

Winter Street Baptist Church (Haverhill, Mass.) Records, 1859-1950, 1960, 1978, 1984

Collection Summary

Reference Code:	MRQ, US.
Repository:	Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
Call Number:	MSS 80
Creator:	Winter Street Baptist Church (Haverhill, Mass.)
Title:	Winter Street Baptist Church Records
Dates:	1859-1950, 1960, 1978, 1984
Size:	2.75 linear feet (11 boxes)
Language(s):	Collection materials are in English.
Abstract:	The Winter Street Baptist Church of Haverhill records document the activities, memberships, financial transactions, pastoral activities, and social activities of the church in the 19 th and 20 th centuries.

Organizational History

There were many Free Will Baptist followers in Haverhill and Bradford in 1858, but they had no church home of their own; they had to worship in the established Congregational or Baptist churches. On 22 April 1858, five men (Harold K. Snow, Samuel Garland, Levi Pearce, Horace K. Ford, and Mr. Wilson) met at the home of Harold Snow to discuss "trying to sustain Free Will Baptist preaching in Haverhill." The group decided to hold four trial preaching services on consecutive Sundays. They rented the Athenaeum Hall on Main Street.

The first services were held on 27 June 1858 by Rev. William C. Clark. Interest rapidly increased and it became necessary to find or build a hall suitable for the growing group. It was decided to build, and a lot of land was purchased on the east side of White Street, near Winter Street. A vestry, costing \$1,100 was immediately erected on the rear of the lot. The building was dedicated on 6 January 1859, when a church was organized. It consisted of 23 people called the Free Will Baptist Society. The society was incorporated on 25 June 1860 and the first meeting under the new charter was held on 9 July.

Soon after the organization of the church, a difficulty arose among its members. On 10 December 1859, some of the members, including the pastor, seceded and formed the Randall Church. In April 1860 the original society purchased the church building of the Winter Street

Congregational Society for \$11,000 and immediately moved to that location. Soon after Rev. Joseph S. Burgess of Lewiston, Maine, became their pastor. They were called the Winter Street Free Will Baptist Church (1860-1906). In 1906, the Society and church organizations were united into one body and incorporated as the Winter Street Free Baptist Church (1906 to 1937). From 1937 to 1950, they were the Winter Street Baptist Church, Inc. In 1950, they merged with the First Baptist Church in Haverhill.

For a more detailed history, see *The Winter Street Baptist Church, 1859-1950: Portrait of Love and Service* by Kenneth L. Heath (call number HC4 W79.1) and *The Winter Street Baptist Church: 85th Anniversary, 1859-1944* by George Nicholas Clark Mott (call number HC4 W79.4).

Succession of Ministers

William C. Clark (1858-1859)
Benjamin B. Manson (1860-1861)
Joseph S. Burgess (1861-1863)
Joseph B. Davis (1863-1865)
Austin W. Avery (1865)
Jason Mariner (1866-1870)
E. A. Stockman (1870-1871)
A. P. Tracy (1872-1874)
Francis H. Lyford (1875-1876)
John E. Dame (1876-1877)
John Malvern (1878-1882)
Charles A. Hilton (1883-1888)
Chester E. Cate (1888-1891)
Ephraim Ricker (1891-1894)
L. B. Twichell (1895-1899)
Joshua M. Remick (1899-1904)
Harry C. Lowden (1905-1909)
William J. Twort (1909-1917)
William E. Lombard (1917-1919)
William R. Wood (1920-1926)
Elmer G. Hamley (1926-1927)
Charles G. Mosher (1928-1936)
Ernest L. Loomis (1936-1939)
George N. C. Mott (1940-1950)

Arrangement

Series 1. Administrative, 1859-1950, undated
Series 2. Financial, 1917-1950, undated
Series 3. Pastoral, 1865, 1970, 1888-1954, 1960, undated

Subseries 3.1. Ministers' Papers, 1865, 1870, 1888-1954, undated

Subseries 3.2. Bulletins and Newsletters, 1921-1950

Subseries 3.3. Programs, 1909, 1931-1935, 1960

Series 4. Church Social Activities, 1873-1894

Series 5. Other, 1859-1950, 1978, 1984, undated

Scope and Content Note

The Winter Street Baptist Church of Haverhill records document the activities, memberships, financial transactions, pastoral activities, and social activities of the church in the 19th and 20th centuries. The material has been organized into five series. Series one contains record books, by-laws, reports, correspondence, merger documents, lists of officers and committees, articles of faith, church covenant, lists of members, constituency lists, and an address. Series two contains financial records such as treasurers' reports, committee reports, financial reports, a record book, information on the sale of the church building, and a blank check. Series three contains papers of ministers including correspondence, newspaper clippings, and a photograph for 17 of the ministers who served in the church, as well as correspondence to members, and a Bible that was used in the pulpit. It also contains weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters sent to members, and programs. Series four contains an account book for the Ladies Mission Society. Series five contains news clippings, scrapbooks of news clippings, and a photographic postcard.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation:	[Item Identification], Winter Street Baptist Church Records, MSS 80, Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
Custodial History:	Unknown.
Acquisition Information:	Some of the material was probably a gift from Harry E. West. Other material was presumably a gift from Kenneth L. Heath.
Processing Information:	Processed by Tamara Gaydos, 2021.
Access Rights:	Collection is open for research.
Phys. Access Restrictions:	None.
Tech. Access Restrictions:	None.
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Related Collections:	First Baptist Church, MSS 79.
Separated Material:	Printed material was separated from the collection and cataloged separately.
Conservation Notes:	Photographs were sleeved to protect them. Newspaper clippings were photocopied onto archival quality paper. Paper clips and staples were removed.
Subjects:	Church buildings Church bulletins Church finance Church history Church membership Church records and registers Clergy History--Massachusetts--Haverhill Lombard, William E. Loomis, Ernest L., 1890-1954 Mott, George N., 1881-1952 Pews and pew rights Winter Street Baptist Church (Haverhill, Mass.) Women--Societies and clubs Worship programs

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Administrative, 1859-1950, undated

This series contains record books, by-laws, reports, correspondence, merger documents, lists of officers and committees, articles of faith, church covenant, lists of members, constituency lists, and an address, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Record book, 1859-1887	6	
By-laws and record book, 1867-1871	4	1
Record book, 1872-1880	4	2
Record book, 1887-1898	7	
Record book, 1898-1906	8	
Trustees record book, 1906-1920	9	
Record book, 1920-1937	10	
Board of trustees reports, 1928, 1942-1943	1	1
Outline for interdenominational church officers' clinic, 1933	1	2
Articles of Association, 1934	1	3

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Correspondence, 1935-1939	1	4
Constitution and by-laws, 1937	4	3
Biographies for memorial service and program, 1937	1	5
Merger documents, 1940, 1949-1950, undated [1952]	1	6
Trustees record book, 1941-1950	11	
Responses to 85 th anniversary invitation, 1944	1	7
Lists of officers and committees, 1944, 1947-1948	1	8
Report of nominating committee for officers, 1948-1949	1	9
Address delivered at last meeting, March 19, 1950	1	10
Articles of Faith and Church Covenant, undated [19--]	1	11
"Birthday Book," undated [1920s]	1	12
Advisory board report, undated	1	13
Member lists, undated	1	14
Constituency lists, undated	1	15
Minutes of trustees meeting, undated	1	16

Series 2: Financial, 1917-1950, undated

This series contains treasurers' reports, committee reports, financial reports, a record book, information on the sale of the church building, and a blank check, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Treasurers reports, 1917-1920, 1935-1936	4	4
Report of committee on roof and painting, 1919-1920	1	17
Report of collector, 1920	4	5
Financial reports, 1933-1935	1	18
Financial Board record book, 1937-1941	11	
Sale of building, 1949-1950	1	19
Blank check, undated [187-]	1	20

Series 3: Pastoral, 1865, 1870, 1888-1954, 1960, undated

This series consists of three subseries: 3.1, Ministers' Papers; 3.2, Bulletins and Newsletters; and 3.3 Programs.

Subseries 3.1: Ministers' Papers, 1865, 1870, 1888-1954, undated

This subseries contains correspondence, newspaper clippings, and a photograph for 17 of the ministers who served in the church, arranged chronologically by the date they served. It also includes correspondence to members and a Bible that was used in the pulpit.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Austin Wakefield Avery , news clipping, 1865	1	21
Jason Mariner , news clipping, 1870	1	22
A. P. Tracy , news clipping, 1892	1	23
John Malvern , news clippings, undated [circa 1879]	1	24
Charles Hilton , news clippings, 1888, 1912	1	25
Carter E. Cate , news clipping, 1927	1	26
Ephraim W. Ricker , news clipping, 1922	1	27
L. B. Twichell , news clipping, 1898	1	28
J. M. Remick , news clipping, 1899, 1903	1	29
Harry C. Lowden , news clipping, 1905	1	30
William J. Twort , news clippings, 1909-1919	1	31
William E. Lombard , correspondence, news clipping, 1917-1919	1	32
William R. Wood , news clippings, 1920-1926, 1944; calendar, 1925	1	33
Elmer G. Hamley , news clippings, 1926-1927	1	34
Charles G. Mosher , news clippings, 1928-1936, 1946	1	35
Correspondence to church members, 1935-1397, undated	4	6
Ernest L. Loomis , correspondence, 1936; news clippings, 1936-1939, 1954	1	36
George N. Mott , correspondence, 1940; news clippings, 1940-1952	1	37
Bible from the pulpit, undated [mid-19 th century]	5(OS)	

Subseries 3.2: Bulletins and Newsletters, 1921-1950

This subseries contains weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters sent to members, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Weekly bulletins, 1921, 1927, 1929	1	38
Weekly bulletins, 1930-1931	1	39
Weekly bulletins, 1932-1933	1	40
<i>The Beacon</i> monthly newsletters, 1932-1933	1	41

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Weekly bulletins, 1934-1936	1	42
<i>The Beacon</i> monthly newsletters, 1934-1936	2	1
<i>The Beacon</i> monthly newsletters, 1937	2	2
Weekly bulletins, 1937-1938	2	3
<i>The Beacon</i> monthly newsletters, 1938	2	4
<i>The Beacon</i> monthly newsletters, Jan 1939-July 1939	2	5
<i>The Beacon</i> weekly bulletin, 1939-1940	2	6
<i>The Beacon</i> weekly bulletin, 1940	2	7
Weekly bulletins, 1941	2	8
Weekly bulletins, 1942-1943	2	9
Weekly bulletins, 1944	2	10
Weekly bulletins, 1945	2	11
Weekly bulletins, 1946	2	12
Weekly bulletins, 1947	3	1
Weekly bulletins, 1948	3	2
Weekly bulletins, 1949	3	3
Weekly bulletins, 1950	3	4

Subseries 3.3: Programs, 1909, 1931-1935, 1960

This subseries contains programs for events at the church, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
50 th Anniversary program, 1909	3	5
Program, 1931	3	6
Church membership jubilee program, 1935	3	7
Reunion program and news clippings, 1960	3	8

Series 4: Church Social Activities, 1873-1894

This series contains an account book for the Ladies Mission Society.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Ladies Mission Society account book, 1873-1894	3	9

Series 5: Other, 1859-1950, 1978, 1984, undated

This series contains news clippings, scrapbooks of news clippings, and a photographic postcard, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
News clippings, 1859-1950, 1978, 1984, undated	3	10
Scrapbook by Harry E. West, 1933	4	7
Scrapbook of news clippings, 1933-1937	3	11
Scrapbook of news clippings, 1938-1941	3	12
Photographic postcard, undated	3	13