

Congregational Library & Archives

Scranton, Pa. Concord United Church of Christ Church records, 1884-2003.
RG5204

Summary

Creator:

Concord United Church of Christ (Scranton, Pa.)
 Providence Welsh Congregational Church (Scranton, Pa.)
 Dr. Jones Memorial Church Congregational (Scranton, Pa.)
 Puritan and Dr. Jones Churches United Church of Christ (Scranton, Pa.)

Title: Scranton, Pa. Concord United Church of Christ Church records, 1884-2003

Dates: 1884-2003

Extent: 6 boxes: 5 record storage cartons, 1 flat storage (5.5 cubic feet)

Collection ID Number: RG5204

Language: English, some Welsh

Abstract: The church was established in 1855 with the name Providence Welsh Congregational Church and closed in 2003 as the Concord UCC Church. Types of material include annual reports, bulletins, newsletters, financial, legal, histories, committees, and auxiliary groups.

Collection History and Status

Custodial History: Items originally held by the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society

Acquisition Information: Donated to the Congregational Library & Archive in July 2014.

Repository:

Congregational Library & Archives
 14 Beacon Street
 Boston, MA 02108
 617-523-0470
<http://www.congregationallibrary.org>

Processing Information: Processed by the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society, re-described by Jessica Steytler August 2014 using DACS Second Edition.

Accessing and Using the Collection

Conditions Governing Access: This collection is unrestricted and open to the public.

Copyright: Items in this collection are subject to U.S. Copyright Law. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine the copyright status of collection items and to secure any permissions necessary for their reproduction and publication. Requests for permission to publish material must be discussed with the archivist or librarian.

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of item], in the Scranton, Pa. Concord United Church of Christ Church records, 1884-2003, RG5204. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

Additional Resources: The guide written by the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society is located in the collection file. Ask the archivist for access.

Description

Historical Note: The church was established in 1855 with the name Providence Welsh Congregational Church. It took them until 1860 to build their first church. As the name implied, the church was

made up of Welsh immigrants and their services were in that language. In 1889 a separate church, Puritan Congregational, from Providence as an English-speaking congregation. In 1904 the church built its second meeting house. When then-pastor Dr. Jones died after serving for over thirty years weeks after the new church started construction, the congregation changed their name to Dr. Jones Memorial Church. In 1923, Rev. Hughes ended Welsh services. The church joined the United Church of Christ in 1960. In 1960, there are failed negotiations to merge back with the Puritan Congregational church, but succeeded in 1982. While the two communities were still in transition, they called themselves the Puritan & Dr Jones Memorial Church, United Church of Christ. Their final name-change that year was the Concord United Church of Christ. The 2002 annual report cites dropping attendance: averaging between 40-62 people. This was due to an aging population, families moving away, and “irreconcilable church conflicts,” which plagued the church during its last eleven years.

Ministers:

E.B. Evans 1860-1866
 Daniel Parry 1867-1870
 R.S. Jones 1872-1904
 James Williams 1906-1912
 Isaac T. Williams 1913-1920
 Enoch Hughes 1921-1928
 John Roberts 1929-1936
 E. Daniel Hughes 1939-1943
 E. Earle Eaton 1945-1947
 L. Clarke French 1947-1955
 Robert Chamberlain 1955-1961
 Kendall Link 1961-1965
 Ralph Ludwig 1966-1970
 Peter Goguts 1971-1972
 Wayne Strever 1973-1984
 Mary Jo Romberger 1984-1987
 Patricia Dykstra 1987-
 Ronald E Kaufman 1990-1995
 M. W. Beynon 1997-1998
 T. Nalesnik 2001-2003

Scope of Collection: The church in its final state was the product of a merger between the Puritan Congregational Church and the Dr. Jones Memorial Church. However, the Types of material include annual reports, bulletins, newsletters, financial, legal, histories, committees, and auxiliary groups. The bulk of the records are from the 1960s-1990s. There are some records in Welsh, but the transition from Welsh to English was in the 1920s, pre-dating the bulk of the records within this collection.

Further Searches

Subject Headings:

Church records and registers - Pennsylvania - Scranton.

Women - Societies and clubs.
 Church membership.
 Concord United Church of Christ (Scranton, Pa.)
 Providence Welsh Congregational Church (Scranton, Pa.)
 Dr. Jones Memorial Church Congregational (Scranton, Pa.)
 Puritan & Dr. Jones Memorial Church United Church of Christ (Scranton, Pa.)
 Ordination.
 Welsh Americans - Pennsylvania - Scranton.
 Christian Education.

Arrangement: The collection was arranged while it was at the Evangelical and Reformed Historical Society. The first half of the collection is arranged in alphabetical order followed by Committees and Auxiliary Groups; its components are also in alphabetical order.

Contents

	Date	Box 1/ Folder
Annual Reports	1904	B1/F1
Annual Reports	1912-1914	B1/F2
Annual Reports	1928-1945	B1/F3
Annual Reports	1946-1953	B1/F4
Annual Reports	1954-1959	B1/F5
Annual Reports	1960-1965	B1/F6
Annual Reports	1966-1970	B1/F7
Annual Reports	1971-1975	B1/F8
Annual Reports	1976-1982	B1/F9
Annual Reports	1983-1989	B1/F10
Annual Reports	1990-1995	B1/F11
Annual Reports	1996-2002	B1/F12
Award, Certificates, Recognitions	undated	B1/F13
Bulletins	1966-1968	B1/F14
Bulletins	1969-1971	B1/F15
Bulletins	1972-1974	B1/F16
Bulletins	1975-1976	B1/F17
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Bulletins	1979-1980	B1/F19
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Bulletins	1986	B1/F23
	Date	Box 2/ Folder
Bulletins	1987	B2/F1
Bulletins	1988	B2/F2
Bulletins	1989	B2/F3
Bulletins	1990	B2/F4
Bulletins	1991-1992	B2/F5
Bulletins	1993-1994	B2/F6

Bulletins	1995-1996	B2/F7
Bulletins	1997-1998	B2/F8
Bulletins	1999-2000, 2003	B2/F9
Bulletins	undated	B2/F10
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Constitution and Bylaws	1941-1992	B3/F1
Financial Records, Sunday Diary	1884-1893	B3/F2
Financial Records, Annual Reports	1904, 1944	B3/F3
Financial Records, Ledger	1905-1939	B3/F4
Financial Records, Ledger	1940-1963	B3/F5
Financial Records, Memorial Fund	1969-1998	B3/F6
Financial Records, Offering	1983-1985	B3/F7
Financial Records, Receipts	1904-1985	B3/F8
Histories	1968-1982	B3/F9
History, Anniversary Celebrations	1905-1995	B3/F10
History, News Clippings	1929-1995	B3/F11
History. "One-half Century of Work..."	1897	B3/F12
Legal Records, Bequests. Briggs, Mary L. Estate	undated	B3/F13
Legal Records, Bequests. Luce, Mary E. Estate	undated	B3/F14
Legal Records, Bequests. Wagner, Helen J. Estate	undated	B3/F15
Legal Records. Providence Welsh Name Change	1969	B3/F16
Newsletters	1966-1980	B3/F17
Newsletters	1987-1988	B3/F18
Newsletters	1990	B3/F19
Newsletters	1991-1992	B3/F20
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Newsletters	1995-1999	B3/F22
Pastors. Chamberlain, R.J.	undated	B3/F23
Pastors. Christmas, Henry	undated	B3/F24
Pastors. Eaton, E.E.	undated	B3/F25
Pastors. French, L.C.	undated	B3/F26
Pastors. Goguts, Peter	undated	B3/F27
Pastors. Hughes, E.D.	undated	B3/F28
Pastors. Kaufman, Ronald	undated	B3/F29
Pastors. Link, K.	undated	B3/F30
Pastors. Ludwig, Ralph and Sandra	undated	B3/F31
Pastors. Romberger, Mary Jo	undated	B3/F32
Pastors. Strever, W.	undated	B3/F33
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Programs and Activities. 140 th Anniversary and Pageant video	1995	B3/F35
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Committees. Advisory Board Minutes, Official Board Minutes	1955-1962, 1929-1937	B4/F1
Committees. Advisory Board Congregational Meeting Minutes	1963-1967	B4/F2
Committees. Advisory Board Congregational Meeting Minutes	1968-1970	B4/F3
Committees. Advisory Board Congregational Meeting Minutes	1971-1973	B4/F4

Committees. Advisory Board Congregational Meeting Minutes	1974-1975	B4/F5
Committees. Advisory Board Congregational Meeting Minutes	1976-1977	B4/F6
Committees. Advisory Board Minutes	1978-1980	B4/F7
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Committees. By-Laws	1982-1983	B4/F9
Committees. Christian Education	1972-1984	B4/F10
Committees. Christian Education Confirmation Class	1972, 1982	B4/F11
Committees. Christian Education Nursery	undated	B4/F12
Committees. Christian Education. Vacation Bible School	1977-1986	B4/F13
Committees. Congregational Meeting Minutes	1905-1922	B4/F14
Committees. Congregational Meeting Minutes	1955-1962	B4/F15
Committees. Congregational Meeting Minutes	1963-2002	B4/F16
Committees. Congregational Survey	1974	B4/F17
Committees. Deaconess Minutes	1956-1976	B4/F18
Committees. Deacons Minutes	1915-1919	B4/F19
Committees. Deacons Minutes	1923-1931	B4/F20
Committees. Deacons/Deaconess Minutes	1955-1962	B4/F21
Committees. Deacons Minutes	1963-1966	B4/F22
Committees. Deacons Minutes	1973-1983	B4/F23
Committees. Finance	1957-1971	B4/F24
Committees. Finance Stewardship	undated	B4/F25
Committees. Finance Stewardship	1985-1987	B4/F26
Committees. Music	undated	B4/F27
Committees. Music Welsh Hymnal	undated	B4/F28
Committees. Music Welsh Hymnal	undated	B4/F29
	Date	Box 5 /Folder
Committees. Official Board Minutes	1984-1988	B5/F1
Committees. Official Board Minutes	1989-1993, 1996	B5/F2
Committees. Outreach	undated	B5/F3
Committees. Pastor-Parish Relations	1978-1983	B5/F4
Committees. Prayer Group	undated	B5/F5
Committees. Programs	undated	B5/F6
Committees. Property	undated	B5/F7
Committees. Self-Study	1962-1965	B5/F8
Committees. Self-Study	1971-1972	B5/F9
Committees. Spiritual Life	1981-1997	B5/F10
Committees. Trustees Financial Records	1929-1963	B5/F11
Committees. Trustees Minutes	1929-1955	B5/F12
Committees. Trustees Minutes	1964-1970	B5/F13
Committees. Trustees Minutes	1971-1985	B5/F14
Committees. Worship Acolytes	undated	B5/F15
Committees. Worship Ushers	undated	B5/F16
Committees. Worship Wedding Guidelines	undated	B5/F17
Correspondence	1915-1997	B5/F18
Auxiliary Organizations The Bread Basket	undated	B5/F19
Auxiliary Organizations Concord Women	undated	B5/F20

Auxiliary Organizations Ladies Aid Society	1953-1959	B5/F21
Auxiliary Organizations Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights		B5/F22
Auxiliary Organizations Senior Christian Endeavor Society	1910-1913	B5/F23
Auxiliary Organizations Sunday School Constitution Welsh Congregation	1886	B5/F24
Auxiliary Organizations Sunday School Dutch Gap	1896-1899	B5/F25
Auxiliary Organizations Sunday School Dutch Gap Junior Christian Endeavor Society	1896	B5/F26
Auxiliary Organizations Women's Fellowship	1971-1976	B5/F27
Auxiliary Organizations Women's Fellowship	1984-1985	B5/F28
Auxiliary Organizations Young Men's Club Constitution	undated	B5/F29
Auxiliary Organizations Young Men's Club	1912-1915	B5/F30
Auxiliary Organizations Youth	undated	B5/F31
	Date	Box 6/ Folder
Church Records Ledger book including baptisms, membership, marriages, deaths, officers, pastoral register (unbound)	1966-2003	B6/F1
Church Records Book of Remembrance	1955-1986	B6/F2