

EXTANT GERMAN CHURCH RECORDS FROM VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA: A CHECKLIST

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The format of the checklist of the extant German church records in Virginia and West Virginia differs somewhat from the Maryland list preceding it in this REPORT. All registers in which German was used have been included, thus extending its scope into the 1840's. Much of what Pastor Frederick S. Weiser has written in the introduction to his Maryland list applies to the Virginia records as well.

Church records have become a major research source for genealogists. When early family Bibles or tombstones no longer exist, there are few sources which establish vital statistics and parentage of individuals until 1853 when Virginia first required births and deaths to be registered with the courts. Church records often provide information which is not preserved in any other record.

No extensive survey of the church records written in the German language in the Virginias has been published. Church and denominational histories have not included records of individuals from the registers. Early efforts of several historians are responsible for many of the German registers of the Virginia churches to be located in a central location.

Almost forty-five years ago Dr. J. Silor Garrison assembled a number of records of the Reformed Church and had photostats made of selected volumes for deposit with the Virginia State Library. Dr. Frank L. Crone performed a similar service with respect to the Lutheran church records so that registers of seventeen churches were available at the Virginia State Library by 1958 when Francis Coleman Rosenberger published a brief assessment of these documents as genealogical sources.

William J. Hinke and Charles E. Kemper published the records of Peaked Mountain in 1905-6. William J. Finck, pastor (1912-1931) of Emmanuel Church, New Market, transcribed and translated not only several church records, but also diaries of Christian Streit and Paul Henkel.

Under the direction of William E. Eisenberg preparations were made between 1955 and 1966 for a comprehensive history of the Lutheran church in Virginia. George M. Smith surveyed the entire field on behalf of the Virginia Synod. He listed all surviving records of Lutheran congregations, finding several which were not known to exist at that time. He then made transcripts and translated the portions written in German. The results of this concentrated effort were deposited with the Virginia State Library pending eventual publication. The listing compiled by George Smith in 1966 was the first one indicating the status of all extant German-language records in both Virginias. The Virginia State Library has made full use of this list for the benefit of innumerable family researchers.

Jewell T. Clark and Elizabeth Terry Long have recently compiled an extensive survey of the church records of all denominations in the collection of the Virginia State Library for a forthcoming library publication.

In March of 1971 Ronald A. Bremer of the Research and Field Operations Department of the Genealogical Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints initiated the microfilming project for Mormon purposes which has also proved beneficial to researchers. These films can be ordered at the Mormon branch libraries.

Most of the earliest records have never been located although a surprisingly large number of registers have survived the ravages of time and wars. World War I in particular led many organizations and individuals all over the country to divest themselves of vestiges of a German past. The Reformed register of the Germanna and Germantown churches begun by Pastor Henry Haeger soon after 1714 and most records of Hebron Lutheran Church from 1733-1774 appear to be lost. The registers for both Lutheran and Reformed of the Woodstock area and of several West Virginia churches have never been found. The first register of Hawksbill Church was reportedly destroyed during the Civil War. Repeated inquiries in Ceres, Bland County, where the German register of Sharon Lutheran Church is allegedly held by a private party, have been fruitless.

The Virginias had about thirty-one German congregations in 1776. By 1793 there were about sixty-three. While records have not been found for some of these congregations it is encouraging that unknown records are occasionally discovered. About 1953 the ledger (1779-1872) of St. John's Church in Augusta County was sold by an individual to an antiquarian in New Jersey who contacted Klaus Wust. Through the efforts of Wust and the University of Virginia Library, the latter purchased the ledger in 1958. The memorandum book of the Rev. Johannes Braun has been found and published. One of the records of the two German churches of New Market has only recently surfaced.

The registers contain generally the same type of records. Baptisms were always recorded, usually including dates of birth. Very few burials were entered. Marriages were rarely noted, perhaps due to the fact that ministers were required to submit lists of the contracting parties with date of marriage to the courts. Some of these Ministers' Returns have survived. Some couples were married by the ecclesiastical practice of publishing banns and no bonds were secured through the courts.

The registers frequently contain additional records not shown in the following checklist which is limited to records written in the German language. They include deeds to church property and administrative matters. Photostats at the Virginia State Library often include loose papers which had been inserted in the registers. Some volumes which succeed the ones shown in this checklist are available at the churches or in various institutions.

Researchers should be aware that entries are not always in chronological order. Early communicant and confirmation lists can often be found near the back of the books with later records. The translations do not always include all of the lengthy communicant lists and sometimes the later English entries were

not transcribed along with the translations. Records in this listing may be found in repositories other than the ones shown.

This checklist, as any such endeavor, would have been impossible without the willing cooperation of numerous individuals. Special thanks are due to George M. Smith, Administrator of Woodlawn Plantation, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Klaus Wust, editor of the *Shenandoah Genealogical Source Books* series; Grace Showalter, Menno Simon Historical Library, Eastern Mennonite College; Jane Pairo, Virginia State Library; Micheal Plunkett, Manuscript Division, University of Virginia Libraries; Beryl B. Maurer, West Virginia University; Mary Harter, editor of the *Henckel Genealogical Bulletin*, and Frederick S. Weiser, editor of the publications of the Pennsylvania German Society.

Abbreviations:

- CSD "Christian Streit Diary, 1785-1788," (see Major Sources).
DAR Daughters of the American Revolution Library, Washington, DC.
EMC Eastern Mennonite College Historical Library, Harrisonburg, VA.
ERHS Historical Society of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, Lancaster, PA.
H-RPL The Harrisonburg-Rockingham Public Library, Harrisonburg, VA.
LTS-G Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg, PA.
SVFD *Shenandoah Valley Family Data* (see Major Sources).
UVL-M University of Virginia Library, Manuscripts, Charlottesville, VA.
VSL Virginia State Library, Richmond, VA.
WCFL Washington County Free Library, Hagerstown, MD.
WVU West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV.

Major Sources: (Additional sources are given throughout the checklist.)

Jewel T. Clark and Elizabeth Terry Long, "Lutheran and German Reformed Church Records," *A Guide to Church Records in the Archives Branch of Virginia State Library* (Virginia State Library, TS, planned publication).

William E. Eisenberg, *The Lutheran Church in Virginia 1717-1962* (Lynchburg, Va., 1967).

William J. Finck (trans.), "The Diary of Christian Streit, 1785-1788," pp. 823-65 in William E. Eisenberg, *This Heritage* (Winchester, Va., 1954).

J. Silor Garrison, *The History of the Reformed Church in Virginia 1714-1940* (Winston Salem, 1948).

Charles H. Glatfelter, *Pastors and People: German Lutheran and Reformed Churches in the Pennsylvania Field, 1717-1793*, Vol. I (Breinigsville: Pennsylvania German Society, 1980).

Francis C. Rosenberger, "German Church Records of the Shenandoah Valley As a Genealogical Source," *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, LXVI (1958), 195-200.

Klaus Wust, trans, and ed., *Shenandoah Valley Family Data 1799-1813: From the Memorandum Book of Pastor Johannes Braun* (Edinburg, Va., Shenandoah History, 1978).

AUGUSTA COUNTY

Crimora

Bethany-Trinity Church (Keinadt's, Coyner's)

Lutheran, 1788 until present.
Records: 1771-1847; 106 leaves; In German until 1830's.
Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.
Transcripts and translations: George M. Smith, 1969. Some English and German communicant lists omitted.
Holdings: VSL (transcript and translation).

Near Staunton

Brown's Church

Lutheran (and Reformed ?); extinct in early 1800's.
Records: None known to exist.
Note: The 1809 List of Congregations in the Lutheran Conference Minutes shows, "Brown's Church, near Staunton."

New Hope

Eggel's Church (Eagle's, Round Hill)

Lutheran and Reformed (Since 1780's).
Records: None known to exist.
Published: SVFD—1802 confirmation list (with ages).
Note: Under the care of Rev. Johannes Braun as late as 1825.

Mt. Solon

Emanuel's Church (Drohrbach's, St. Paul's)

Lutheran
Records: 1801-1856; 78 pages; In German until 1830's.
Baptisms
Transcripts and translations: George M. Smith, 1966.
Holdings: VSL (microfilm of original, translation).
EMC (xerox of original, three later volumes).

Middlebrook

St. John's Church

Lutheran 1779 until 1839 when they built Mt. Tabor; Reformed 1779 until present.
Records: 1779-1872; 375 pages; In German until 1830's.
Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists, some burials.
Original: UVL-M (Accession number 5794).

Transcripts and translations: Translated by Angelica Powell, 1972, for Peggy S. Joyner who presented the church with a bound copy of complete photocopy of original, translation, index.

Holdings: The church (Joyner copy may be seen at the church by appointment); UVL-M.

Published: Peggy S. Joyner, "St. John's Church 1779-1839," *Augusta Historical Bulletin*, Vol. 10 (Fall, 1974). (History of the church and the ledger).

SVFD—two member lists in 1801, four confirmation lists.

Churchville

St. Peter's Church (Jenning's Branch, Genissen's Gap)

Lutheran 1790 until present; Reformed 1790-1837.

Records: 1787-1905; 336 pages; In German until 1830's.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Transcripts and translations: Ilse M. Martin and George M. Smith, 1966; entries after 1844 in English and not transcribed.

Holdings: VSL (microfilm of original, translation).

Published: SVFD—1799 Congregational Roll, confirmations (with ages and notes) 1800, 1804, 1810, 1813.

Seawright Springs

Salem Church

Lutheran 1802 until present; Reformed 1802-1850's, joined St. Michael's congregation, Rockingham Co .

Records: 1804-1854; 246 pages; In German until ca. 1824.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Transcripts and translations: With filmed copy of register is a page by page translation, author unknown.

Holdings: VSL (microfilm of original with translation).

Published: SVFD—two confirmation lists (with ages), 1810, 1813.

Note: At the back of the register, out of sequence, are 50 pages of lists, 1812-1842. Paul Henkel preached here as early as 1789 in a German schoolhouse.

BLAND COUNTY

Ceres

Sharon Church

Lutheran and Reformed (1817).

Records: Reported to be privately held.

BOTETOURT COUNTY

Howrytown (Greenville)

Brick Union Church

Lutheran and Reformed (Since ca. 1796).

Records: None known to exist.

Springwood

St. Mark's (Copp's)

Lutheran and Reformed (organized prior to 1815).

Records: None known to exist.

Glen Wilton (Locust Bottom)

Zion Church

Lutheran and Reformed (1786).

Records: None known to exist.

Published: Confirmation List of Dec. 2, 1787 by Paul Henkel in Kelley,
200 Years in the Shenandoah Valley, 188.

CLARKE COUNTY

Stone Chapel

Stein's Church (Jacob's, St. James)

Lutheran 1783-1900; Reformed 1783-1886.

Records: No German register extant. CSD contains Confirmands List,
Whitsunday 1786, Communion List Dec. 1786 and some burials.

Note: Stone Chapel was located in the north-west corner of Clarke County.

FAUQUIER COUNTY

Germantown

Reformed only. Organized 1714 at Germanna (now Orange County).

Records: None known to exist.

FLOYD COUNTY

Floyd

Zion Church (Little River)

Lutheran and Reformed

Records: 1793-1855; 107 leaves; In German until 1830's.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Transcript and translation: George M. Smith, 1967.

Holdings: VSL (photostat of original, translation)

FREDERICK COUNTY

Winchester

Winchester Ev. Luth. Church (now Grace Church)

Lutheran only (organized in the 1750's)

Records: No early records known to be extant.

Published: William Edward Eisenberg, *This Heritage* (Winchester, 1954) contains (p. 27) Membership List, April 1764; (pp. 73-74) Subscription List for Pastors' Salaries, August 1790 and (pp. 323-365) Diary of Christian Streit, July 19, 1785 to Nov. 28, 1788 with the following information: 85 baptisms (including birth dates, names of parents and sponsors; 155 marriages, mostly in Frederick Co. but also some in Shenandoah and Hampshire; 42 funerals (a few with birthplace in Europe) and the Communion List for Easter 1786. Appended is the Family Record of Christian Streit.

German Reformed Church (Centenary United Church of Christ)

Reformed only. Organized prior to 1757.

Records: 1789-1908 (mostly after 1840); 91 leaves; Some German entries. Baptisms 1808-1824 "gathered and transcribed from the old Church book kept at Shepherdstown . . .;" Marriages 1789-1795; Communicant list 1804.

Holdings: VSL (photostat of original).

Note: Some records of Smithfield Church, Berkeley, W.Va. are included.

Ninevah

Pine Hills Church (St. Joseph)

Lutheran and Reformed (organized in 1760's)

Records: No early church register known to exist.

Published: CSD—Some of Rev. Streifs entries 1785-88 might refer to members of this congregation.

Old Furnace

St. John's Church (Gravel Spring Parish)

Lutheran 1787 until present; Reformed during early stages.

Records: Register begun in 1793. Present whereabouts unknown.

Published: CSD has list of confirmands, April 1788.

Stephens City

Trinity Church (Newtown)

Lutheran and Reformed since 1760's. Reformed discontinued 1838.

Records: None known to exist.

Published: CSD has list of confirmands, June 1786.

GRAYSON COUNTY

Elk Creek

St. John's Church (Elk Creek)

Lutheran and Reformed (in existence 1790-1815, extinct)

Records: None known to exist.

LOUDOUN COUNTY

Lovettsville

New Jerusalem Church

Lutheran until present; Reformed (See St. James)

Records: 1784-1836; 149 leaves; German to ca. 1830.

Baptisms, communicant lists, marriages, deaths.

Transcript and translation: George Smith, 1967. This is a complete translation of all baptisms, marriages, deaths which appear in German. Only a few of the numerous communicant lists are transcribed .

Holdings: VSL (photostat of original, translation); LTS-G; National Genealogical Society; Salt Lake City; Original at the church.

Published: Lists of Confirmations by Pastor John Andrew Krug appear in the register of the Ev. Lutheran Church in Frederick, Maryland for the following dates: May 27, 1772 (pp. 192/3); November 7, 1773 (p. 194); May 20, 1775 and September 2, 1775 (both on p. 195). Krug served the Lutherans in Loudoun County. Published in translation by Frederick S. Weiser in *Maryland Magazine of Genealogy* III (1980), 51-66.

German Reformed Church (St. James)

Reformed only (See New Jerusalem)

Records: 1789-1859; 88 leaves; In German until 1823.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists, new member lists.

Transcript and translation: George M. Smith, 1967. All records through page 111 of the original (baptisms, 1851) and constitution, membership list of 1789.

Holdings: VSL (photostat of original, translation).

Note: Communion and confirmation lists of Aug. 2, 1767 were entered by Rev. Charles Lange in the register of the Reformed Church in Frederick, Md.

MADISON COUNTY

Madison

Hebron Church

Lutheran only (1717)

Records: 1735-1947 (UVL-M); In German.

Bound administrative volumes, pastors' records, baptisms, Communion Book (Accession no. 5988).

1750-1866 (VSL); 329 pages; In German.

Baptisms, deaths 1848, communion and confirmation lists (some with ages).

Holdings: VSL (microfilm of original); UVL-M (microfilm of original).

Published: William P. Huddle, *History of the Hebron Lutheran Church, Madison County, Virginia from 1717 to 1907*, (New Market, 1908).

Note: In preparation—translation of the Hebron records by George M. Smith, scheduled for publication by Shenandoah History, Edinburg, Va. in October 1981.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Blacksburg (New River)

St. Peter's Church (Price's, St. Michael's)

Lutheran 1755 until present; Reformed 1755 until 1820's.

Records: 1793-1842; 97 pages; In German until late 1820's.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Holdings: VSL (microfilm of original) .

Published: SVFD—confirmation list 1808. Two translations have been printed. Neither is complete or follows arrangement of the original.

U. S. A. Heavener, *German New River Settlement: Virginia* (1928, rpt., Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1976).

General James Breckinridge Chapter, DAR, *Marriages, Births, and Deaths from Virginia and East Tennessee Lutheran Church in American Records, 1776-1935*, (Roanoke, 1969).

PAGE COUNTY

Luray

Hawksbill Church (Mt. Calvary)

Lutheran and Reformed 1765-1832; Lutheran only 1832-1959

Records: 1817-1850's; ca. 110 pages; In German.

Baptisms, communion and confirmation lists.

Original: Privately held. Inquiries at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Luray.

Transcripts and translations: William J. Finck, 1928; Klaus Wust, 1978.
Holdings: VSL (transcript and translation).
Published: Klaus Wust, *The Record of Hawksbill Church 1788-1850* (Edinburg: Shenandoah History, 1979). [With complete index.]

Alma

St. Luke's Church (Steinberger's)

Lutheran and Reformed (Organized ca. 1780)

Records: None known to exist.

Published: Confirmation List of May 1, 1788 by Paul Henkel in Kelley, *200 Years in the Shenandoah Valley*, 185.

Shenandoah

St. Peter's Church (Naked Creek)

Lutheran until present; Reformed now extinct

Records: 1776-1826; 31 leaves; In German.

Baptisms (Only surnames " A-J " survive)

Transcripts and translations: William J. Finck with index by Carol Weaver; George M. Smith, 1964.

Holdings: VSL (xerox of register, Smith translation); EMC (translation); H-RPL (xerox of original, typed transcript and translation).

Published: General James Breckenridge Chapter, DAR, *Marriages, Births, Deaths from Virginia and East Tennessee Lutheran Church in American Records* (Roanoke, 1969).

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

Keezletown

Ermentraut's Church (Armentrout's, St. Phillip's, Trinity)

Lutheran 1787 until present; Reformed 1787 until 1800's

Records: 1787, 1798-1864; 78 leaves; In German as late as 1850.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists, subscription list 1787.

Chronology out of order on film. Photostat includes several items not used on film.

Transcript and translator: Rev. A. S. Leiby, 1934.

Holdings: VSL (photostat and microfilm); EMC (xerox of above register and a later one); H-RPL (mimeo. of Kaylor transcript).

Published: SVFD—1799 Roll of Armentrout's and 1801 confirmation list (with ages and notes).

Note: Ermentraut's and Kieseltaun congregations were united by Rev. Johannes Braun in 1799 as Ermentraut's.

Mt. Crawford

Frieden's Church

Lutheran 1762-1922; Reformed 1762-present

Records: Vol. 1, 1786-1834; 164 leaves; In German and English from 1812;
Vol. 2, 1834-1897 is also at VSL.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists, 1782 deed.

Transcript and translation: Rev. A. S. Leiby, Easton, Pa., 1936.

Holdings: VSL (microfilm, photostat—two volumes); EMC (xerox of original, Leiby translation, Vol. 1.); ERHS (abstracts 1786-1801 on Film 144); H-RPL (mimeo. of Leiby transcript).

Published: SVFD has Congregational Rolls for 1799 and 1800 and seven confirmation lists between 1800-1812 (some with ages).

McGaheysville

Peaked Mountain Church (Upper Peaked Mt., Stoney Creek)

Lutheran until 1935; Reformed until 1885

Records: Vol. 1, 1745-1802; 36 leaves; In German.

Baptisms 1742-1802, a few communicant lists, marriages 1762-1795, burials 1795.

Vol. 2, 1745-1882; 154 leaves; German with English as early as 1811.

Contains transcribed records from Vol. 1 with continuing records: baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Confirmations by Rev. Charles Lange on May 9, 1768 are recorded in the Reformed Church register of Frederick, Maryland.

Transcript and translations: W. F. Pence, William J. Hinke, Charles E. Kemper. This appears to be the same as the William and Mary Quarterly translation, but many penned corrections and additions have been inserted.

Holdings: Original of Vol. 1 in Archives of the Virginia Synod, Roanoke. VSL (photostat of original two volumes); EMC (typescript of above translation); ERHS (records 1760-1802, Film 144); H-RPL (baptisms and communicants, 1791-1880, Hinke translation; carbon copy of transcript, DAR chapter).

Published: William J. Hinke, Charles E. Kemper, "Record of Peaked Mountain Church," *William, and Mary College Quarterly*, Series I, Vols. 13 and 14 (1905-1906).

SVFD—1799 subscription list and five confirmation lists (showing ages) 1799-1813.

Timberville

Rader's Church

Lutheran and Reformed 1745 (?) - 1878; each built a separate church.

Records: Five volumes 1772-1908. In German until 1830's.

Vol. 1—1772-1884; 185 leaves.

Contains baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Vol. 2—1787-1796; 27 leaves.

This photostat at VSL appears to be the original register.

These records seem to have been transcribed into the register, 1772-1884, but not in the same order.

Vol. 3—1883-1908; 57 leaves.

Continuation of earlier registers.

Transcripts and translations:

Vol. 4—1772-1884; 134 leaves.

Christopher H. Droegenmueller and Leslie A. Miller, 1926, typescript translation, includes most items from Vol. 1.

Vol. 5—1806-1887; 62 leaves.

H. L. Shuetz and Leslie A. Miller, 1927, translation. Referred to as a "Supplement," the records included are from a volume or collection not available at the Virginia State Library. It has been suggested that these records were kept separately by the Reformed members. Included are baptisms, communicant lists 1817-1819.

Holdings: VSL (5 volumes above, all photostats); EMC (Register 1772-1884, xerox, a translation); ERHS (some records, not specified or filmed); Virginia Historical Society, Richmond (translation and "Supplement").

Published: SVFD—three confirmation lists, 1801, 1803, 1812.

Jerome P. Stirewalt, *A Brief History of Rader's Lutheran Church 1765-1921*, (New Market, Va., 1922).

Note: Confirmations by Rev. Charles Lange (Reformed) on April 17, 1768 are contained in the Frederick (Maryland) Reformed register.

Singer's Glen

St. John's Church

Lutheran 1808-1956; Reformed 1808 - ca. 1850.

Holdings: EMC (xerox of hand copy of original 1825-1954 by J. Robert Swank).

Published: SVFD has one confirmation list for 1813.

Bridgewater (near Augusta County line)

Weiss Church (now St. Michael's)

Lutheran 1764-1802; Reformed until present

Records: 1789-1890; 122 pages; In German until 1830's.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists. In the back of register are German entries for 1789-1802.

Holdings: VSL (microfilm of original); EMC (xerox of original).

Published: SVFD has two confirmation lists for 1801, 1806.

SHENANDOAH COUNTY

New Market

Davidsburg Church (Reformation)

Lutheran and Reformed 1790-1819; Lutheran only 1820 until present

Records: 1790-1830's; 131 pages; In German.

Birth and baptisms, congregational rolls 1801-1822, a few communicant lists and marriages.

Original: Reformation Church.

Transcript and translation: Being made by John Stewart.

Woodstock

Emmanuel Church

Lutheran and Reformed (1767)

Records: No known register.

Note: Confirmations by Rev. Charles Lange on April 10, 1768 are recorded in the Reformed Church register of Frederick, Maryland. The Lutheran register in Frederick, Md. has 28 confirmations at Woodstock for June 22, 1772, pages 196-197. The Muhlenberg Register, 1772-1782 with records of the Woodstock area, is in English. George M. Smith found 463 baptisms, 158 marriages and six funerals in Muhlenberg's handwriting bound into Volume 2 of the Shenandoah County Marriage Register for 1850-1856.

Published: Confirmations on June 22, 1772 (p. 193) of Frederick, Maryland, Lutheran Churchbook) in *Maryland Magazine of Genealogy* III (1980), 55-56.

Saumsville

Frieden's Church (St. Matthew's)

Lutheran 1806 (?) until present; Reformed 1806 (?) until 1868

Records: 1821-1871; 103 leaves; A few entries in German.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Holdings: VSL (photostat of original).

Note: Lutheran and Reformed records are in one register, but can be identified because ministers' names were used.

Conicville

Jacob's Church

Lutheran until 1884; Reformed until present

Records: None known to exist.

Forestville

Pine Church (Rude's Hill)

Lutheran until 1873, now St. Mary's; Reformed until 1873, now Grace, both near Mt. Jackson

Records: 1757-1869; 128 leaves; In German until 1820-1840.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists 1826-1869, a few death records.

Original: UVL-M.

Holdings: VSL (photostat of original and one later volume); UVL-M (original and microfilm 1783-1948—Accession no. 10391).

Published: Arthur P. Kelley, *200 Years in the Shenandoah Valley, The Settlers and Their Pine Church, With Records Made by Paul Henkel* (Stephens City, VA., 1973). A faulty translation and numerous errors together with a weird introduction make Dr. Kelley's book a source to be used with caution.

Powell's Fort

St. David's Church

Lutheran and Reformed (begun in 1788)

Records: No early ones known to exist.

Holdings: VSL (xerox of a register 1825-1913).

Published: Confirmation List of August 24, 1788 by Paul Henkel in Kelley, *200 Years in the Shen. Valley*, 185.

Strasburg

St. Paul's Church (Dutch Chapel)

Lutheran and Reformed 1747 to ca. 1857; Lutheran only from ca. 1857

Records: 1769-1860; 148 leaves; In German until 1820's-1830's.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Transcript and translation: George M. Smith, n.d.

Holdings: VSL (photostat, microfilm of Smith translation and three later volumes 1877-1973 on microfilm).

Published: Confirmations on October 28, 1771 (p. 191 of Frederick, Maryland, Lutheran Churchbook) in *Maryland Magazine of Genealogy* III (1980), 53.

Note: John Caspar Stoever, Jr. entered baptisms in his records in 1736 and 1739 which suggest he may have extended his Opequon ministry to the Strasburg area. Some of the Opequon, Shenandoah and Massanutten entries in Stoever's register were also recorded in the Lancaster County, Pa. register. (See Glatfelter, p. 485). Confirmations and a Communion List of August 30, 1767 were entered by the Rev. Charles Lange in the register of the Reformed Church in Frederick, Maryland.

Forestville

Solomon's Church

Lutheran 1793 until present; Reformed 1793-1851

Records: 1793-1858; 125 leaves; In German until ca. 1820.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Transcript and translation: George M. Smith, 1968.

Holdings: VSL (photostat of original bound with Pine Church Register 1757-1869, translation).

Edinburg

Zion Church (Stony Creek)

Lutheran 1780-1892 (now Zion); Reformed 1780-1892 (now St. John's)

Records: 1786-1876; 257 pages; In German until 1820's.

Two volumes bound together: Lutheran, 163 pages; Reformed, 94 pages.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Transcripts and translations: Ilse M. Martin and George M. Smith. (English records not transcribed.) Harry M. Strickler, 1944.

Holdings: VSL (microfilm of register, typescript of Martin-Smith translation) ; EMC (Strickler translation).

SMYTH COUNTY

Marion

Ebenezer Church (Mt. Zion)

Lutheran (and Reformed) since 1799.

Records: None known to exist.

WYTHE COUNTY

Black Lick

Kummerling's Church (Kimberlin)

Lutheran and Reformed

Records: 1797-1893; 80 leaves; German until 1830's.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Transcript and translation: Albert H. Gerberich.

Holdings: VSL (photostat of a transcript with translation of the German as it was entered; xerox of the above register, with index. Title on the cover calls it "The Evangelical Lutheran Congregation on Rith Creek."

Wytheville

St. John's Church

Lutheran 1798-1924; Reformed 1798-1851

Records: 1800-1892; 122 leaves; In German until ca. 1833.

Baptisms, 1800 subscription list.

Transcript and translation: Rev. William J. Finck, translation 1800-1836 (New Market, 1935).

Holdings: VSL (photostat of original, translation).

Published: Frederick B. Kegley and Mary B. Kegley, *St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Wythe County, Virginia, Its Pastors and Their Records, 1800-1924, With Its Branches: Lebanon, 1851; Holy Trinity, 1876; St. Luke's, 1888; and Holy Advent. ..., 1961.*

Rural Retreat

St. Paul's Church

Lutheran and Reformed (1776)

Records: 1776-1881; 49 leaves; In German until ca. 1833.

Baptisms

Transcript and translation: Rev. William J. Finck, 1939.

Holdings: VSL (photostat of original bound with translation).

Crockett

Zion Church (Cripple Creek)

Lutheran and Reformed (1791)

Records: 1791-1930; 83 leaves; In German until ca. 1835.

Baptisms

Transcript and translation: German records, 1791-1835, William J. Finck, 1934.

Holdings: VSL (photostat and translation).

WEST VIRGINIA
BERKELEY COUNTY

Gerrardstown

Gerrardstown Church (Scherersburg)

Lutheran (and Reformed?)

Records: None known to exist.

Martinsburg

Martinsburg Church

Lutheran and Reformed ca. 1779-1832; now St. John's Lutheran and Christ United Church of Christ.

Records: A register was begun in 1782 with earliest entry for 1779.

Original: LTS-G (1779-1784).

GREENBRIER COUNTY

Lewisburg

Lewisburg Church

Lutheran and Reformed (ca. 1782-1825)

Records: None extant.

Published: SVFD—Communicants List, 1803, Confirmation List (with ages), 1808.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY

Intermont

Hebron Church (Capon Lake, Great Capon)

Lutheran 1786 - (?); Reformed 1786-1813

Records: 1784-1886; 148 pages; In German until 1821.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Transcript and translation: Ilse M. Martin and George M. Smith (1786-1850), 1966. Few of the English entries are transcribed.

Holdings: VSL (microfilm of original, translation).

Published: William Blum, "Hebron Evangelical Lutheran Church, Intermont, W.Va.," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* XXXVIII (1950), 6-8.

HARDY COUNTY

Petersburg

North Mill Creek Church

Lutheran and Reformed (ca. 1765)

Records: 1791-1889; 109 pages; In German as late as 1850.

Baptisms—ca. 1796-1797 with earlier entries beginning in 1771; deaths: 1793-1803; communicant lists—Reformed (more numerous than Lutheran) begin in 1797, Lutheran begin 1799 and all are listed in back of ledger; confirmation lists—32 confirmands in 1791 with next list dated 1797.

Original: Grace Lutheran Church, Petersburg.

Transcripts and translations: An unknown person made a confusing, inaccurate translation around the entries in the original. A widely circulated WPA translation is filled with inaccuracies. A new translation is in progress by John V. Beck, Bloomington, Ind.

Holdings: WVU (microfilm of original, WPA translation); DAR (WPA translation).

Published: Undated Confirmation List (ca. 1788) in Kelley, *200 Years in the Shenandoah Valley*, 184. Confirmation List of Nov. 20, 1792 in *Henczel Genealogical Bulletin* XII (1981), 479. Both lists by Rev. Paul Henkel who scattered such material among his diaries.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Shepherdstown

Shepherdstown Church (St. Peter's Lutheran, Christ Reformed)

Lutheran 1765-1795; Reformed 1765- (?); Presbyterian 1765-1790.

Records: Lutheran records begin 1791; Reformed begin 1782.

Original: Lutheran register at St. Peter's Church.

Transcripts and translators: Reformed—Electa Ziegler, 1782-1844; Lutheran—Gladys Hartzell, 1791-1818.

Holdings: Reformed—WCFL; DAR.

Published: Gladys Hartzell, *On This Rock: The Story of St. Peter's Church 1765-1965* (Shepherdstown, 1970). Records for 1791-1818 published by Walter M. Duke, "The Early Churches of Shepherdstown," *The Shepherd College Bulletin*, Vol. XVI, (March, April 1910).

Middleway (Smithfield)

Smithfield Church

Lutheran 1793-1900; Reformed 1793-1913

Records: 1792-1826; 54 pages.

Some records of this congregation are included in the register of Winchester German Reformed Church, Frederick County, Va.

Note: On the George Smith survey of church records, this original with a translation was shown at VSL. The new VSL listing does not include it.

PENDLETON COUNTY

Upper Tract

Mallo's Church (Mt. Hope, Upper Tract)

Lutheran 1797-1888; Reformed 1797-1850

Records: 1813-1860; 77 pages; In German until 1830's.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Original: privately held.

Transcript and translation: George M. Smith, 1966. (English records not transcribed. See publication below which contains all entries from the ledger.)

Holdings: VSL (microfilm of original, translation).

Published: O. R. Mallo, *Records of Mallo's Church, Upper Tract, (West) Virginia* (Harrisonburg, 1967). Translated by George Smith.

Riverton

North Fork Church

Lutheran and Reformed (1760's to 1860's)

Records: None known to exist.

Published: Confirmation List of October 13, 1789 by Paul Henkel in Kelley, *200 Years in the Shenandoah Valley*, 188.

Note: In 1767 Rev. Charles Lange confirmed 17 and administered communion to 34 in this area. Recorded in the register of the Frederick (Maryland) Reformed Church.

Brandywine

Probst Church

Lutheran 1760's-1940; Reformed 1760's-

Records: 1813-1855; 115 pages; In German until ca. 1832.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Transcript and translation: George M. Smith, 1966.

Holdings: VSL (microfilm of original, translation).

Sugar Grove

Wildfang's Church (St. Michael's)

Lutheran and Reformed

Records: 1807-1881; 206 pages; In German until 1830's.

Baptisms, communicant and confirmation lists.

Transcript and translation: (1807-1842) George M. Smith, 1966. (Some German lists, 1820-1825, are not translated and some English records are not transcribed.)

Holdings: VSL (microfilm of original, translation).

PRESTON COUNTY

Aurora

Salem Church (St. Paul's)

Lutheran (and Reformed ?) Pounded in 1787

Original: WVU.

Published: Karl K. Gawer (ed. and transl.), *The Aurora Documents* (Oakland, Md., 1957). A complete translation and transcription of the German portion of the Salem Church records. See also Eldon B. Tucker, "Records of Salem Ev. Luth. Church, Aurora, W.Va.," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* XLIV (1956), 128-133; XLV (1957), 16-20.