Guide to the
Samuel Simon Schmucker Bicentennial
Celebration 1999

Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections & College Archives

Ronald Couchman
Fall 2011
MS – 124: Samuel Simon Schmucker Bicentennial Celebration 1999  
(3 boxes, 70 cubic feet)

Bulk Dates: September, 1996-October, 1999

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Collection Overview
In 1999 three institutions in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, sponsored a series of commemorative occasions in recognition of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Schmucker remembered chiefly for his contributions to education, theology, and social reform in the early American republic. Each of the three sponsors, Gettysburg College, the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, and the Lutheran Historical Society, claim Schmucker as their chief founder. The celebration began with a birthday party at the college on February 28, 1999 with a number of Schmucker’s numerous descendants in attendance. The commemorative series continued with scholarly lectures at the seminary in April and again at the college in September. Displays of Schmucker memorabilia at the seminary and the college added another dimension.

Scope and Content Notes
The official papers of the Schmucker Bicentennial Committee reside in the Archives at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. This collection at the college contains the material retained by Gettysburg College representatives to the committee and internal college documents relating to the program events compiled by the Public Relations Office and the Office of Planned Giving. Of special interest is a review of a research effort conducted within the Office of College Relations to identify the descendants of Samuel Schmucker in order to invite them to the college for the birthday event. This research resulted in the creation of a large family genealogical chart containing the names of 131 descendant of Schmucker. The collection contains correspondence with and personal histories of some of the living descendants.

Series Description
This collection is divided into two Series. **Series 1: Schmucker Bicentennial Planning and Celebration,** includes material relative to the college’s contribution to the Schmucker celebration including internal college correspondence during the planning process, minutes of the Schmucker Bicentennial Planning Committee, review of publications for the event, preparation of a budget in support of the program, and documentation relative to the Committee’s successful application to secure a $3,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Humanities Council. **Series 2: Schmucker Descendants,** documents the College’s efforts to identify the Schmucker descendants and to communicate with as many of the 62 living fourth, fifth and sixth generation members of the family as could be found. This correspondence, which in some cases includes some personal histories, is organized in alphabetical order.
Box 1

1-1 Finding Aid and Collection Overview Information

Series I Schmucker Bicentennial Planning and Celebration
1-2 Correspondence 1996-1997
1-3 Correspondence 1998-1999
1-4 Minutes of the Schmucker Celebration Committee
1-5 Schmucker Celebration Publications
1-6 Celebration Budget
1-7 Pennsylvania Humanities Council Application
1-8 Schedule of Events
1-9 Schmucker Descendants Participation
1-10 Schmucker Legacy

Box 2

Series 2 Schmucker Descendants
2-1 Samuel Schmucker Genealogical Chart
2-2 Genealogy and Family History for Rev. George Schmucker, Samuel’s Cousin
2-3 Addresses of Schmucker Family Members
2-4 Research Preparation
2-5 Artifacts on Loan
2-6 Schmucker/Sadtler Genealogies
2-7 Biographic Sketches of Prominent Schmucker Family Members
2-8 Beidleman, Barkley-Class of 1941
2-9 Beidleman, Edward-Class of 1946
2-10 Carson, Marian
2-11 Coles, Ann Skipwith
2-12 Coles, Robert Tucker
2-13 Croner, Helen Schmucker
2-14 Curry, Wynne
2-15 Day, Joanna
2-16 Eisenhart, William Schmucker
2-17 Eisenzopf, Rev. Robert
2-18 Hayburn, Ann
2-19 Lotspeich, Kay

Box 3

3-1 Messersmith, John and Bertha
3-2 Sadtler, Al B.
3-3 Sadtler, B.M.
3-4 Sadtler, Benjamin B.
3-5 Sadtler, Benjamin Beale
3-6 Sadtler, Bert
For more information about Samuel Simon Schmucker

MS – 023 Papers of Samuel Simon Schmucker and the Schmucker Family
BX 8080 .S3 P37 2000 “The Papers of the Schmucker Bicentennial”; Norman Forness
Editor
BX 8080 .S3 W4 Pioneer in Christian Unity: Samuel Simon Schmucker; Abdel Ross Wentz
CS71 .S355 1937 The Schmucker Family and the Lutheran Church in America; Rev.
Luther Schmucker
Gettysburg Bulletin; “Happy Birthday Samuel” pp. 10-15; Vol. 90, Number 3, Summer 1999
Archives Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg