

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

**Johnson, Ruth Nelson and Hobart Johnson. Correspondence,  
Hymn Books, and Miscellaneous Materials of Ruth and Hobart  
Johnson, 1931-1984.**

**LCA Collection 15**

**Johnson, Ruth Nelson and Hobart Johnson. Correspondence, Hymn Books, and Miscellaneous Materials of Ruth and Hobart Johnson, 1931-1984. LCA Collection 15. ½ Hollinger.**

**ABSTRACT:**

The Ruth and Hobart Johnson collection consists of materials documenting a portion of their time in Tanganyika (Tanzania), Africa and information about an organization at Gustavus Adolphus College called the Bellmanites. Correspondence is in either English or Swahili. Both hymn books are in Swahili. There are no translations for materials written in Swahili. In addition, the collection contains an autobiography of Ruth and biographies of various family members. This booklet contains a family genealogy.

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:**

Ruth Nelson was born on 26 November 1900 in Escanaba, Michigan. She graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1920. Nelson went on to teach Latin, Math, Bible Study, and Church History and served as director of women's athletics at Gustavus. She married Hobart Johnson on 2 September 1926 at the Clear Lake Lutheran Church in Gibbon, Minnesota. The Augustana Lutheran Church commissioned Hobart Johnson as a medical missionary to Tanganyika Territory, East Africa, in February 1928.

**RESTRICTIONS:**

There are no restrictions on 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:**

Johnson, Ruth Nelson and Hobart Johnson. Correspondence, Hymn Books, and Miscellaneous Materials of Ruth and Hobart Johnson, 1931-1984. LCA Collection 15. Gustavus Adolphus College, Lutheran Church Archives, St. Peter, Minnesota.

**PROCESSED BY:**

Edi Thorstensson processed this collection during 2006.

Jeff A. Jenson developed the finding aid during September 2010.

**SUBJECT HEADINGS:**

Johnson, Ruth Nelson, 1900-1992.

Johnson, Hobart, 1897-1957.

Missionaries - Africa - Tanzania.

Missionaries, Medical - Tanzania.

Hymns - Swahili.

Bellmanites (Gustavus Adolphus College).

Gustavus Adolphus College - Alumni.

Gustavus Adolphus College - Student Organizations.

Gustavus Adolphus College - Students - Societies and clubs.

Male college students - Societies, etc.

<b>LCA Collection 15</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Correspondence, Incoming to Hobart Johnson, 1931-32	1	1
Correspondence, Probably to Hobart Johnson in Swahili, 1938-45	1	2
Correspondence, Family History, 1961 and 1979	1	3
Miscellaneous Papers, English and Swahili Languages, 1931-32	1	4
Hymnal, Swahili Language, Created and Prepared by Mrs. Hobart Johnson (Ruth Johnson), 1938	1	5
Hymnal, "Mimbo Ma Ki Kristo," prepared by Mrs. Hobart Johnson (Ruth Johnson), undated (Swahili Language)	1	6
Research and Writings Concerning the Bellmanites, 1970s	1	7
Biography and Family History, "On Three Continents" by Ruth Nelson Johnson, c. 1984	1	8