

Moravian Archives Sunday 2020

“Documenting Our Churches, Our Families,
and Our Communities since 1753”

Opening Statement

Today we take time to reflect upon and offer prayers of support for the work of our Moravian Archives in the Southern Province. The Archives preserves our church records and our members' memoirs, photographs and lives. All congregations in our Province support the Archives as an important church agency. The Archives makes possible the sharing of the Moravian witness for future church members, our descendants, and those interested in the history of the many communities in which our church has played an important role. Visitors from across our country and the world visit our Archives and its online website and Facebook page to research our stories.

We are grateful for the stewardship of the Archives by Archivist Eric Elliott and Assistant Archivist Nicole Crabbe, and the church members who serve on its governing commission. We are blessed by the Cherokee Nation and Wachovia Historical Society, who support the Archives' book series *Records of the Moravians Among the Cherokees* and its editor Richard Starbuck. We also thank the individuals who sustain the work of the Archives with their gifts of volunteer service and financial support. Today we invite you to celebrate the Archives with us, and prayerfully consider how you might support the Archives' work as a volunteer or financial donor, or in the gift of some of your family records to this shared collection of our stories. With its work, the Archives preserves how God has been “our help in ages past,” and remains “our eternal home.”