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**Gustavus Adolphus College, Lutheran Church Archives,
St. Peter, Minnesota**

**Bethesda Hospital. Documents Concerning the Establishment and
History of Bethesda Hospital and Deaconess Home in St. Paul,
Minnesota, 1883-1969.**

LCA Collection 134

Bethesda Hospital. Documents Concerning the Establishment and History of Bethesda Hospital and Deaconess Home in St. Paul, Minnesota, 1883-1969. LCA Collection 134. ½ Hollinger box, 1 cassette box, and 1 oversize folder.

ABSTRACT:

The Bethesda Hospital collection contains information on the organization's history, as well as secretarial minutes from meetings of the Tabitha Society. The society was created by the Lutheran Minnesota Conference in 1880 to establish and maintain a hospital. The history of the Bethesda Hospital is provided through an essay, newspaper articles, and an annual report on the Bethesda Hospital and Deaconess Home. The Constitution and Rules of Order, created for Bethesda Hospital by both the Tabitha Society and the Minnesota Conference, are also included in the collection, as are meeting minutes from the Hospital Working Association and the Bethesda Missionary Society. Some documents are in Swedish.

HISTORICAL NOTE:

The Bethesda Hospital was established in 1882 through The Tabitha Society, a committee formed by the Lutheran Minnesota Conference. The hospital was opened, closed, reopened, and moved several times in its first ten years of existence. Eventually, it reopened in St. Paul during March 1892. The Minnesota Conference also instituted the Deaconess Home in conjunction with Bethesda Hospital in 1909, which served as a training school for those who wished to become deaconesses until 1930, when the training school merged with Immanuel Deaconess Institute in Omaha.

RESTRICTIONS:

There are no restrictions on the use of this collection for research purposes. The researcher assumes full responsibility for observing all copyright, property, and libel laws as they apply.

Researchers must use collection in accordance with the policies of the Lutheran Church Archives, the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library, and Gustavus Adolphus College.

COLLECTION CITATION:

Bethesda Hospital. Documents Concerning the Establishment and History of Bethesda Hospital and Deaconess Home in St. Paul, Minnesota, 1883-1969. LCA Collection 134. Gustavus Adolphus College, Lutheran Church Archives, St. Peter, Minnesota.

PROCESSED BY:

Quinn Arnold, archives intern, processed this collection and developed the finding aid during October 2012.

SUBJECT HEADINGS:

Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church. Lutheran Minnesota Conference.
Bethesda Hospital (Saint Paul, Minn.).
Bethesda Deaconess Home (Saint Paul, Minn.).
Hospitals – Minnesota – Saint Paul.

| LCA Collection 134 | Box | Folder |
|---|------------|---------------|
| Tabitha Society, 1883-1897 | | |
| Tabitha Society, Minutes, March 1883 - February 1887 | 1 | 2 |
| Constitution, By-laws, and Rules of Order by the Tabitha Society for Bethesda Hospital, 1897 | 1 | 1 |
| Bethesda Hospital, 1897-1969 | | |
| History of Bethesda Hospital from 1880-1909, 1909 | 1 | 1 |
| Constitution and Rules of Order by the Minnesota Conference for Bethesda Hospital, 1898 | 1 | 1 |
| Hospital Working Association, Minutes, Membership List and Dues, January 1897 - June 1907 and undated | 1 | 3 |
| Bethesda Hospital, Newspaper articles on the laying of the corner stone, 8 May 1909 and 9 May 1909 | 1 | 8 |
| Bethesda Hospital, Program for the laying of the corner stone, 9 May 1909 | 1 | 8 |
| Informational Pamphlet for Potential Students at Bethesda Hospital, 1909 | 1 | 7 |
| Bethesda Hospital, Annual Reports, 1904, 1905, 1909, 1910, 1912, 1920, 1928, 1929, 1931 | 1 | 4 |
| Bethesda Missionary Society, Secretarial Minutes, January 1935 - January 1948 | 1 | 5 |
| Bethesda Missionary Society, Secretarial Minutes, September 1948 - February 1953 | 1 | 6 |
| Bethesda Nurses' Home, Floor Plans, 1952 | Map Case | -- |
| Bethesda Hospital, Letter and corner stone inventory, November, 1964 | 1 | 8 |
| Original Bethesda Hospital, Photographs, 1967 and 1969 | 1 | 9 |
| Bethesda Hospital, Chapel Brochure, Business Card, and Postcard, undated | 1 | 1 |
| Bethesda Hospital, Seal, undated | 2 | -- |