Circular Congregational Church records, 1732-2012 (bulk 1800-1910s)

SCHS 1302.00
Containers 28/689-711a(1-21)

Creator: Circular Congregational Church (Charleston, S.C.)

Description: 18.75 linear ft. (45 boxes & 8 v.)

Biographical/Historical note: The earliest dissenting congregation in South Carolina, this church was formerly known as the Independent or Congregational (or Presbyterian) Church. It was founded in 1681 and was attended by both black and white members until 1867, when the black members left to form Plymouth Congregational Church. The present church building was erected in 1892.

Scope and content: Records consist of church business meeting minutes (1828-1913); six bound volumes (1732-1972) containing records of the corporation; constitution, by-laws, and articles of faith (1814?); two typewritten transcriptions of church histories written in 1853 and 1892; financial records (1777-1972) including accounts, daybooks, pew rent ledgers, building fund records, and the Sarah B. Stevens fund records; membership records (1784-1962) including rolls (for both black and white members) and registers for baptisms, deaths, burials, and marriages; lists of tombstone inscriptions; visitors' register (1937-1944); records of church organizations including the Colporteur Society (1848-1851), Dew Drop Society (1875-1882), Do Your Share Club (1921-1974), the Ladies Home Missionary Society (1857-1966), and the Clergy Society (1789-1949); Sunday school records (1885-1941) including attendance and membership rolls, and minutes of the Sunday School Council meetings; Sunday school library records (1878-1900); photographs (ca. mid-20th century) of the church's exterior; and other items.

Other items include correspondence principally relating to obtaining and releasing ministers and transferring memberships; minutes and reports of meetings; financial records; a paper (1840) written by Job Palmer commending the Christian life to his descendants and reviewing his life and association with the church for over 60 years; a marriage agreement (1849) between H.W. Mitchell and Eliza M. Gantt regarding title to her slaves; agreements and other documents concerning the renovation of the church building (1852-1853); extensive reports (1850s) on the Laurel Street Mission; records (1876) of a disagreement in the church regarding the relationship of the Sunday school to the church; and a plan (1960, oversize) of the church cemetery, showing locations and names of those buried there.


Provenance: Circular Congregational Church gift.
Note: Formerly in Miscellaneous Manuscripts Series I.

Search terms:
- Palmer, Job, d. 1845.
- Circular Congregational Church (Charleston, S.C.) -- Records and correspondence.
- Independent or Congregational Church of Charleston, South Carolina.
- African American Congregationalists -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
- Cemeteries -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
- Congregational churches -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
- Charleston (S.C.) -- History.
- South Carolina -- History -- Sources.
- Constitutions.
- Financial records.
- Letters (correspondence)
- Membership lists.
- Minutes.
- Photographs.
- Registers of births, etc.
- Reports.

Container listing:

**BOX 28/689**
1. Church Minutes, (1828-1890)
2. Church Minutes, (1861-1913)
3. Church Register, (1695-1796)- Access Restricted, Fragile Materials
4. Church Register, (1732-1734)- Access Restricted, Fragile Materials

**BOX 28/690**
1. Church Register, (1796-1824)
2. Church Register, (1825-1850)
3. Church Register, (1851-1873)
4. Church Register, (1873-1910)
5. Church Register, (1917-1972)
6. Extracts of Amendments to “Minutes of Corporations of Circular Church,” (1890-1902)
7. Constitution, By-Laws, and Articles of Faith, [1814?]
8. Church Histories, (1853) (1892)
9. Account Ledger, (1777-1806)
10. Account Ledger & Miscellaneous Papers, (1777-1806)
11. Account Ledger, (1807-1822)
12. Account Ledger, (1822-1860)

**BOX 28/691**
1. Account Ledger, (1861-1904)
2. Day Book, (1951)
3. Day Book, (1952)
5. Day Book, (1953)
15. Day Book, (1964)

BOX 28/692
1. Day Book, (1968)
7. Pew Rent Ledger, (1806-1817)
11. Minutes of the Committee on Improvements, (1852-1854)
13. Building Committee Reports, (1870s)
14. Account Book for the Building Fund and Poor Fund, (1886-1914)[OVERSIZE]
15. Account Book for the Building Fund, (1890-1894)
16. Acknowledgements of Building Fund Receipts, (1891-1894)
17. Application Rules for Aid from the Congregational Church Building Society, (1887)
20. Death Records, (1789-1859)

BOX 28/693
1. Baptisms of White Children, Typed Transcript, (1822-1836)
2. Funeral Records of Benjamin M. Palmer, Typed Transcript, (1815-1836)
3. Marriage Records of Benjamin M. Palmer, Typed Transcript, (1822-1835)
4. Rueben Post’s Day Book, (1836-1858). Contents of daybook include admission records for black members (1836-1858), admission records for white members (1836-1858), and marriages (1836-1857)
5. White Members Baptisms and Membership Rolls, (1846-1872)
7. Communicants, Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, (1867-1875)
8. Miscellaneous Death Records, (1895)
9. Miscellaneous Death Records, (1900)
11. Folder Missing- [Miscellaneous Papers, 1913-1970]
12. Folder Missing- [Complete List of Negro Members, (n.d.)]
16. Circular Church Cemetery Plats, (n.d.)
17. Visitors Register, (1937-1944)
18. Records of the Colporteur Society, Memberships, (1848-1851)
21. Records of the Do Your Share Club, Minutes (1921-1937)
22. Records of the Do Your Share Club, Minutes (1938-1942)

BOX 28/694
2. Records of the Ladies Home Missionary Society, Account Ledger & Treasurer Reports (1897-1929)
5. Records of the Ladies Home Missionary Society, Minutes, (1930-1932)
12. Records of the Society for the Relief of Elderly & Disabled Ministers, Minutes and Accounts, (1825-1836)

**BOX 28/695**
1. Sunday School Records, Class Attendance Roll, (1885-1886)
3. Sunday School Records, Superintendent and Treasurer’s reports, (1878-1907)
4. Sunday School Records, Class Attendance Roll, (1890s)
5. Sunday School Records, Superintendent and Treasurer’s reports, (1902-03, 1907, 1909-1911)
7. Sunday School Records, Class Attendance Rolls, (1932-1936)
8. Sunday School Records, Class Attendance Rolls, (1937); Minutes of the Annual Meeting, (1931, 1937-1940); Treasurer’s Reports, (1937-1941)

**BOX 28/696**
4. Sunday School Records, Miscellaneous Library Records, (1878-1900)
5. Young People’s Society of Christian Endeavor, Meeting Agenda Template, (1895)
6. Photographs of Circular Church exterior, (n.d.)

**BOX 28/697**
1. Miscellaneous Records, (11 January 1836)
2. Miscellaneous Records, (1840)
3. Miscellaneous Records, (1847)
4. Miscellaneous Records, (1849)
5. Miscellaneous Records, (January-august 1852)
6. Miscellaneous Records, (September-December 1852)
7. Miscellaneous Records, (January-April 1853)
8. Miscellaneous Records, (May-June 1853)
9. Miscellaneous Records, (July-August 1853)
10. Miscellaneous Records, (September-November 1853)
11. Miscellaneous Records, (December 1853)
12. Miscellaneous Records, (1854)
13. Miscellaneous Records, (January-November 1855)
14. Miscellaneous Records, (March 1856-December 1857)
15. Miscellaneous Records, (March 1858-December 1859)
17. Miscellaneous Records, (January 1868-December 1869)
18. Miscellaneous Records, (January 1870-December 1871)
19. Miscellaneous Records, (1872)
20. Miscellaneous Records, (1873)
21. Miscellaneous Records, (January 1874-December 1875)

BOX 28/698
1. Miscellaneous Records, (January-July 1876)
2. Miscellaneous Records, (August 1876-18 December 1876)
3. Miscellaneous Records, (19 December 1876-31 December 1876)
4. Miscellaneous Records, (January-April 1877)
5. Miscellaneous Records, (May 1877)
6. Miscellaneous Records, (June-December 1877)
7. Miscellaneous Records, (January-April 1878)
8. Miscellaneous Records, (May-July 1878)
9. Miscellaneous Records, (August-October 1878)
10. Miscellaneous Records, (November-December 1878)

BOX 28/699
1. Miscellaneous Records, (January-March 1879)
2. Miscellaneous Records, (April-August 1879)
3. Miscellaneous Records, (September-December 1879)
5. Miscellaneous Records, (1880-1881)
6. Miscellaneous Records, (1882-1884)
7. Miscellaneous Records, (1885)
8. Miscellaneous Records, (1886)
9. Miscellaneous Records, (1887)
10. Miscellaneous Records, (1888)
11. Miscellaneous Records, Period of Rev. Grant’s pastorate, (1889-1898)
12. Miscellaneous Records, (January-June 1889)
13. Miscellaneous Records, (July 1889)
14. Miscellaneous Records, (October-December 1889)
15. Miscellaneous Records, (1890)

BOX 28/700
1. Miscellaneous Records, (January-August 1891)
2. Miscellaneous Records, (September-December 1891)
3. Miscellaneous Records, (1892)
4. Miscellaneous Records, (1893)
5. Miscellaneous Records, (1895-1897)
6. Miscellaneous Records, (1898)
7. Miscellaneous Records, (January-July 1899)
8. Miscellaneous Records, (October-December 1899)
9. Miscellaneous Records, (1900-1901)
10. Miscellaneous Records, (1902-1903)
11. Miscellaneous Records, (1904-1905)
12. Miscellaneous Records, (1906)
14. Miscellaneous Records, (January 1907-22 December 1907)
15. Miscellaneous Records, (23 December 1907-31 December 1907)

BOX 28/701
1. Miscellaneous Records, (January-March 1908)
2. Miscellaneous Records, (April-December 1908)
3. Miscellaneous Records, (1909)
4. Miscellaneous Records, (1910)
5. Miscellaneous Records, (1911)
7. Miscellaneous Records, (1913-1914)
8. Miscellaneous Records, (January-June 1915)
9. Miscellaneous Records, (July 1915)
10. Miscellaneous Records, (August 1915)
11. Miscellaneous Records, (September 1915)
12. Miscellaneous Records, (October-December 1915)
17. Miscellaneous Records, (1917)
18. Miscellaneous Records, (1917-1926)
19. Miscellaneous Records, (1920s)
20. Miscellaneous Records, (1930s)
21. Miscellaneous Records, (1940s)
22. Miscellaneous Records, (1950s)
22A. Miscellaneous Records, (1953-1956)
22B. Miscellaneous Records, (1957)
22C. Miscellaneous Records, (1958)
22D. Miscellaneous Records, (1959)

BOX 28/701A
23. Miscellaneous Records, (1960s)
24A. Miscellaneous Records, (1980s)
25. Miscellaneous Records, (n.d.)
26. Miscellaneous Records, (n.d.)
27. Miscellaneous Records, (n.d.)

BOX 28/701B
1. Miscellaneous Printed Material, (1870-1931)
2. Miscellaneous Printed Material, (1960s)
3. Papers of Dr. William R. Barnhart

BOX 28/702 OVERSIZE-Materials - (Wrapped Volumes)
1. Register of the Corporation, Volume 4, (1851-1853) OVERSIZE
2. Register of the Corporation, Volume 5, (1973-1910) OVERSIZE
3. Register of the Corporation, Volume 6, (1917-1972) OVERSIZE
4. Pew Rent Ledger, (1806-1820) OVERSIZE
5. Pew Rent Ledger, (1806-1822) OVERSIZE
7. Society for the Relief of Elderly & Disabled Ministers, Minutes, (1859-1935) OVERSIZE

BOX 28/703

(Accrual 2014.013)
2. Ladies Home Missionary Society papers, 1883 – 1980
4. Young People’s Society of Christian Endeavors record book (1897-1901) and roll call attendance book (1916-1917)
5. Sunday School Council roll book, financial records, and annual meeting minutes 1942 – 1944
7. Never Alone Club and Fellowship Club records, 1956
11. Do Your Share Club records pertaining to Carrie and Richard Britton

28/704

(Accrual 2014.047)
1. Archives Committee records: printed church histories.
2. Archives Committee records: papers relating to church history.
3. Archives Committee records: *Fundamental Articles of Faith* (pamphlet, 1858).
4. Archives Committee records: church constitutions.
5. Archives Committee records: papers concerning church constitutions and affiliations.
6. Archives Committee records: papers relating to constitutions, manuals, etc.
7. Archives Committee records: papers concerning relations with the Presbyterian Church.
8. Archives Committee records: records of annual meetings.
9. Archives Committee records: newsletters and misc. papers relating to church history.
10. Archives Committee records: papers of Albert H. Keller.

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1. Archives Committee records: “Council Retreat 2000”
2. Archives Committee records: “Historical Highlights”
3. Archives Committee records: research material for “Historical Highlights”
4. Archives Committee records: Keller Hall banner.
7. Archives Committee records: church records in historical repositories.
8. Archives Committee records: “Inquiries” concerning church history and members.
10. Archives Committee records: information on the Bennett family.
11. Archives Committee records: information on Ruby Pendergrass Cornwell.
13. Archives Committee records: biographies of ministers.
15. Archives Committee records: information on Isaac Holmes.
16. Archives Committee records: information on Holmes and Pasteur families.
17. Archives Committee records: information on the Hutson family.
18. Archives Committee records: information on Richard Hutson and the Hutson family.
19. Archives Committee records: information on William Hutson.
20. Archives Committee records: information on Kadima, a Congolese political refugee.

28/706

1. Archives Committee records: information on Isaac Stockton Keith.
2. Archives Committee records: information on the Lawton family.
3. Archives Committee records: information on William Livingston.
4. Archives Committee records: information on the Peronneau family.
5. Archives Committee records: information on Amos Pilsbury, 1788-1812.
6. Archives Committee records: information on David Ramsay.
7. Archives Committee records: information on Enos Reeves.
8. Archives Committee records: information on the Sharpe family.
9. Archives Committee records: information on the Josiah Smith family.
10. Archives Committee records: information on Stevens/Somersall family.
11. Archives Committee records: information on Jeremiah Theus.
12. Archives Committee records: information on William Aiken Walker.
13. Archives Committee records: information on the Warham family.
15. Archives Committee records: information on the Wigg family.
17. Archives Committee records: transcripts of letters (1820s) of Mary Lamboll Beach.
18. Archives Committee records: index to Beach letters.
19. Archives Committee records: information on the Gilchrist family and Beach relations.

28/707


28/708

10. Miscellaneous church records: papers relating to the constitution of the Loleta Wood Circle.

28/709

28/710

1. Membership records: papers relating to members during the Revolutionary War era.
3. Membership records: marriages, baptisms, funerals, lists (late 19th century to mid-20th)
9. Membership records: burial and graveyard records.

Circular Church Records Accrual 2015

28/711A:

BOX 1


2. Miscellaneous early records, 1838-1879. Includes a pulpit supply request to Dr. Palmer (1838); 1856 copy of an 1822 petition to the SC Senate relating to the incorporation of the church; and letters of membership transfer (1867).

3. Documents, 1851-1861, found in a wrapper marked “Files of bills & papers of the Pastors& Deacons of Independent or Congregational Church, in reference to the Trust for having the Gospel preached to the poor in the City of Charleston.” All or most of these records pertain to the Laurel Street Mission Chapel, including receipted bills for building materials, school supplies, hymnals, coal and other goods, as well as payments to the sexton C. W. Stiles, and bills of the Charleston Gas Light Company.

5 Extracts from the will of Miss Elizabeth Smith, 1855. Her will directs that one thousand dollars be invested by the pastor and deacons of the church for the “erection of a new Lecture Room.”

6 Account book for the Elizabeth Smith legacy, 1855-1858.


8 Items removed from the Sunday School account book, 1858-1861, including receipts and receipted bills for school supplies, etc.

9 Mortgage, 1856, in the amount of $700, Josiah S. Tennent to the pastor and deacons of the church, on two slaves (named in document); and a related bond (1857).

10 Pamphlet: A Sermon Delivered at the Installation of Rev. Thomas Osborne Rice, 1860.

11 Pamphlet: Manual of the Independent or Congregational (Circular) Church, 1870.

12 Pamphlet: Days of Yore; or Shadows of the Past, by the Ancient Lady, 1870.

13 Pamphlet: A Sermon Preached at St. Paul’s, Newport...by the Rev. R. Aitken, 1871.

14 Records of the Society for the Relief of Elderly and Disabled Ministers: minutes, 1855-1858.

15 Records of the Society for Relief of Elderly and Disabled Ministers: applications for membership, 1904-1917.

16 Records of the Society for the Relief of Elderly and Disabled Ministers: minutes, 1904-1916, and undated.

17 Records of the Society for the Relief of Elderly and Disabled Ministers: pamphlet, Rules for the Society for the Relief of Elderly and Disabled Ministers, and of the Widows and Orphans of the Clergy of the Independent or Congregational Church, 1876.

18 Records of the Society for the Relief of Elderly and Disabled Ministers: miscellaneous records, including photostat of a 1789 document.

19 Records of the Society for the Relief of Elderly and Disabled Ministers: property and financial records, 1890-1908, including documents relating to the sale of property on Meeting Street and Ashley Avenue.


21 Pamphlet: Annals and Registers of St. Thomas and St. Denis Parish, 1884.
22 Pamphlet: Fundamentals of Faith of the Independent or Congregational Church, 1889. Includes a constitution and “Form of Public Admission into the Church.”

23 Specifications [ca. 1890] of Charles Edward Parker, relating to materials and labor provided for the construction of a new church edifice.

24 Program, 1892, for the dedication of the new “Independent or Congregational (‘Circular’) Church.” Illustrated by a plan of the sanctuary interior and a drawing of the church exterior. Also, a related pamphlet (1992).

25 Church insurance records, 1894-1906. Includes property and fire insurance policies.

BOX 2

1 Handwritten transcriptions of church documents, including the constitution and by-laws, no date. The label on the original folder, which read “Bicentennial Church Tour Transcript,” may only relate to another handwritten document in this folder, a timeline of events relating to South Carolina history and the church, 1520-1696.

2 Pamphlet: Services at the Laying of the Corner Stone of the New Presbyterian Church, of Summerville, S.C., 1895.

3 Miscellaneous church records, 1906-1918, and undated items. Includes a pamphlet (Register of the Pacific Theological Seminary, 1906); a newspaper clipping (1908) about a prospective pastor; and a letter (1918) to Prof. Yates Snowden concerning church history.


5 Correspondence of H. W. Mitchell, Jr., 1906-1917. Most letters concern a search for a pastor, and some concern church history.

6 Church history address, typescript and handwritten. An attached note to [George Edwards] from H. W. Mitchell is dated 1914.

7 Galley proofs of an address [1914?], “The Builders of the House: Address Delivered at the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Dedication of the First Presbyterian Church, Charleston,” by Henry Alexander White. Also, a dedication service program.

8 Hymnal, 1912: The Pilgrim Hymnal.

9 Miscellaneous church records, 1920s. Includes an issue, 1927, of the “Monthly Calendar” of the Circular Congregational Church; a program, 1929, of “Christmastide Events”; and a resolution of sympathy, 1927, to the widow of Charles M. Fitzsimmons, a member of the church.
Bank books, 1929-1939; 1929-1941, relating to the Communion Fund.

Miscellaneous church records, 1930s. Includes a program, 1935 for an annual conference meeting; programs, 1935, for a service of dedication of the new organ; and financial and property records.

Miscellaneous church records, 1940s-1950s. Includes correspondence; and a plat (1956) of “property about to be conveyed” to the church on Queen Street.

Historical information (mostly transcriptions) taken from a folder marked “Docs sent to Rev. George Edwards.” Includes excerpts from the journal (1695-1701) of William Pratt; a 1750 letter; church meeting minutes, 1775; and a pamphlet (1911) relating to the 200th anniversary of the Summerville Presbyterian Church.

Handwritten transcription of the “Index of 6th Register” (1732-1779), and other early church records.

**BOX 3**

1. WPA typescript transcription (1937) of: church register, 1732-1796.

2. WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: church register, 1771-1824.


4. WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: “Rent List of Pews and Accounts…1806-1820.” The entries cover the years 1816 to 1820, “Including arrearages of Rent due for preceding Half Years from the first day of July 1808.”

5. WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: “Church Register, 1814-1831.” This volume is not a register. It consists of the church constitution and rules, and lists of members.


7. WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: minutes of The Society for the Relief of Elderly and Disabled Ministers and of the Widows and Orphans of the Clergy of the Independent or Congregational Church, “VOL: 2 #13, 1789-1836.” This volume notes that the Society was incorporated in 1789, and includes its act of incorporation and rules, but it contains minutes of meetings from 1825 to 1858.

8. WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: “Minutes of the Charleston Benevolent Society, Minute Book #13a, 1827-1830.” This volume, which includes a constitution, begins by stating: “It has long been considered as an Evil in our Community requiring redress, that
many Persons were in the Practice of Soliciting and obtaining charitable assistance, who were not deserving objects of it...To remedy these Evils, to prevent abuses of the nature in question and to direct the charities of our Citizens into an appropriate channel, where they might flow on towards the relief of the genuine victims of want and wretchedness...a number of Individuals agreed to form themselves into a Society and accordingly met and Established the same.” The Society instituted visiting committees to investigate charity cases.

9 WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: “Record Book 14, Circular Congregational Church, 1828-1861.” Volume contains minutes of corporation meetings.

10 WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: “Records, Circular Church 15a, 1836-1858.” This volume is headed: “Record of Admissions.”

11 WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: “Coloured Members Circular Church, 1838-1859.” Volume consists of lists of the names of class members.

12 WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: “Circular Church No. 17, 1844-1895.” This volume is a list of interments in the church yard, giving names, dates of burial, and sometimes occupation and cause of death.

BOX 4

1 WPA typescript transcription (1937) of: “Record Book—Independent Con. Church, 1851-1872.” Volume contains minutes of corporation meetings. Minutes of a meeting of Jan. 19, 1862, note the destruction of the church building by the fire of December 1861. There is a gap in the minutes from March 1862 to March 1866.

2 WPA typescript transcription (1937) of: “Records & Accounts...1851-1916.” This volume includes minutes of meetings and financial records.

3 WPA typescript transcription (1937) of: “Minutes of Committee for Improvement of Church...1852-1855.”

4 Typescript transcription of: “Minutes of the Society For the Relief of Disabled Ministers and Of the Widows and Orphans of the Clergy of The Independent or Congregational Church.” This volume contains minutes dating from 1859 to 1935.

5 WPA typescript transcription (1937) of: “Treasurer’s Acct Book...1860-1904.”

6 WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: “Minutes of Male Members, Circular Church (24), 1861-1913.”

7 WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: church register, 1867-1879.
8 WPA typescript transcription (1936) of: “Constitution & By Laws of the Society For the Relief of Disabled Clergymen &C Of the Circular Church.” This volume also contains the act of incorporation (1789) and lists of members and officers from 1833 to 1873.”

9 WPA typescript transcription (1938) of: “Minutes and Records…1873-1917.” Volume contains minutes of meetings and financial records.

10 WPA typescript transcription of: “The Church Register…1879-1912.” Entries mainly relate to lists of communicants who were dismissed from the church (mostly transfers of membership to other churches).

BOX 5

1 This folder was originally marked “Document & photos in Edward’s ‘History.'” Document is a handwritten transcript of 18th church records. Photographs and negatives of the church, gravestones, and a portrait of Rev. Benjamin M. Palmer, have been removed to the Visual Material Collection.

2 Typescript history (19 pages) of the Clergy Society. A handwritten note on the first page states: “Evidently article by Dr. Edwards.”


4 Photocopy of an article “Wappetaw Congregational Church” by Petrona Royall McIver, 1957. Original folder marked: “Wappetaw Church & Ministers who preached there connected to Circular…Also included, list of dual members.”

5 “Memorials From the Walls of the Original (1804) Circular Church.” Material removed from binder includes drawings of the early 19th century church building exterior.


7 “The Diary of Rev. William Hutson (1720-1761) While at the Circular Church.” Spiral-bound volume contains a brief introduction, illustrations, and a photocopy of the original diary.


9 Miscellaneous papers relating to Circular Church history. Includes a transcript of the 1892 sermon preached at the dedication of the new church building which describes the great Charleston fire of December 1861.
Original material: records of the Congregational and Presbyterian Female Association (later renamed the Ladies Home Missionary Society), 1870-1934. These include financial records, correspondence, and an article (1934) about the organization by George N. Edwards.

Bound volume, original material: “Minutes of The Ladies’ Home Missionary Society.” Volume includes a constitution, and entries date 1916-1930.


Records of the Ladies Home Missionary Society, including correspondence, financial and tax records, and a fragment of a scrapbook containing clippings.

Bound volume, original material. The first section of the volume (pages 1-38) contain minutes of the “Women’s League of the Carolinas” (1926-1935). Entries in this section also refer to the Congregational Women’s Missionary Society of the Carolinas.” The latter section of the volume contains minutes of the Ladies’ Home Missionary Society, 1934-1945.

**BOX 6**

Treasurer’s Book of the Ladies’ Home Missionary Society, 1931-1943.

Minute book of the Ladies’ Missionary Society (formed 1941, it soon came to be called the Loleta Wood [Home] Missionary Circle), 1941-1948. Volume includes a constitution (pages 184-189) which states that the Circle was a “branch of the Ladies Home Missionary Society, Inc. connected with the Independent or Congregational Church.”

Loose items removed from the Loleta Wood Missionary Circle minute book.


Loose items removed from the Loleta Wood Missionary Circle membership, dues and account book.


Loose items removed from the Loleta Wood Missionary Circle minute book.

Loleta Wood Missionary Circle miscellaneous records. Includes banking records.

**BOX 7**

2 Loose items removed from the Clergy Society minute book.

3 Bound volume: “Parish Records.” This volume includes a list of pastors (1691-1998), a list of “possessions of special interest of the Circular Church” (1963), lists of members with membership information, and records of baptisms, marriages and deaths. Entries appear to cover the years 1963-2002.

4 Loose items removed from the “Parish Records” book. This group of documents was marked “Faye Records” (Faye I. Halfacre, office manager) and includes certificates of baptism, notes on members, and a marriage license. These papers date from the 1960s to 2000.

5 Correspondence and related records, 1969-1971. Mostly correspondence of Rev. Robert Boston, but also some church officers. Includes some church newsletters.

6 Correspondence and related records, 1971-1974. Mostly correspondence of Rev. Robert Boston, but also some church officers. Includes some church newsletters.

7 Church school records, 1969-1971. Correspondence, order forms, etc., relating to audio visual materials, and kindergarten records.

BOX 8

1 Records of the Marriage and Family Counseling Center, 1973-1984. Includes minutes, financial reports, bylaws and correspondence.


3 Miscellaneous church records, 1970s-2000s. Includes church directories, brochures, wedding policy booklets, records relating to Wednesday night suppers, and some wedding programs.

4 Church records, 1980-1981. Includes minutes and financial records.


6 Church records, 1982-1983. Includes minutes of the standing committee and financial records.

7 Church records, 1984-1985. Includes standing committee minutes, correspondence, and financial records.

8 Church records, 1986-1991. Include standing committee minutes, financial records, and records of the Communications/Publicity Committee.

BOX 9
1 Church records, 1988-1989. Includes minutes of various church bodies and financial records.

2 Letters to the editor, 1980s-1990s.

3 Records of the “Clergy Peacemaking Group,” 1980s. Includes newsletters, correspondence, and newspaper clippings.


5 Hurricane Hugo correspondence, 1989.


9 Church records, 1990-1991. Includes council meeting minutes and financial records.

10 Church records, 1992-1993. Includes council meeting minutes and financial records.

11 Church records, 1990-1997. Includes minutes and financial records.

BOX 10

1 Church records, 1996-1997. Includes council meeting minutes and financial records.

2 Church records, 1997-1998. Includes budgets, minutes of annual meeting, and committee descriptions.

3 Church records, 1998-1999. Includes council meeting minutes, newsletters, and financial records.

4 Church bulletins, 1995.

5 Church bulletins, 1997.

6 Church bulletins, 1999.

7 Church service programs, 1999.

8 Records of 5 Year Plans (“Master”), 1999.

BOX 11
1 Council meeting minutes, 2000-2007.
2 Church clerk records: budgets, 1999-2000. (Note: records in folders 2 through 7 were removed from a binder marked “Clerk.”)
3 Church clerk records: five year plans, minutes of council meetings (1999), and records of church retreats, 1999-2000.
4 Church clerk records: annual meeting records, 1999-2002.
5 Church clerk records: council meeting minutes (2000), grievance policy, policy on “sexual harm,” and correspondence.
6 Church clerk records: papers relating to “organizational structure.”
7 Church clerk records: council meeting minutes, financial records, and correspondence, 2001.
11 Church council records, 2001. Mostly minutes.
12 Church council records, 2002. Includes minutes and financial records.

BOX 12

1 “Presidents Council Notebook.” Includes council/staff rosters, church constitution, financial reports, minutes, and a directory, 2003-2006.
2 Missions records: Mission Fund Committee records, including minutes, applications and guidelines, 2000s.
3 Missions records: grant forms.
4 Missions records, Fall 2002: Operation Home
5 Missions records, Fall 2002: Shades of Hope.
6 Missions records, Fall 2002: Remleys Point Project.
Missions records, Fall 2002: We are Family.
Missions records, Fall 2002: Child and Family Development Center.
Missions records, Fall 2002: Childrens Area Garden Project.
Missions records, Fall 2002: Habitat for Humanity.
Missions records, Fall 2002: Project Hopestart.
Missions records, Fall 2002: others.
Missions records, Fall 2002: correspondence.
Missions records, Spring 2003: Operation Home.
Missions records, Spring 2003: Career Transition Group.
Missions records, Spring 2003: AFFA.
Missions records, Spring 2003: Florence Crittenton.
Missions records, Spring 2003: Worldbeat Project.

BOX 13
Missions records: mission fund applications, Fall 2003.
Missions records: mission fund applications, 2005, etc.
Missions records: mission fund applications, Fall 2006.
Church newsletters and miscellaneous records, 2005-2006.
Annual meetings and reports, 2005-2006.
Church council meeting minutes, 2005-2007.
Financial records, including treasurers reports, 2006-2008.
Records relating to Advent, 2006. Includes a booklet “Advent Readings and Reflections.”
Council meeting minutes and notes, 2007-2008.

BOX 14
1 Church bulletins (programs), 2007.
2 Church newsletters, 2007.
4 Church bulletins (programs), 2008
5 Church newsletters, 2008.
6 “Other programs, 2008.”
7 Annual meeting records, 2008.
8 Miscellaneous records, 2009.

BOX 15
1 Graveyard records: records dating 1975-1989, including correspondence, clippings, notes, and information relating to grants.
2 Graveyard records: includes studies and reports by Lynette Strangstad, a graveyard preservationist and stone conservator, 1980s.
3 Graveyard records: “Lynn’s Map.” An annotated map of the graveyard.
5 Graveyard records: graveyard restoration receipts, 1980s.
7 Graveyard records: “Graveyard Plat, List, & Inscriptions, 1984.”
9 Graveyard records: “Articles/Gravestones.”
Graveyard records: “Volunteer Graveyard Work.”
Graveyard records: “Graveyard Restoration.” Correspondence and other records dating 1980s-1990s.

BOX 16

Graveyard records: “Correspondence RE Graves.” Mostly correspondence, 1980s-1990s.
Graveyard records: “1984 Graveyard Repair.”
Graveyard records: “FEMA Hugo Repairs, Pat’s Copies.”
Graveyard records: “FEMA Graveyard.”
Graveyard records: “FEMA 1992.”
Graveyard records: “FEMA Info.”
Graveyard records: “Stone Damage.”
Graveyard records: “Miscellaneous.” Includes maps, correspondence, clippings, etc.
Graveyard records: “Current Gravestone Guidelines.”
Graveyard records: “Burial/Cremation Policy.”
Graveyard records: “GPR.” (ground penetrating radar)
Graveyard records: “Inscriptions from Walls – 1905 Copies.”
Graveyard records: “Circular Church Graveyard Tours.”
Graveyard records: “Memorials.”
Graveyard records: “Significant Gravestones.”
Graveyard records: “Bassett, Nathan.”
Graveyard records: “Lance Hall Addition.” Includes lists of gravestones needing repair, a clipping (2006) about “hidden graves” discovered during excavations for an addition, correspondence, etc.

Graveyard records in binders (not boxed):

Four binders (on top shelves) entitled “Graveyard Burials of the Independent or Congregational Church of Charleston,” compiled and edited by Patricia P. Spaulding. They contain maps, alphabetical, numerical and chronological lists of persons buried, and records of individual gravestones, which include inscriptions, notes, map location, and photographs.

Binder 1: MAP A , #001 - #071.
Binder 2: MAP B-1, #072 - #186.
Binder 3: MAP B-2, #187 - #290.
Binder 4: MAP C, #291 - #477.

BOX 17

1 Church furnishings records: includes records of contributions for a new piano, a list of church possessions, etc.
2 Church furnishings records: “Appraisals.”
3 Church furnishings records: “Portrait Appraisals.”
4 Church furnishings records: “Bart Mullins Appraisal.”
5 Church furnishings records: “Silver Loan Contracts.”
6 Church furnishings records: “Silver.”
7 Church furnishings records: “SC Silver.”
8 Church furnishings records: booklet, Palmetto Silver, Riches of the South, A Celebration of South Carolina Silver, 2003.
9 Church furnishings records: “American Silver.”
10 Church furnishings records: “Silver Seal.”
11 Church furnishings records: “Silver Descriptions.”
12 Church furnishings records: “Circular Church Silver.”
13 Church furnishings records: “Yale University Art Gallery.”
Church furnishings records: “Organ.”

Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: papers relating to the church being placed on the National Register of Historic Places, 1970s-2000s.


**BOX 18**

1. Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: church property committee records, 1980s-2000s. Includes material relating to the graveyard and restoration projects.

2. Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: “Buildings.” Includes historical information, clippings and slides (slides removed to Visual Materials).


4. Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: includes correspondence, PE committee minutes, etc., 1980s-2000s.

5. Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: “Green Building.” Includes insurance records and correspondence, 2000s.


7. Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: oversize plans of church grounds landscape (?).

8. Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: PE Committee records, including minutes, agendas, and correspondence, 2001-2005.


10. Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: “PE Problems.”

11. Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: guidelines for use of church facilities.

12. Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: “Proposed Coffee House.”

14 Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: “Accessibility Project.”


BOX 19

1 Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: records relating to an expansion to Lance Hall, 2005-2006.

2 Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: records relating to an expansion to Lance Hall, including an architectural study, 2004.

3 Church buildings and PE (physical environment) records: miscellaneous records, including blueprints, records of the “PE Mission Group,” graveyard preservation material, etc., 1997-2000s.


5 Miscellaneous church records: church constitutions and related material.

6 Miscellaneous church records: church history material, 2000s.

7 Miscellaneous church records: booklet “Independent or Circular Church Records” (1998) containing transcripts of early church records, listed alphabetically.

8 Miscellaneous church records: “History Stuff.” Includes newspaper clippings, newsletters, etc.

9 Miscellaneous church records: partially burned letter, 1974, with a notes explaining that it was on an plane that crashed and burned.

10 Miscellaneous church records: 325th Anniversary service records.

11 Miscellaneous church records: “Genealogy.” Material concerning the Hutson family.

12 Miscellaneous church records: sermon transcripts, 2000s.

BOX 20

1 Miscellaneous church records: newspaper clippings.
Miscellaneous church records: marriage and family counseling center records, including bylaws and minutes, 1972-1980s.

Miscellaneous church records: mostly material which appears to have been collected in relation to the 200th anniversary of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as well as a history of Southern Congregational churches, including correspondence, Circular church history material, and copies of original sources.


Miscellaneous church records: miscellaneous printed material, including brochures and booklets.


Miscellaneous church records: records relating to two charitable organizations, Bread for the World and Habitat for Humanity.

Miscellaneous church records: file on Albert Keller, a pastor at Circular Church. Includes clippings and correspondence.


Miscellaneous church records: CD documenting a Confirmation Class mission trip to Juarez, Mexico in 2002.

Records relating to social issues: “Racism.” Photocopies of articles relating to racism.

Records relating to social issues: “Interracial Dialogue.”

Records relating to social issues: file on Ruby Pendergrass Cornwell, a civil rights activist.

Records relating to social issues: “Homosexuality.” Mostly photocopies of articles.

Records relating to social issues: “Gay Rights.”

Records relating to social issues: “Gay Marriage.”

BOX 21

Records relating to social issues: “Gay Marriage.”

Records relating to social issues: material from a binder marked “Circular Congregational Church Open & Affirming.”