.

2015 Reformation Day at Emory

28th

The 28th Reformation Day at Emory program took as its theme “Scripture and Reform: The Ten Commandments as Jewish Law, Christian Gospel, and Civic Code,” and keynote lectures elaborated the role of the Decalogue in the Hebrew Bible, Luther’s reform, and contemporary American life. Here are moments from the day’s events.



1 **Rebekah Bedard, Richard and Martha Kessler**

2 **Floyd Craig, Andy Krey, Pat Graham, Rodney Peterson, Frank Woodson**

3 **Susan and Lew Engle**

4 **Jean and Betty Mori**

5 **Julian Gordy and Lew Engle**

6 **Jonne and Paul Walter**

7 **June and Roy Wise**

8 **Mark and Karen Scott**



Zwingli and the Lord’s Supper

The Kessler Reformation Collection acquired *Zwingli’s Actio[n] oder Brauch des Nachtmals, Gedechtnus, oder Dancksagung Christi . . .* (1525) in 2010. This rare volume helps document the vigorous debate between Luther and Zwingli about the Lord’s Supper, one of the most divisive issues among Protestants in the third decade of the 16th century.

We are delighted that Jim West translated Zwingli’s work into English for the first time and has provided an introduction to help readers understand its significance. We also are grateful to Prof. Kurt K. Hendel of the Kessler Collection’s Scholars Advisory Committee for reviewing West’s translation.

The generous support of Walker and Nancy Ray in honor of Susan Snow Hope has allowed the Pitts Theology Library to publish this translation in both electronic and print formats so that students and scholars alike may have ready access to the work at no charge:

Ulrich Zwingli, *The Implementation of the Lord’s Supper*, translation and introduction by Jim West. Occasional Publications of the Pitts Theology Library (Atlanta: Pitts Theology Library, 2016).

The electronic version of the work is available for download at pitts.emory.edu/files/publications/ZwingliLordsSupper.pdf.

Copies of the work in print are available free of charge to those who submit their requests via the following webpage: www.pitts.emory.edu/publication.



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 30 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, 2015, we have received gifts from the following:

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If you would like to join in this effort, please contact the library director at:

M. Patrick Graham, Pitts Theology Library, 1531 Dickey Drive, Ste 560, Atlanta, GA 30322
libmpg@emory.edu • 404-727-4165

As the Kessler Reformation Collection Nears 30

M. Patrick Graham This year we celebrate the 29th anniversary of the founding of the Kessler Reformation Collection. Next year we'll celebrate the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's

es the 500th anniversary of Luther's reform, the Pitts Library has crossed an important milestone by gathering 1,059 of Luther's own works, printed by 1570. Almost half of the acquisitions each

year are not held by another American library and another quarter are held by only one.

- The most important acquisition of all occurred in July 1987, when Richard Kessler's generous support brought Luther's *September Testament* to Atlanta.

- Each year since 1988, the Kessler Collection has celebrated its

95 *Theses* and three decades of our efforts to build an internationally significant resource for Reformation studies. It seems especially appropriate, therefore, to pause and consider what supporters of the collection have done since 1987.

I came to work at the Pitts Theology Library as a cataloger in August 1988 and still remember attending the first Reformation Day at Emory exhibit and concert program two months later, keeping guard over the first Lutheran hymnal—the *Achtliederbuch* of 1524—and showing it to the guests who attended the concert, exactly as Channing Jeschke, director of the Pitts Library, instructed me.

Much has happened since fall 1988:

- The collection has almost tripled in size, growing from about 1,350 pieces to 3,735, and as the world approach-

es the 500th anniversary of Luther's reform, the Pitts Library has crossed an important milestone by gathering 1,059 of Luther's own works, printed by 1570. Almost half of the acquisitions each year are not held by another American library and another quarter are held by only one.

“Reformation Day at Emory” with programs of exhibits, lectures, music, and worship. The annual themes have varied, running from Bach and the music of the Reformation to Luther and the Poor, Reformation Women, Luther and the Arts, and Reform in the University and the Church.

- Speakers for these programs have come from some of the most prestigious American universities (Harvard, Boston University, Brandeis, University of Chicago, Johns Hopkins, Emory, Yale, University of Illinois) and Lutheran seminaries (Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, and Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary), as well as from other important institutions (Westminster Choir College,

Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music, Augsburg Fortress Press, Search Institute, Fund for Theological Education, ELCA, ECUSA, UMC, Evangelical Church in Germany).

- The scholarship that has been supported by the collection is also extensive, including a four-volume bibliography published in 1999, a facsimile edition of the *Magdeburg Enchiridion*, a collection of articles on Philipp Melancthon and Scripture, individually published articles and lectures, and three English translations of 16th-century German works in the collection.

- The creation of the Digital Image Archive, now with almost 60,000 woodcuts and etchings from the 15th through the 19th century that are freely available to all for teaching and research, being used by thousands of people annually.

- Almost 150 friends of the collection have now given more than \$1,300,000 to develop this resource for the church and the academy and enhance its impact.

- Finally, the Kessler Collection moved into its new home in July 2014: a five-story facility with state-of-the-art storage for rare books, a beautiful special collections reading room, and a spacious exhibit gallery that is among the finest in Atlanta.

All this could not have been envisioned in 1987, just as today we cannot imagine what the next 30 years will bring. What is clear, though, is that generous supporters, dedicated scholars, and others from the church and academy can do great things together. Something that the Kessler Reformation Collection attests daily. ■



Jonne Walter

Collection Update

M. Patrick Graham The Kessler Reformation Collection marks its 29th anniversary in 2016 and looks forward to its 30th anniversary coinciding with the 500th anniversary of Luther's 95 *Theses*. The numbers of students, faculty, and others visiting the Pitts Library continue to grow, and library staff and docents have been kept busy with this increase in traffic, providing about 120 group presentations and tours to more than 2,200 persons during the past year. The Kessler Collection plays a major role in these instructional sessions, as well as in the library's program of exhibitions and publications, in the Digital Image Archive, and much more.

The Kessler Collection added 38 books and pamphlets this year, as well as five prints. The total number of pieces in the Kessler Collection now stands at 3,735, of which 1,059 are works by Martin Luther himself. As has historically been the case, a large percentage of this year's acquisitions of books and pamphlets are either completely new to the US (42 percent) or held by only one other American library (26 percent).

Twelve works by Martin Luther were acquired this year; two by Georg Major, John Eck, and Erasmus; and one each by Bugenhagen, Cochlaeus, Melancthon, and Zwingli. In addition, the first edition of the French translation of the *Canons and Decrees of the Council of Trent* (1564) came to the Kessler Collection this year, as well as a 1554 printing of John Eck's most popular work against the Lutherans and other Protestants.



Albrecht Dürer, *Small Woodcut Passion: Christ in Emmaus*

In addition to these books and pamphlets, the library collaborated with the Michael C. Carlos Museum to negotiate the purchase of a group of prints from Albrecht Dürer's *Small Woodcut Passion* (1509–1511). The Kessler Collection portion of these includes: Christ Crowned with Thorns, Doubting Thomas, Christ Washing Peter's Feet, Resurrection of Christ, and Christ in Emmaus. These are the first prints to come to Pitts from Dürer, perhaps the greatest German artist of the 16th century.

An especially interesting acquisition this year was a *Sammelband* or collection of seven Reformation books and pamphlets that an early collector had compiled in 1557 or later and then given to a bookbinder. The titles included are very rare (six of the seven works are not held by another American library), and there are interesting indications in the volume of how such a *Sammelband* was constructed: the owner's instructions about the sequence of the pieces and the bookbinder's technique in building up the binding—leather over paper boards—by using printed sheets from earlier publications. ■



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.

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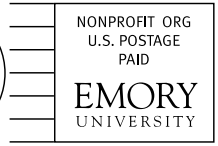
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Reformation Day at Emory 2016

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 3,700 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
404-727-4165
libmpg@emory.edu

The 29th Reformation Day at Emory will be held on Thursday, October 27, and takes as its theme, “Law and Grace: Martin Luther, Lucas Cranach, and the Promise of Salvation.” This year’s program explores the renowned Reformation painting of Lucas Cranach the Elder, *Law and Grace*, from the standpoints of art history, biblical studies, and theology. Register today by calling 404-727-6352.

- 9:00–9:45 A.M.** Registration, Reception, and Review of Exhibit Gallery—Lecture Hall, Pitts Theology Library (Room 360)
- 9:45–10:45 A.M.** Program introduction and presentation of recent acquisitions, Professor M. Patrick Graham, Candler School of Theology—Lecture Hall, Pitts Theology Library (Room 360)
- 11:05–11:50 A.M.** Chapel Service, Professor Anthony A. Briggman, Candler School of Theology, Preaching—Sanctuary, Cannon Chapel
- 12:15–1:15 P.M.** Luncheon Musical Program, David B. Daniel, director of chapel music and the Candler Singers. **Cost: \$10 per person, Registration required by calling 404-727-6352.**—Cox Hall
- 1:30–2:15 P.M.** “Law and Gospel and the Strategies of Pictorial Rhetoric,” Prof. Bonnie J. Noble, University of North Carolina–Charlotte—Lecture Hall, Pitts Theology Library (Room 360)
- 2:15–3:00 P.M.** “Lucas Cranach’s ‘Law and Grace’ and Scripture,” Prof. Joel LeMon, Candler School of Theology—Lecture Hall, Pitts Theology Library (Room 360)
- 3:10–4:00 P.M.** “Cranach, ‘Law and Gospel,’ and the Protestant Theological Tradition,” Prof. Jonathan Strom, Candler School of Theology—Lecture Hall, Pitts Theology Library (Room 360)

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 (<http://goo.gl/IPZIM8>), 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.



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