

Stewart Bell Jr. Archives
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First United Methodist Church Records
Collection Number: 1461 WFCHS/THL

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS: Collection is open to all researchers.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING REPRODUCTION AND USE: Restrictions may apply concerning the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult a member of the archives staff for information concerning these restrictions. The user assumes all responsibility for identifying and satisfying any claimants of copyright. Some materials may require special handling. *Permission to view and copy certain items must be obtained from current building owner.*

PROCESSING INFORMATION: Processed by Buffy Knappenberger. Last updated in May 2025.

ACCESSION NUMBER(S): 2025.004 WFCHS

EXTENT: 1.42 linear feet

CREATOR: First United Methodist Church

DATE: 1870 – 1993

EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF COPIES: Photographs in this collection have been digitized and are available to view online through the Past Perfect online database: <http://handley.pastperfectonline.com/>

SCOPE AND CONTENT: This Winchester, VA church collection contains church records, directories, bulletins, and blueprints of the Education Building built in 1961 and church alterations made in 1988.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL: The church began as part of the United Brethren denomination and became a distinct organization in 1800. By 1834, the first regular minister was assigned to the Winchester Mission, and the first church building was erected in 1872. In 1922, a new church was built on the site of the first one located at 308 N. Braddock Street, Winchester, VA. In May 1968, the church merged with a Methodist Church, and adopted its current name, First United Methodist Church. In 2019, the church sold the downtown building and moved to new location on Apple Pie Ridge Road in Frederick County, VA.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Carr, Clay B and Mildred L., *Historical Sketches of Places of Worship, Winchester and Frederick County, Virginia*, Winchester Printers, Winchester, VA, June, 1968, pg. 38. “First United Methodist Church in downtown Winchester to sell building, relocate,” *Winchester Star*. October 22, 2019.

IMMEDIATE SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: Received as donation and loan of First United Methodist Church (a few items are gifts).

CONTAINER LIST:

BOX 1

Blueprint of church alterations, 1988, 14 leaves, manuscript

Permission to view and copy must be obtained by current building owner

Physical Location: Oversize, Box 13

Pictorial History of the Virginia Conference, by David Franklin Glovier, 1965, McClure Printing Company, Staunton, VA, 350 pages, printed

Conference reports book, 1910-1948, 153 pages, manuscript

Church directories, 3 items, printed

1962, 2 copies

1966

Church directories, 4 items, printed

1975

1980, 2 copies

1985

Church directories, 5 items, printed

1988, 3 copies

1991

1993

Church papers, 1870-1939, folder contains the following items:

List of ministers, 1 page, manuscript

Deed to lot, June 6, 1912, 2 leaves, typescript; 1 envelope, printed

Report on lot, October 23, 1915, 1 leaf, typescript

Resolution for mortgage on parsonage, January 2, 1916, 2 leaves, typescript

Winchester Station official members list, [1939], 1 page, typescript (copy)

Church papers, 1940-1949, folder contains the following items:

Worship service bulletins

September 29, 1940, 1 page, printed

April 6, 1944, 1 page, printed

Reflections on original church, by Mrs. Mary Ombs, no date, 1 page, typescript

Ballot for Sunday School election, August 18, 1946, 1 page, typescript

Minutes of official board, May 19, 1948, 1 page, manuscript

Church papers, 1961-1989, folder contains the following items:

Education Building blueprint, [1961], 1 leaf, manuscript

Education Building brochure, no date, 2 copies, 4 pages, printed

Education Building dedication, August 13, 1961, 1 page, printed, encapsulated

Women's Society of World Service Yearbook, 1968, 22 pages, printed

Invitation to dedication of organ and sanctuary, May 21, 1989, 5 copies, 1 leaf, printed; 1 envelope, manuscript

Newspaper articles, 1946-1973, 7 items, printed

Programs of special services, folder contains the following items:

75th anniversary, November 30, 1947, 2 copies, 1 page, printed

100th anniversary, November 25, 1973, 4 copies, 4 pages, printed
Dedication of Education Building, August 13, 1961, 2 copies, 6 pages, printed
Homecoming, October 13, 1985, 2 pages, printed

140th Anniversary Pamphlet, 2010, 1 item, printed

Virginia Conference News, 4 items, printed

April 1947

April 1948

August 1949

May 1966

BOX 2

Bound church bulletins, 1974-1990, 13 volumes, printed

1974-1975	1983	1988
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1976-1977	1984	1989
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1978-1979	1985	1990
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1980-1981	1986
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1982	1987
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PHOTOGRAPHS

- [1461-001] First Evangelical United Brethren Church, 100th Anniversary celebration. Persons standing around cake identified as (l to r) Harold Bageant, Bishop Gordon Howard, Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Goodson, Bishop Kenneth Goodson, Rev. James Boice, 1973
- [1461-002] Entrance to First United Methodist Church from Braddock Street, circa 1969
- [1461-003] First United Methodist Church at corner of Braddock Street and Fairfax Lane, circa 1969
- [1461-004] Loan burning. Ceremonial burning of the paid-off loan for the Educational Building, First United Methodist Church. Persons identified as Harold Bageant (left) and Jack Johnson (right). Rev. Slonaker in pulpit, center rear, 1986
- [1461-005] Loan burning. Ceremonial burning of the paid-off loan for the Educational Building, First United Methodist Church. Persons identified as Harold Bageant (left) and Jack Johnson (right). Rev. Slonaker in pulpit, center rear, circa 1986
- [1461-006] Loan burning. Ceremonial burning of the paid-off loan for the Parsonage, First United Methodist Church. No persons identified, 1978
- [1461-007] Interior shots of sanctuary before renovation of the First United Methodist Church at corner of Braddock Street and Fairfax Lane, 1989
- [1461-008] Interior shots of sanctuary before renovation of the First United Methodist Church at corner of Braddock Street and Fairfax Lane, 1989
- [1461-009] Interior shots of sanctuary before renovation of the First United Methodist Church at corner of Braddock Street and Fairfax Lane, 1989
- [1461-010] Interior shots of sanctuary before renovation of the First United Methodist Church at corner of Braddock Street and Fairfax Lane, 1989

- [1461-011] Interior shots of chapel after renovation of the First United Methodist Church at corner of Braddock Street and Fairfax Lane, Palm Sunday, 1989
- [1461-012] Interior shots of chapel after renovation of the First United Methodist Church at corner of Braddock Street and Fairfax Lane, Palm Sunday, 1989
- [1461-013] Interior shots of chapel after renovation of the First United Methodist Church at corner of Braddock Street and Fairfax Lane, Palm Sunday, 1989
- [1461-014] Dedication ceremony for new sanctuary and organ at First United Methodist Church, 302 North Braddock Street, Winchester, VA. Children's choir and parishioners. No persons identified, 1989
- [1461-015] Dedication ceremony for new sanctuary and organ at First United Methodist Church, 302 North Braddock Street, Winchester, VA. Parishioners, children, etc. No persons identified, 1989
- [1461-016] Dedication ceremony for new sanctuary and organ at First United Methodist Church, 302 North Braddock Street, Winchester, VA. Parishioners, children, etc. No persons identified, 1989
- [1461-017] First United Methodist Church children's choir with director. No persons identified, 1989
- [1461-018] Interior shots of chapel of the First United Methodist Church at corner of Braddock Street and Fairfax Lane, circa 1961
- [1461-019] Newspaper clipping with photo of Fred and Charles Sledge, and Larry and Sharon Omps, fifth generation members of First United Methodist Church, circa 1960
- [1461-020] First United Methodist Church, dedication of sanctuary and organ. Ministers and laymen in photograph. No persons identified, 1989
- [1461-021] First United Methodist Church, dedication of sanctuary and organ. Ministers and laymen in photograph. No persons identified, 1989
- [1461-022] First United Methodist Church Ladies' Baking Committee holding rolls for bake sales. Persons identified as Mary Lou Rissler, Nancy Palmer, Geraldine Sandy, 1975
- [1461-023] First United Methodist Church Ladies' Baking Committee holding rolls for bake sales. Persons identified as Katharine Dix and Mary McCarty, 1975
- [1461-024] Construction of First United Methodist Church at 302 North Braddock Street, Winchester, VA. U. B. Church was on the site from 1873-1921 when it was demolished for this church, circa 1922
- [1461-025] Side view of First United Methodist Church at 302 North Braddock Street, Winchester, VA. Taken from Fairfax Lane, circa 1925
- [1461-026] Side view of First United Methodist Church at 302 North Braddock Street, Winchester, VA. Taken from Fairfax Lane, circa 1924
- [1461-027] View of First United Brethren Church at 302 North Braddock Street, Winchester, VA, circa 1921
- [1461-028] View of First United Brethren Church at 302 North Braddock Street, Winchester, VA at beginning of demolition, April 19, 1921
- [1461-029] Aerial view of Peter Kemp farm in Frederick County, Maryland, "where planning conference of 1800 was held," circa 1970
- [1461-030] Rev. C.W. Hiser speaking before congregation at First Evangelical United Brethren Church, circa 1950
- [1461-031] View of First United Methodist Church with Education Building facade at 302 North Braddock Street, Winchester, VA, circa 1961
- [1461-032] View of First United Methodist Church's entrance to with Education Building at 302 -304 North Braddock Street, Winchester, VA, circa 1961
- [1461-033] First Evangelical United Brethren Church Ladies' Aid Society in poke bonnets, mobcaps and other headgear at Miss Edith Fletcher's home, 410 South Loudoun Street. Some persons identified: (1 to r, front row) Reba Cooper, Ada Hicks; (2d row) Madeline Anderson, Louise Robinson, Mrs. Hiser; (3d row) Helen Lutz, Mrs. Krouse, unknown, Marie DeCarlo, Pearl Brown, unknown, Mae Bailey, Iva Mae Bowles, unknown, Ruth Parks, Grace Boyce, Mrs. Linkou[sp.?]; (4th row) Lelia Cooper, Janie Parker, Grace Fries, unknown, Edith Fletcher, Evelyn Dick, Sylvia Baker, Grace Grove, Virginia Schuler, unknown, Kitty Bly, Willie Sampsell, Ella DeHart, Adeline Pope, Elsie Ritter, Maggie Dawes, Maggie Marple, unknown, Mayme Robinson, Mrs. Brown, 1948

- [1461-034]** First United Methodist Church, 302 North Braddock Street. Interior shot showing altar, cross, candlestick and Bible, circa 1970
- [1461-035]** First United Methodist Church, 302 North Braddock Street. Interior shot showing altar, cross, candlestick and Bible, circa 1970
- [1461-036]** Corner stone of First United Methodist Church at 302 North Braddock Street, Winchester, VA. U. B. Church was on the site from 1873-1921 when it was demolished for this church, circa 1989