

Part IV. A GemeinKat Timeline: How Did We Get Here?

- 1990s Peter Library acquisition & retention policy; updated shelf-list cards with the information needed for online cataloging
- 2008 First cataloging with Backstage Library Works; grants from Winston-Salem Foundation and John & Anna Hanes Foundation
- 2010 Grants from Reeves Foundation, Salem Congregation; many others have been requested over the years. Amount received has been less than 8% of the funding applied for as funding agencies have shifted priorities.
- 2014 Nippert bequest allows hiring Barbara Strauss, David Blum, and moving forward.
- 2015 Peter Library converted to Library of Congress (from an in-house system), intershelved with Archives library (ownership is duly noted);
Cataloged of all known published Moravian anthems;
Re-established contact with RISM, began discussions of how to update our materials on their online records
- 2016 Discovery that musical incipits can be encoded for RISM and records linked to GemeinKat (OCLC) – allows capture of all of the information on the original catalog cards;
Part-time staff learn to encode incipits and begin this monumental task;
Nola reports to board that the project is going to be much more costly than originally thought, as the RISM incipit coding adds significant staff time. Nola presents outline to board that project may cost \$825,000.
GoFundMe campaign raises a disappointing few thousand dollars. Special appeal letter results are also disappointing. Board approved expenditures up to \$850,000.
- 2017 Barbara and Dave make a number of presentations at scholarly conferences
- 2018 Dave becomes Research Librarian, salary folded into MMF operating budget
Grant requests continue to bring in small amounts (total of \$23,000 in 2018-19)
- 2019 Board allocates up to \$100,000 from Festival funds to support project
- 2019-20 RISM protocol changes require some changes in how we manage things, causing delay in when we could submit records for their processing
- 2020 Pandemic brings work in Bethlehem to a halt for 3 months, slows work in Winston-Salem
- 2021 Work focuses on finding aids, completing incipit writing, and completing work in Bethlehem. Review of entire project and steps needed for total completion, noting that the 1970s project was never completed.
OCLC releases a new interface (how users see the product), requiring some decisions regarding layout, color, etc., that will appear on all our records. Amount of time this will take is not known.
- 2022-4 Project brought to completion (insofar as any cataloging project is finished); project staff are released with MMF's everlasting gratitude. Catalog is maintained going forward by Research Librarian.