The nine Presbyterians carrying a large wooden cross through the Baltimore Convention Center did not walk alone.

Hundreds of commissioners and observers rose from their seats to join the solemn procession. Others attending the 1991 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) General Assembly reached out to touch the cross as it passed. When the nine reached the front of the Assembly, they laid the cross down and hammered nails into its wood. The blows echoed throughout the silent auditorium until voices began to sing, “We are gay and straight together, and we are singing, singing for our lives.”
FOUR FEATURE INITIATIVES

By collecting more widely, providing increased access to Presbyterian and ecumenical archival materials, and forming innovative partnerships, PHS is transforming the ways we serve.

Our four feature initiatives for 2019 show PHS advancing its historic mission in new ways. We’re a national church archives for the 21st century, an engaged educational resource, and a friend to histories of faith around the world. Find out more at www.history.pcusa.org/4initiatives

1. African American Leaders & Congregations
This collecting initiative documents the lives, work, and witness of African Americans in the history of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)—from the organization of the First African Presbyterian Church in 1807 to the election of the first African American Stated Clerk of the General Assembly in 2016. Financial support is provided by the PHS African American Leaders & Congregations Fund.

2. Building Knowledge & Breaking Barriers
This archives-based learning project utilizes PHS collections to teach Philadelphia community college students research and critical-thinking skills. In the summer of 2020, student leaders will create an exhibit describing their research journeys and sharing ideas for helping more students. Building Knowledge & Breaking Barriers has been supported by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage.

3. LGBTQIA+ History
In honor of Pam McLucas Byers, the first executive director of the Covenant Network, this initiative is collecting, preserving, and sharing stories from across the theological spectrum documenting the forty-year movement for LGBTQIA+ inclusion in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Financial support is provided by the PHS Pam Byers Memorial Fund.

4. Religious News Service Photographs
PHS holds a vast collection of RNS photographs: over 60,000 images covering domestic and international religious news between 1945 and 1982. This pilot project is adding almost 500 RNS images to Pearl, the Society’s publicly accessible digital archives, and planning for the future digitization of the entire collection. Financial support is provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities.
The PC(USA) Book of Order encourages congregations, mid councils, and national agencies to deposit vital records of permanent value in PHS’s secure, climate-controlled archives. Other than shipping, this service is free.

PHS also provides in-house digitization services for PC(USA) congregations, mid councils, and national agencies. High-quality digital facsimiles give you unlimited remote access to collections and protect materials from damage and deterioration by eliminating the need to handle fragile paper originals. All PC(USA) entities receive a discounted rate for this service. Congregations and mid councils with a PHS membership receive further savings.

Find out more about preserving church records: www.history.pcusa.org/records | records@history.pcusa.org 215-627-1852. Learn about group memberships: www.history.pcusa.org/joinphs | 215-928-3865

JOURNAL PREVIEW

In the Spring/Summer 2019 issue of The Journal of Presbyterian History, Roberto Flores de Apodaca analyzes the religious beliefs and practices of Revolutionary War soldiers, Dr. Xu Guangqiu examines medical missionaries in Guangzhou (formerly Canton) and their contributions to the introduction of Western medicine in China in the mid-nineteenth century.

Call 215.928.3865 to receive The Journal or visit www.history.pcusa.org/journal
Three years earlier, the 1988 General Assembly had decided that the church needed to “rethink human sexuality.” A special committee was appointed and charged with studying the church’s previous statements on the issue. Sixteen members comprised the group, with John Carey serving as chair.

The committee looked beyond sexual orientation. For three and a half years it held meetings across the country—including open hearings and visits with local congregations—where it listened to church members’ heartbreaking stories of sexual trauma and injustice. The committee’s final report advocated for the ordination rights of gay and lesbian Presbyterians, while also writing that Presbyterians should follow an ethic of “justice-love” in all relationships regardless of sexual orientation or marital status.

The report, titled “Keeping Body and Soul Together: Sexuality, Spirituality, and Social Justice,” was debated for hours on the floor of the 1991 Assembly before most of its recommendations were rejected, an action that Harlan Penn, president of Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns, characterized as leaving gay and lesbian church members in “a second-class status,” according to the New York Times. Moderator Herb Valentine called for the Assembly to allow LGBT Presbyterians and their allies to show their disappointment with a silent protest.

“What followed was the largest demonstration up to that point in the movement for a fully inclusive church. Virginia West Davidson and Tony De La Rosa led the silent walk to the front of the Assembly, with Jane Adams Spahr, Chris Glaser, and five others close behind bearing the cross. The Philadelphia Inquirer reported that the protest grew to nearly five hundred as others left their seats to join the procession. When the group broke its silence to sing Holly Near’s song for lesbian and gay liberation, “We Are a Gentle, Angry People,” more than solidarity was achieved. In the “More Light Update” of August 1991, James Anderson would describe the protest as “an event that showed the church, and ourselves, the breadth and depth of our conviction and support. It will never be forgotten.”

The Presbyterian Historical Society recently discovered and digitized a General Assembly Media Services video of the silent protest as part of the Pam Byers Memorial Collecting Initiative. In honor of Pam McLucas Byers, the first executive director of the Covenant Network, the initiative collects, preserves, and shares records, media, and oral histories related to the forty-year movement for LGBTQIA+ inclusion in the PC(USA). Not only is the silent protest never to be forgotten, it can now be witnessed by any member of today’s Church.

View the silent protest and other materials related to LGBTQIA+ history in the PC(USA):
https://digital.history.pcusa.org/lgbtqia

Learn more about the Pam Byers Memorial Collecting Initiative or support its work:
www.history.pcusa.org/pb
DEAR FRIENDS,

In December, two great champions of Presbyterian history joined the great cloud of witnesses: Jim Smylie and Bill Miller. Jim ably charted the course of The Journal of Presbyterian History for years. His calling as teacher, pastoral leader, and historian was to connect today’s concerns with our past. Bill led the Society for thirty-two years until his retirement in 1986. Under his leadership PHS built and moved into our home at 425 Lombard Street. Their examples along with those of countless other historians, archivists, administrators, and visionary Presbyterians inspire our staff and board to continue moving PHS in relevant, creative, inclusive, and vibrant directions.

Throughout 2018 our programming and services expanded in exciting ways, including the formation of partnerships with college students and instructors, congregations, and mid councils that continue growing in 2019. Our redoubled efforts to collect theologically diverse stories around LGBTQIA+ ordination and marriage, and to partner with African American congregations and our sisters and brothers in Puerto Rico, are ensuring that all Presbyterian history is well-represented in our holdings. These initiatives are building on PHS’s 167-year mission, energizing the reflective spirit of Presbyterians across the PC(USA). We are tearing down fences, opening doors, and strengthening our communities. We are keeping faith with the past by preserving its lessons for the future.

Thank you for supporting our ministry with your continued engagement, donations of historical materials, and gifts of financial support. Together we are making one of the nation’s great denominational archives an innovation leader for the 21st century.

Grace and peace,

The Reverend Dr. Beth Shalom Hessel
Executive Director

The Reverend Dr. George Abdo
Chair of the PHS Board of Directors
Yearly Impact

HELPING RESEARCHERS

- **PHS Staff Provided** 3,162 Detailed Reference Responses to Patrons in our building, over the phone, and by email
- **People from 36 Different States and 12 Countries Visited Our Building**
- **2,989 Collection Items Were Retrieved for Researchers**
- **537 Genealogy Responses Provided**
- **105 Community College of Philadelphia Students Explored PHS Materials**
- **158 Inquiries Pertained to the Creation of a Book**

SERVING THE PC(USA)

- **824 Inquiries from PC(USA) Churches, Mid Councils and National Agencies—Our Largest Patron Group**
- **307 Churches Received PHS Reference Help**

ADDITION RECORDS AND PERSONAL PAPERS

- **54 Active Congregations Sent Records to PHS**
- **240 Cubic-Foot Boxes from 10 Large Collections Processed and Made Available to Researchers**

PROVIDING DIGITIZED HISTORY

- **Images and Pages Digitized: 93,835**
- **Items Added to Pearl Digital Archives: 2,400**

REACHING PATRONS ONLINE

- **Visitors to Pearl: 10,767**
- **Visitors to PHS Website: 110,139**
Involvement at PHS has helped me appreciate the keepers of the faith who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth.

From churches across the country and beyond, the Presbyterian Historical Society has records, artifacts, and histories from steadfast Christians and churches who have entrusted us with their passions and concerns through the years. I am inspired by the dedication and expertise that the staff brings to the critical task of ensuring that we are all connected to those known and unknown who have gone before us.

I support PHS because every time I attend a meeting, conduct research at the building, or use our online resources, I learn more of the impact we are having—not just in the United States and the PC(USA) but around the world. I am honored to be a part of such a respected institution.
New researcher tools for 2018 included our Sheppard digital catalog and interactive Historic Sites Registry. We joined Office of the General Assembly colleagues at this summer’s GA, strengthened friendships from Puerto Rico to California, and explored ecumenical history at home and abroad. PHS’s outward focus helped us collect vital Presbyterian history—and brought hundreds of gifted researchers and four international film crews through our doors.

1. PHS Board and Advisory Council members and staff viewed Rachel Henderlite collection materials, May
2. Beth Hessel of PHS with Sharon Rogers and Steve Yamaguchi in Los Angeles, December
3. Crystal Sanders delivered the keynote address at the PHS GA luncheon in St. Louis, June
4. David Staniunas of PHS visited Dean Lewis in New Mexico, February
5. Chinese film crew with Nancy Taylor of PHS in back center, August
6. The Sheppard Digital Catalog named for William Sheppard, here with his mother circa 1900, was introduced in March
7 PHS Archives Intern Marcus Baldwin and Archivist Jenny Barr in Archives Annex, December

8 Videographer Brelin Tilford helped PHS create overview videos, April

9 Elizabeth Wittrig began her work as Pam Byers Memorial Fund Project Archivist, September

10 RNS pilot project panelists reviewed historic photographs, October

11 T. J. DeMarco and Cindy Kohlmann deposited records from the Presbytery of Boston, October

12 Luis José Ocasí Torres and Aracelis Fernandez Nieves at Hugh O’Neill Presbyterian Church in San Juan, Puerto Rico, May

13 Francisco Marrero visited PHS with the Cuba Partners Network, October
We also wish to thank the following organizations and individuals for depositing or donating church records and other archival materials to PHS in 2018.

Sue Althouse, Sue Althouse photographs and presentations
Amity Presbyterian Church, Dravosburg, PA
Jerry Andrews, Jerry Andrews papers
Eugene C. Bay, Eugene C. Bay papers
Paul R. Bergstresser, Golden and Dick Baird correspondence
Sara Black, Sarah Shaw Dager papers
The Board of Pensions
Bridesburg Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, PA
Robert A. Briggs, Robert A. Briggs papers
John C. Bush, Michael David Bush papers
Jeff Byers, audio of Pam Byers memorial service
Margaret McDaniel Byers and Ruth Anne Byers Fraley, Arthur M. Byers Jr. papers
Jeanette Cadwallender, McLean-Wilson family sermons
Calvary Presbyterian Church, Staten Island, NY
Jane Carl, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church (Bartlesville, Okla.) records
Jonathan T. Carlisle, Dorothy Carlisle Presbyterian Women photographs
Center Presbyterian Church, Seaton, IL
In Soon Chi, National Korean Presbyterian Women and other records
Doris Cole, John Holladay scrapbook
Audrey Colombe, records of Presbyterian groups in California
Columbia Theological Seminary
Congregational Ministries Publishing
J. Keith Cook, J. Keith Cook photographs
Covenant Community Presbyterian Church, Schofield, WI
Covenant Presbyterian Church, Trenton, NJ
Crossroads Presbyterian Church, Blue Ridge, TX
Deerfield Presbyterian Church, Deerfield, NJ
Robert DeLuryea, American and Foreign Christian Union records
Bettie J. Durrah, Bettie J. Durrah papers
Elizabeth D. Earle, Clifford J. Earle papers
Janet Edwards, Janet Edwards papers
David Elder and Alice Elder Leake, Elder family papers
Charlotte Elsner, Frances Thornton Wooding papers
Brad Emalfarb, William H. Brauer papers
Fairfield Presbyterian Church, Sandy Lake, PA
First Presbyterian Church, Berthoud, CO
First Presbyterian Church, Boise, ID
First Presbyterian Church, Kendallville, IN
First Presbyterian Church, Michigan City, IN
First Presbyterian Church, Waltham, MA
First Presbyterian Church, Lapeer, MI
First Presbyterian Church, Brainerd, MN
First Presbyterian Church, Independence, MO
First Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, MO
First Presbyterian Church, Kearney, NE
First Presbyterian Church, Haddonfield, NJ
First Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe, NM
First Presbyterian Church, Dryden, NY
First Presbyterian Church, Dundee, NY
First Presbyterian Church, New York, NY
First Presbyterian Church, Sylva, NC
First Presbyterian Church, Salem, OR, COEMAR publications
First Presbyterian Church, Aldmore, PA
First Presbyterian Church, Finleyville, PA
First Presbyterian Church, Levittown, PA
First Presbyterian Church, Everett, WA
First Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, WA
First Presbyterian Church, Winneconne, WI
Peter Fish, Fish family papers
Mark Ford, Crosby-Ironton Presbyterian Church (Crosby, Minn.) records
Forest Grove Presbyterian Church, Forest Grove, PA
Catherine Forman, Ruth Forman papers
Gates Presbyterian Church, Rochester, NY
Jack Haberer, Jack Haberer papers
Phil Hanna, Ed and Arpíne Hanna papers
Bert Hansen, Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Women’s Board of Foreign Missions paper dolls
Heritage Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, NE
Hugh O’Neill Memorial Presbyterian Church, San Juan, PR
Iving Park Presbyterian Church, Chicago, IL
Eleonora Giddings Ivory, Eleonora Giddings Ivory papers
Andy James, Presbyterian Peacemaking Conference digital images
John Calvin Presbyterian Church, Henrietta, NY
Winfield R. Jones, Winfield Jones sermons
Sherry Jordon, Joan Martin oral history
Carol Brantley Kendall, Peter Marshall sermon
Laura Greig Krauss, Greig family papers
Marjorie Landfried, Mark Landfried papers
Langhorne Presbyterian Church, Langhorne, PA
Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, Placitas, NM
Laurelhurst Presbyterian Church, Portland, OR
Dean Lewis, Dean Lewis papers
Flynn V. Long, Jr., Flynn V. Long presentations
Mary Ann Lundy, Mary Ann Lundy papers
Cecilia Jones Lutz, McCune family papers
Lee Lybarger, Lee Lybarger papers
Zandra Maffett, Zandra Maffett papers
Meg Mann, Archibald Campbell papers
Market Square Presbyterian Church, Harrisburg, PA
J. Oscar McCloud, J. Oscar McCloud photograph album
Debra Apel McKee, Henry William Apel papers
Marie Melrose, Marie Melrose papers
Memorial Presbyterian Church, Midland, MI
Nancy Miller, Norman Miller papers
Jerilynn McFarland Millvan, Evelyn McFarland letter

The interactive Historic Sites Map was launched in May
www.history.pcusa.org/sitesmap
Murray Milner, Murray Milner papers
Florence Reeder Morrison, Charles Vincent and Frances Abernethy Reeder papers
Mount Horeb Presbyterian Church, Jefferson City, TN
National Association of Presbyterian Scouters, Harriet M. Taylor scrapbook
Nebraska State Historical Society, William Putnam letter
Judy Nebrig, Margaret Flory papers
New Life Presbyterian Church, Livonia, NY
Oak Ridge Presbyterian Church, Oak Ridge, NJ
Office of the General Assembly
Pacific Presbyterian Church, Pacific, MO
Park Presbyterian Church, Newark, NY
Marty Payne, 1935 General Assembly panoramic photograph
Agnes Peebles, Peebles family papers
Penfield Presbyterian Church, Penfield, NY
Olwen Peterson, J. R. Jones sermons and photograph
Ken Phillips, George Phillips papers
Elizabeth Rue Pink, A. O. Rue papers
Plain Grove United Presbyterian Parish, Plain Grove, PA
Pleasant Run Presbyterian Church, Cincinnati, OH
Plymouth Presbyterian Church, Plymouth, MN
Kerry Poethig, Kerry Poethig papers
Presbyterian Church of Floyd, VA
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Investment and Loan Program
Presbyterian Foundation
Presbyterian Mission Agency
Presbyterian Publishing Corporation
Presbytery of Albany
Presbytery of Arkansas
Presbytery of Boston
Presbytery of Carlisle
Presbytery of Chicago
Presbytery of Cincinnati
Presbytery of Coastal Carolina
Presbytery of Denver
Presbytery of Des Moines
Presbytery of East Iowa
Presbytery of Eastern Oregon
Presbytery of Genesee Valley
Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy
Presbytery of Glacier
Presbytery of Grace
Presbytery of Great Rivers
Presbytery of Hudson River
Presbytery of Huntington
Presbytery of Indian Nations
Presbytery of the Inland Northwest
Presbytery of Kiskiminetas
Presbytery of Long Island
Presbytery of Maumee Valley
Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky
Presbytery of Monmouth
Presbytery of National Capital
Presbytery of New Castle
Presbytery of New Hope
Presbytery of New York City
Presbytery of Newark
Presbytery of North Central Iowa
Presbytery of Northern New England
Presbytery of Northwest Coast
Presbytery of Palo Duro
Presbytery of the Peaks
Presbytery of Philadelphia
Presbytery of Pittsburgh
Presbytery of the Redwoods
Presbytery of San Diego
Presbytery of San Gabriel
Presbytery of Santa Barbara
Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois
Presbytery of Southern Kansas
Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley
Presbytery of Tampa Bay
Presbytery of Transylvania
Presbytery of Wabash Valley
Presbytery of Winnebago
Providence Presbyterian Church, Burlington, NJ
Lil Rea, Harry C. Gray Bible
Elisa Redfield, William H. Marbach correspondence
Betsy Rice, Theron Rice papers
Ridley Park Presbyterian Church, Ridley Park, PA
José Colón Rodríguez, José Colón Rodríguez papers
Susan Seipp, 1962 General Mission Program phonograph record
Sewickley Presbyterian Church, Sewickley, PA
J. Barrie Shepherd, J. Barrie Shepherd papers
Diane Shoaf, Y. Jacqueline Rhoades slides
Peter Sime, Peter Sime papers
South Presbyterian Church, Rochester, NY
Strasburg Presbyterian Church, Strasburg, PA
Mike Stuart, Mike Stuart papers
Sunny Hills Community Presbyterian Church, Chipley, FL
Tabernacle Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, PA
Lou Tharp, Lou Tharp history
Cecil Thompson, Cecil Thompson slides and photographs
Sylvia Thorson-Smith, Voices of Sophia records
Bobette Timmermann, Friedrich Wilhelm Lemmke confirmation certificate
Trinity Presbyterian Church, Dallas, PA
Eugene Turner, Eugene Turner papers
Valmont Community Presbyterian Church, Boulder, CO
Village Presbyterian Church, Village, KS
West Nottingham Presbyterian Church, Colora, MD
Westminster Gardens Library
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Westminster, CO
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Grand Rapids, MI
Westwood Presbyterian Church, Los Angeles, CA
Charles and Betsy Wiley, 1988 General Assembly slides
Dr. Zhong Yunpeng, Logan family photographs

PHS makes every effort to accurately maintain its donor and collection listings. If you find an error or omission, please contact the development office at 215-928-3865 or email: development@history.pcusa.org

Recent works by PHS Researchers are featured on our website all year
www.history.pcusa.org/recentworks
Last summer the General Assembly overwhelmingly approved an overtue to recognize the prophetic witness of Rev. Henry Highland Garnet, an African American pastor who in 1865 preached to the U.S. Congress about the end of slavery. Download the free Heritage Sunday bulletin insert from our website: www.history.pcusa.org/hs