

Temple Baptist Church Collection

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Collection number: B538 Temple Baptist Church, Accession #2019.107.0001-2019.107.0014

Collection repository: Hennepin History Museum

2303 Third Ave

Minneapolis, MN 55404

Collection Title: Temple Baptist Church Collection

Dates: 1909-1999

Extent: 14 boxes, 2 flat document boxes, 17.34 linear feet

Creator: Temple Baptist Church

Language of the Material: English

Processed by: Caitlin Silberman, 2019. Heidi Heller, 2020.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY

In the opening years of the twentieth century, facing mounting debts and direct competition for a limited potential membership, two small American Baptist churches in midtown Minneapolis chose to combine into a single institution. On December 30, 1909, Chicago Avenue Baptist and Immanuel Baptist united to form Temple Baptist Church.

Temple Baptist retained Immanuel's pastor and initially worshipped in the old Immanuel building at 32nd Street and Chicago Avenue, but a larger location was needed. In May 1912 Temple Baptist moved into a new church building at 3100 Columbus Avenue South. The church occupied this Romanesque stucco building until 1999, when Temple Baptist dissolved, sold its building, and united with Calvary Baptist Church. As of January 2020, the former Temple Baptist building is home to La Luz Del Mundo, a Spanish-speaking evangelical church.

From 1912-1914 during the ministry of Reverend Clarence W. Kemper, Temple Baptist reached a membership of 700, its largest. In addition to the church choir and Sunday School, in the 1920s and 1930s Temple Baptist began serving various religious, service, and fellowship groups. These included a popular bible class led by Charles Stone, the Inasmuch Class, a women's organizations, and the 'AMC Class' for young married couples. The church had its own gymnasium and sponsored a Boy Scout troop for local youth.

Beginning in the 1940s and accelerating through the 1950s, Temple Baptist experienced a decline in membership linked to shifting demographics in the Twin Cities and Temple's inner-city location. While the American Baptist Council recommended that Temple Baptist remain in its current location and increase its efforts at community outreach, an influential group of

Temple members advocated for a new, suburban location. In 1959, during Temple's 50th anniversary celebrations, the church announced its plans to open a second location.

Land in the southern suburb of Edina was purchased in 1960, and after funding issues and construction delays Temple-Creek Valley Baptist Church opened at 6400 Tracy Avenue on September 17, 1967. With a motto of "One Church Serving in Two Areas," Temple and Temple-Creek Valley were initially jointly administered. However, Temple-Creek Valley severed ties with its parent church in 1977. Creek Valley Baptist persisted as its own entity through the early 21st century.

In the late 1950s, Temple Baptist Church became racially integrated, and remained committed to maintaining a membership reflective of the community it served. The church also ran a non-denominational preschool for local children. During the 1960s and 1970s, Temple worked on issues related to women's liberation, racial equality, and youth outreach; a policy of inclusion for LGBT churchgoers followed in the 1980s. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, the church focused on programs serving local youth and the homeless. Membership continued to decline, and Temple Baptist Church dissolved in 1999. Temple's members were integrated into the nearby Calvary Baptist Church, mirroring the creation of Temple Baptist exactly 90 years earlier.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Temple Baptist Church collection contains a wide range of documents, photographs, and artifacts. Administrative and governance documents include constitutions, membership documentation, church board minutes, annual reports, and financial records, while materials on the daily activities of the church include minutes and reports from church groups, programs and ephemera from church services and events, newsletters, correspondence, records from individual church members, guest books, scrapbooks, and photographs, as well as a few items of memorabilia and a 35mm film. This series also includes material celebrating Temple Baptist Church's history: 25th, 50th, and 75th anniversary celebrations, and a church history that was written in the early 1990s. Visual media—photographs, scrapbooks and film—have been grouped in their own series.

The collection is arranged in three series with no sub-series. The series include:

- Series 1: Administrative Records, 1909-1996
- Series 2: Church Life, 1909-1998
- Series 3: Photographs, Scrapbooks and Audiovisual

ACCESS

The collection is open for researchers and has no restrictions. The archive does not have a 35mm film projector, so the 35mm film cannot be played.

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responsibility of the researcher to ensure copyright laws are followed. Requests for permission to publish material in this collection should be directed to the Archivist.

RELATED MATERIAL

Additional items on Temple Baptist Church can be found in these other collections:

- Minnesota Historical Society has a Directory of Temple Baptist Church, Serial 791
- Hennepin County Library Special Collection, Digital Collection – Photographs and Newspaper Ads

ACQUISITION

Pictures, slides and receipts were donated by Ruth Kincaid. Other parts of the collection came from an unknown donor.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

Series 1: Administrative Records

Box 1

Box 1 Folder 1 Constitution and By-laws, undated and 1939-1983

Box 1 Folder 2 Advisory Board Minutes, 1910–1917

Box 1 Folder 3 Board of Trustees, 01/1922–04/1933

Box 1 Folder 4 Board of Trustees Notebooks, 10/1928–06/1949

Box 1 Folder 5 Board of Trustees, 09/1941–04/1945

Box 1 Folder 6 Board of Trustees, 05/1945–02/1950

Box 1 Folder 7 Board of Trustees, 05/1952–10/1953

Box 1 Folder 8 Board of Trustees, 11/1953–04/1954

Box 1 Folder 9 Board of Trustees, 05/1954–12/1956

Box 1 Folder 10 Board of Trustees, 01/1957–09/1959

Box 1 Folder 11 Board of Trustees, 10/1959–12/1960

Box 1 Folder 12 Board of Trustees, 01/1961–10/1963

Box 1 Folder 13 Church Cabinet, 05/1951–04/1953

Box 1 Folder 14 Church Cabinet, 05/1953–08/1954

Box 1 Folder 15 Church Cabinet, 09/1954–12/1955

Box 1 Folder 16 Church Cabinet, 1956–1959

Box 1 Folder 17 Church Cabinet, 1960–1966

Box 1 Folder 18 Church Cabinet, 1967–1971

Box 1 Folder 19 Church Business, 1971–1978

Box 1 Folder 20 Church Business, 1995

Box 1 Folder 21 Directory of Church Committee Members, 1938–1945

Box 1 Folder 22 Minnesota Bible Conference Committee, 1951

Box 1 Folder 23 Board of Kingdom Extension, 1953–1955

Box 1 Folder 24 Surveys and Reports on Move to Edina, c. 1950–1973

Box 1 Folder 25 Report to Twin Cities Baptist Union: Community Strategy Study, 1958

Box 2

Box 2 Folder 1 Church Meeting Minutes, 12/1909–11/1919

Box 2 Folder 2 Record Book, 1909–1923

Box 2 Folder 3 Record Book, 1924–1946

Box 2 Folder 4 Record Book, 1946–1966

Box 2 Folder 5 Diaconate, 1926–1928/1948

Box 2 Folder 6 Diaconate, 1929–1939

Box 2 Folder 7 Diaconate, 1939–

Box 2 Folder 8 Diaconate, 1949–1950

Box 2 Folder 9 Diaconate, 1953–1959

Box 2 Folder 10 Diaconate, 1960–1963

Box 2 Folder 11 Diaconate, 1963–1966

Box 2 Folder 12 Diaconate, 1974–1975

Box 2 Folder 13 Diaconate, 1976–1977

Box 2 Folder 14 Diaconate, 1978–1979

Box 2 Folder 15 Diaconate, 1982–1983

Box 2 Folder 16 Diaconate, 1984

Box 2 Folder 17 Diaconate, 1990–1996

Box 2 Folder 18 Diaconate, undated

Box 3

Box 3 Folder 1 Policy Statements and Resolutions on egalitarian language, homosexuality, ecology and the environment, AIDS, and freedom of speech, 1982–1988 and undated

Box 3 Folder 2 Installation of New Minister (Reverend Randy Johnson), 1986

- Box 3 Folder 3 Budget and Finances, 1912–1929
- Box 3 Folder 4 Budget and Finances, 1930–1939
- Box 3 Folder 5 Budget and Finance Ledger, 1934–1938
- Box 3 Folder 6 Budget and Finances, 1940–1970
- Box 3 Folder 7 Loan Agreement, 1915
- Box 3 Folder 8 Trustee Reports on Finances, 1916–1923
- Box 3 Folder 9 Mortgage Correspondence, 1918–1923
- Box 3 Folder 10 Bills and Receipts, 1937–1941, 1 of 2
- Box 3 Folder 11 Bills and Receipts, 1937–1941, 2 of 2
- Box 3 Folder 12 New Boiler, 1949
- Box 3 Folder 13 Insurance Documents, c. 1950–1959
- Box 3 Folder 14 Fundraising, c. 1950–1960
- Box 3 Folder 15 Fundraising Manual, c. 1960
- Box 3 Folder 16 Temple-Creek Valley Finances, 1966–1967
- Box 3 Folder 17 Directories, 1915–1947
- Box 3 Folder 18 Directories, 1948–1957
- Box 3 Folder 19 Directories, 1960–1962
- Box 3 Folder 20 Directories, 1967–1969
- Box 3 Folder 21 Directories, 1969–1970
- Box 3 Folder 22 Directories, 1971–1973
- Box 3 Folder 23 Directories, 1974–1978
- Box 3 Folder 24 Directories, 1979–1989 and undated

Box 4

- 41 Annual Reports, 1921–1923
- 42 Annual Reports, 1923–1925
- 43 Annual Reports, 1925–1927
- 44 Annual Reports, 1927–1929
- 45 Annual Reports, 1929–1931
- 46 Annual Reports, 1931–1932
- 47 Annual Reports, 1932–1935
- 48 Annual Reports, 1935–1938
- 49 Annual Reports, 1938–1941

- 410 Annual Reports, 1941–1945
- 411 Annual Reports, 1945–1947
- 412 Annual Reports, 1947–1949
- 413 Annual Reports, 1949–1954
- 414 Annual Reports, 1954–1959
- 415 Annual Reports, 1960–1964

Series 2: Church Life, Members and Correspondence

Box 5

- Box 5 Folder 1 Weekly Bulletins, 1917
- Box 5 Folder 2 Weekly Bulletins, 1918
- Box 5 Folder 3 Weekly Bulletins, 1919
- Box 5 Folder 4 Weekly Bulletins, 1920
- Box 5 Folder 5 Weekly Bulletins, 1921–1922
- Box 5 Folder 6 Weekly Bulletins, 1922–1923
- Box 5 Folder 7 Weekly Bulletins, 1923–1924, 1 of 2
- Box 5 Folder 8 Weekly Bulletins, 1923–1924, 2 of 2
- Box 5 Folder 9 Weekly Bulletins, 1924–1925
- Box 5 Folder 10 Weekly Bulletins, 1926–1927
- Box 5 Folder 11 Weekly Bulletins, 1927–1928
- Box 5 Folder 12 Weekly Bulletins, 1928–1929
- Box 5 Folder 13 Weekly Bulletins, 1929–1930
- Box 5 Folder 14 Weekly Bulletins, 1930–1931
- Box 5 Folder 15 Weekly Bulletins, 1931–1932
- Box 5 Folder 16 Weekly Bulletins, 1932–1933
- Box 5 Folder 17 Weekly Bulletins, 1947–1949
- Box 5 Folder 18 Weekly Bulletins, 1956–1963
- Box 5 Folder 19 Weekly Bulletins, 1964
- Box 5 Folder 20 Weekly Bulletins, 1965 (Temple Baptist)
- Box 5 Folder 21 Weekly Bulletins, 1965 (Temple-Creek Valley)
- Box 5 Folder 22 Weekly Bulletins, 1966 (Temple Baptist)
- Box 5 Folder 23 Weekly Bulletins, 1966 (Temple-Creek Valley)

Box 6

- Box 6 Folder 1 History – 25th Anniversary, 1937
- Box 6 Folder 2 History – 50th Anniversary, 1959
- Box 6 Folder 3 History – 75th Anniversary, 1987
- Box 6 Folder 4 History – Research Notes and Timelines, 1976–c. 1990 and undated
- Box 6 Folder 5 History – “Thank You for your Service and Support,” c. 1990s
- Box 6 Folder 6 History – Temple Baptist Church History Book, c. 1990s, 1 of 2
- Box 6 Folder 7 History – Temple Baptist Church History Book, c. 1990s, 2 of 2
- Box 6 Folder 8 History – Closing of church and transfer to HHM, 1999–2005 and undated
- Box 6 Folder 9 Correspondence, 1910–1919
- Box 6 Folder 10 Membership Correspondence, 1909–1920
- Box 6 Folder 11 Membership Correspondence, 1921–1927
- Box 6 Folder 12 Correspondence, 1920–1929, 1 of 3
- Box 6 Folder 13 Correspondence, 1920–1929, 2 of 3
- Box 6 Folder 14 Correspondence, 1920–1929, 3 of 3
- Box 6 Folder 15 Correspondence, 1940–1950
- Box 6 Folder 16 Correspondence, 1951–1952
- Box 6 Folder 17 Correspondence, 1953–1956
- Box 6 Folder 18 Correspondence, 1957–1958
- Box 6 Folder 19 Correspondence, 1959–1970 and undated
- Box 6 Folder 20 Membership Lists, 1930–1948
- Box 6 Folder 21 Membership Lists, 1949–1951
- Box 6 Folder 22 Membership Lists, 1952–1953
- Box 6 Folder 23 Membership Lists, 1958–1959
- Box 6 Folder 24 Inactive Member Directory, c. 1948–1962
- Box 6 Folder 25 Receipt Book for letters of union and dismissal, 1962–1973
- Box 6 Folder 26 Individual Members, A–F
- Box 6 Folder 27 Individual Members, G–P
- Box 6 Folder 28 Individual Members, R–Z

Box 7

- Box 7 Folder 1 Annual Reports, 1965–1968

Box 7 Folder 2 Annual Reports, 1969–1972
Box 7 Folder 3 Annual Reports, 1973–1978
Box 7 Folder 4 Annual Reports, 1979–1988
Box 7 Folder 5 Temple Business, 1981
Box 7 Folder 6 Temple Business, 1982
Box 7 Folder 7 Temple Business, 1983
Box 7 Folder 8 Temple Business, 1984
Box 7 Folder 9 Temple Business, 1985
Box 7 Folder 10 Temple Business, 1986
Box 7 Folder 11 Temple Business, 1987
Box 7 Folder 12 Temple Business, 1988
Box 7 Folder 13 Temple Business, 1989
Box 7 Folder 14 Temple Business, 1990
Box 7 Folder 15 Temple Business, 1991
Box 7 Folder 16 Temple Business, 1992
Box 7 Folder 17 Temple Business, 1993
Box 7 Folder 18 Temple Business, 1994
Box 7 Folder 19 *Temple Tidings*, 1931–1949
Box 7 Folder 20 *Temple Tidings*, 1950–1954
Box 7 Folder 21 *Temple Tidings*, 1955–1987
Box 7 Folder 22 *Temple Tattler*, 1942–1945
Box 7 Folder 23 *Lamplighter*, 1966–1979

Box 8

Box 8 Folder 1 Church Service Programs, 1937–1991
Box 8 Folder 2 Men’s Groups, c. 1930s–1940s
Box 8 Folder 3 Women’s Groups–American Baptist Women, 1959–1978
Box 8 Folder 4 Women’s Groups–Assorted Titles, 1940s–1990s
Box 8 Folder 5 Church Activities, Assorted, c. 1940–1950
Box 8 Folder 6 Camp Lael (Baptist Summer Camp), 1958–1968
Box 8 Folder 7 Regional and National Baptist Publications, 1950–1958
Box 8 Folder 8 Christian Education, Missions and Evangelism (C.E.M.E.) Minutes, 1996–1998
Box 8 Folder 9 Christian Conciliation Service of Minnesota Program, undated

- Box 8 Folder 10 Nursery School and Kindergarten, 1940–1970
- Box 8 Folder 11 Sunday School, 1952–1960
- Box 8 Folder 12 Twin Cities Baptist Sunday School Athletic Association, 1909–1917
- Box 8 Folder 13 Gymnasium Association, 1912–1918
- Box 8 Folder 14 Temple Baptist Advertisements and Cards/Postcards, undated
- Box 8 Folder 15 Church Activities, Assorted
- Box 8 Folder 16 Boy Scouts–“Permanent Records of Troop 18,” 1926–1931
- Box 8 Folder 17 Boy Scouts–Troop Reports, 1941–1942
- Box 8 Folder 18 Boy Scouts–Photo Collage, 1932–1944
- Box 8 Folder 19 Boy Scouts–Troop Minutes, 1941
- Box 8 Folder 20 Boy Scouts–*The Tomahawk*, 1932–1933
- Box 8 Folder 21 Boy Scouts–Publications and Certifications, 1916–c. 1940s
- Box 8 Folder 22 Boy Scouts–Troop Records, 1940–1944
- Box 8 Folder 23 Boy Scouts–Troop Records Binder

*******NOTE: REMOVED 1936 GUIDE TO MINNEAPOLIS PIONEERS AND SOLDIERS CEMETERY TO BOX B39. IT’S NOW FOLDER B39.14.**

Box 9

- Box 9 Folder 1 Fill-a-Gap Class, Secretary’s Records, 1930–1937
- Box 9 Folder 2 Inasmuch Class Constitutions, 1960 and undated
- Box 9 Folder 3 Inasmuch Class Membership Rolls, 1935–1938
- Box 9 Folder 4 Inasmuch Class Minutes and Reports, 1925–1931
- Box 9 Folder 5 Inasmuch Class Minutes and Reports, 1931–1933
- Box 9 Folder 6 Inasmuch Class Minutes and Reports, 1933–1936
- Box 9 Folder 7 Inasmuch Class Minutes and Reports, 1937–1940
- Box 9 Folder 8 Inasmuch Class Minutes and Reports, 1940–1946, 1 of 2
- Box 9 Folder 9 Inasmuch Class Minutes and Reports, 1940–1946, 2 of 2
- Box 9 Folder 10 Inasmuch Class Minutes and Reports, 1946–1951
- Box 9 Folder 11 Inasmuch Class Minutes and Reports, 1971–1986
- Box 9 Folder 12 Inasmuch Class Correspondence, 1979–1987
- Box 9 Folder 13 Inasmuch Class, Collection of Temple Baptist News Clippings, 1963–1984
- Box 9 Folder 14 Inasmuch Class, Ephemera from Anniversary Celebrations, 1956–1976
- Box 9 Folder 15 Inasmuch Class, Historical Research for 70th Anniversary, 1976

Box 9 Folder Small Box Inasmuch Class Ephemera and Member Directories, 1934–1983 and undated

Series 3: Photographs, Scrapbooks and Audiovisual

Box 10

Box 10 Book 1 Bible belonging to Leona V. Estabrook, published 1898

Box 10 **Finances, Ledger 1911-1918 (check for restrictions)**

Box 10 Reel of film in metal canister, found with document indicating that the film was related to Temple Baptist's 25th Anniversary

Box 10 Book 2 Photograph album of Temple Baptist members, blue hardcover, c. 1910–1970

Box 10 Book 3 Scrapbook photo album of A.M.C. Class, carved wood covers, 1934–1961

Box 10 Book 4 Scrapbook of news clippings, tan and rust covers, c. 1984–1997

Box 10 Book 5 Photograph album of Temple Baptist members, white covers, 1935–1983

Box 11

Box 11 Book 1 Guest book, 11/1948–03/1954

Box 11 Book 2 Guest book, 03/1954–01/1957

Box 11 Book 3 Guest book, 03/1954–10/1957

Box 11 Book 4 Guest book, 10/1957–12/1962

Box 11 Book 5 Guest book, 11/1957–01/1963

Box 11 Book 6 Guest book, 02/1968–10/1991

Box 11 Book 7 Guest book, 05/1968–10/1991

Box 11 Book 8 Guest book, 05/1985–01/1993

Box 11 Folder 1 Photographs and Negatives, assorted dates

Box 11 Book 9 Temple Baptist Hymnal, 1942

Box 11 Book 10 Temple Baptist Hymnal, 1961

Box 11 Book 11 Scrapbook, "Temple Nursery Graduates," 1926–1955

Box 11 Photographs, c. 1930–2000

Box 12

Box 12 Group 1 Slides, c. 1954–1975, 1 of 2

Box 12 Group 2 Slides, c. 1954–1975, 2 of 2

Box 12 Book 1 Photograph Album, Fill-a-Gap Class, 1930s

Box 12 Photographs, c. 1913–1958

Box 13

Large photographs, assorted dates

Box 14

Large photographs, drawings, plans, and posters



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