

# Andrew Riverside Church Records

## COLLECTION SUMMARY

**Collection number:** B549, Accession # 2020.007.0001-2020.007.0008

**Collection repository:** Hennepin History Museum  
2303 Third Ave  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

**Collection title:** Andrew Riverside Church

**Dates:** 1888-2001

**Extent:** 2.92 linear feet, 8 boxes, 2 - oversized boxes, 7 - Hollinger boxes. Box 6 is a single card catalogue drawer containing index cards of baptismal records, by name.

**Creator:** Andrew Presbyterian Church (1857-1966), Riverside Presbyterian Church (1882-1966), Andrew Riverside Presbyterian Church (1966-2001/present)

**Language of the Material:** English

**Processed by:** Emily Denny, 2020

## ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY

Andrew Riverside Presbyterian Church is the result of the 1966 merger between Andrew Church and Riverside Church. The two congregations merged into the Andrew Church Building on 729 4th St SE, Minneapolis.

Andrew Presbyterian Church was organized August 23, 1857 after several previous Presbyterian ministries failed to form lasting congregations in St. Anthony (Minneapolis). In 1860, three sisters, Eleanor, Mary, and Martha Andrew from New York City, donated money for the building of Presbyterian Church in the west, in honor of their mother, and from this and other subsequent donations by the Andrew sisters, the congregation took its name. Prominent Minneapolis families were active members of the early church, notably General Horatio Van Cleve, and his wife Charlotte Ouisconsin Van Cleve, suffragette, advocate, and first female Minneapolis school board member. The Andrew Church had an active women's association, the Presbyterian Westminster Guild, which promotes growth and mission work by women in both foreign and domestic fields.

The Andrew board changed its guild name to the Wilma Eustis Guild, in honor of member Wilma Eustis Pederson, who worked as a teacher for girls and women in India until her death August 6, 1958. The earliest of the surviving church records are from the Women's Foreign Missionary Society.

Riverside Church began as a mission on the flats below the Washington Avenue bridge in Minneapolis. The chapel had been built on the flats by C.A.J. Marsh, who sold the structure to

Charles Thompson in 1882, who convinced the session of the Westminster Presbytery to adopt the chapel as a point of worship for the community living on the Bohemian Flats.

In 1891 the church was able to afford to move up to the bluffs above the river. The congregation grew enormously and was a focal point in the community, culminating in the building of a new chapel and the People's Center in 1913, which had, in addition to worship spaces, a kindergarten, gym, exercise room, and swimming pool. Membership in the 1950's grew to 640 members, with 1300 Sunday school students. Notable members include Albert E. Flagstad, surgeon.

In the 1960's, Riverside was still a robust community, while that of Andrew Church had shrunk. The Andrew building had also suffered. The expansion of the University of Minnesota campus in the 1950's included the buying up of property surrounding Riverside, and Riverside Church was on the list to be purchased. The Presbytery proposed the the merger of Andrew, Riverside, and the Bethany congregations, however, Bethany dropped out, and Presbytery ceased to try to mediate. On their own, Andrew and Riverside continued discussion within their own separate and joint Session meetings and worked out a merger agreement. Riverside gave up its building for \$160,000 and merged into the Andrew Church. Merger difficulties include the financial loss of this \$160,000 to Presbytery on charges of failing to establish a mission in the Riverside neighborhood and some loss of personnel and membership.

In 2001, the original Andrew building collapsed, and the church now operates from the Elysian building student apartments near the University of Minnesota.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The material in this collection is from 1924-2001. The collection includes administrative records from both churches including baptismal records, records from their Session and Deacon meetings, Women's Associations (Andrew - Westminster/Wilma Eustis Guild and its circle/chapter meetings), men's and youth organizations, and other organizations as they report to the Sessions. It also includes church bulletins, and collections of event and community materials including scrapbooks and posters. There are few photos of the church and its members, and about half are unidentified.

Many of the meeting minutes, particularly for the Women's Associations, are recorded in ledgers with clippings, notes, bills, letters, and other ephemera related to conducting church business stuck between the pages. These papers have been left in their original order and recorded separately from the ledger which contains them.

There are three series in the collection. Due to the disparate nature of the documents within each series, no subseries are used.

Series 1: Andrew Presbyterian

Series 2: Riverside

Series 3: Andrew Riverside

**ACCESS**

The collection is open for researches and has no restrictions.

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**RELATED MATERIAL**

Woman's Committees of the Boards of Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., 1924 is available on Google Books and provides background information on the structure of the various Women's Associations recorded at Andrew Church.

Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions, 1922 -, and Woman's Work, Volume 34 (Google Books) also illuminate

See the Minneapolis Planning Department and Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission, June 26, 2003 memo concerning the original Andrew building for information on the partial collapse of the structure.

**COLLECTION INVENTORY****Series 1: Andrew Presbyterian**

<b>Box #</b>	<b>Folder #</b>	<b>Folder</b>
1	1	Andrew Presbyterian - Administration 1940s
1	2	Andrew Presbyterian - Administration 1962
1	3	Andrew Presbyterian - Annual Report 1958
1	4	Andrew Presbyterian - Annual Report 1959
1	5	Andrew Presbyterian - Annual Report 1962
1	6	Andrew Presbyterian - Annual Report 1964
1	7	Andrew Presbyterian - Annual Report 1965
1	8	Andrew Presbyterian - Board of Deacons 1959-1961
1	9	Andrew Presbyterian - Board of Deacons 1962
1	10	Andrew Presbyterian - Brotherhood 1891-1899
1	11	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1924
1	12	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1925
1	13	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1926
1	14	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1929
1	15	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1930
1	16	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1931
1	17	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1932
1	18	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1933

1	19	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1938
1	20	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1939
1	21	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1941
1	22	Andrew Presbyterian - Bulletins 1942
1	book	Scrapbook
1	book	Bulletins and Programs 1943
1	book	Bulletins and Programs 1944
2	1	Andrew Presbyterian - Fellowship Club
2	2	Andrew Presbyterian - History - Heritage Survey
2	3	Andrew Presbyterian - History - Scrapbook 75th Anniversary
2	4	Andrew Presbyterian - History 1888-1950s
2	5	Andrew Presbyterian - History Celebrations
2	6	Andrew Presbyterian - Koinonia Celebrations
2	7	Andrew Presbyterian - Koinonia Record Book
2	8	Andrew Presbyterian - Los Amigos
2	9	Andrew Presbyterian - Men's Club
2	10	Andrew Presbyterian - Ministry - Andrew House
2	11	Andrew Presbyterian - Ministry - Christian Endeavor
2	12	Andrew Presbyterian - Ministry - Ganado
2	13	Andrew Presbyterian - Missionary Endowment Fund
2	14	Andrew Presbyterian - Newsletter 1950
2	15	Andrew Presbyterian - Session 1966
2	16	Andrew Presbyterian - Vanguard Society
2	17	Andrew Presbyterian - Wilma Eustis Guild Book 1919-1938
2	18	Andrew Presbyterian - Wilma Eustis Guild Book 1938-1950
2	19	Andrew Presbyterian - Women's Association
2	20	Andrew Presbyterian - Women's Association - Women's Federation Book 1935-1943
2	21	Andrew Presbyterian - Women's Association - Women's Federation Book 1943-1948
2	22	Andrew Presbyterian - Women's Association - Women's Federation Treasurer's Book
2	23	Andrew Presbyterian - Women's Association - Women's Foreign Missionary Society 1880-1892
2	24	Andrew Presbyterian - Women's Association - Women's Foreign Missionary Society 1882-1913
2	25	Andrew Presbyterian - Women's Association - Women's Home Missionary Society 1897-1903
2	26	Andrew Presbyterian - Women's Association - Women's Home Missionary Society 1902-1910
2	27	Andrew Presbyterian - Women's Association Scrapbook
8		Andrew Presbyterian - Women's Association - Women's Foreign Missionary Society 1905-1925
8		Andrew Presbyterian - Session 1963-1966

**Series 2: Riverside Church**

<b>Box #</b>	<b>Folder #</b>	<b>Folder</b>
3	1	Riverside - Annual Meeting
3	2	Riverside - Annual Reports 1940-1951, 1965
3	3	Riverside - Board of Trustees Minutes 1942-1943
3	4	Riverside - Board of Trustees Minutes 1943-1944
3	5	Riverside - Board of Trustees Minutes 1944-1945
3	6	Riverside - Board of Trustees Minutes 1945-1946
3	7	Riverside - Board of Trustees Minutes 1946-1947
3	8	Riverside - Board of Trustees Minutes 1947-1948
3	9	Riverside - Bulletins 1954-1959
3	10	Riverside - Bulletins 1960-1965
3	11	Riverside - Christmas Annual Vol 1 1948
3	12	Riverside - Christmas Annual Vol 2 1949
3	13	Riverside - Christmas Annual Vol 3 1950
3	14	Riverside - Christmas Annual Vol 4 1951
3	15	Riverside - Christmas Annual Vol 5 1952
3	16	Riverside - Christmas Annual Vol 6 1953
3	17	Riverside - Directories 1950-1956
3	18	Riverside - Directories 1957-1961
3	19	Riverside - Directory 1963
3	20	Riverside - Financial - Appraisal
3	21	Riverside - Financial Records Book
3	22	Riverside - History
3	23	Riverside - History - Albert E. Flagstad
3	24	Riverside - History - Building Remodeling
3	25	Riverside - History - Celebrations
3	26	Riverside - History - Clippings
3	27	Riverside - History - Members 1941
3	28	Riverside - History - Members 1943-1950
3	29	Riverside - History - Members 1950
3	30	Riverside - Members undated
3	31	Riverside - Minutes 1941-1942
3	32	Riverside - Minutes 1943
3	33	Riverside - Minutes 1944
3	34	Riverside - Minutes 1945
3	35	Riverside - Minutes 1946
3	36	Riverside - Minutes 1947
3	37	Riverside - Minutes 1948
3	38	Riverside - Minutes 1949
3	39	Riverside - Minutes 1950
3	40	Riverside - Pastoral Letter 1945
3	41	Riverside - Posters 1951
3	42	Riverside - Programs 1903
3	43	Riverside - Record Books 1921-1948

3	44	Riverside - Report - Committee on National Missions
3	45	Riverside - Scrapbook 1889-1904
3	46	Riverside - Stationary
4	1	Riverside - Scrapbook 1901-1903
6	box	Baptismal Records

## Series 2: Andrew Riverside Church

<b>Box #</b>	<b>Folder #</b>	<b>Folder</b>
4	2	Andrew Riverside - Administration 1970's
4	3	Andrew Riverside - Administration 1980's
4	4	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1966
4	5	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1972-1973
4	6	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1975
4	7	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1976-1980
4	8	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1981-1986
4	9	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1987
4	10	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1988
4	11	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1989
4	12	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1990
4	13	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1991-1992
4	14	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1993
4	15	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1994
4	16	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1995
4	17	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1996
4	18	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1997
4	19	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1998
4	20	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 1999
4	21	Andrew Riverside - Annual Report 2000
4	22	Andrew Riverside - Board of Deacons 1988-1993
4	23	Andrew Riverside - Board of Deacons 1995-1998
4	24	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1966, 1978
4	25	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1989
4	26	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1990
4	27	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1991
4	28	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1992
4	29	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1993
4	30	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1994
4	31	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1995
4	32	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1996
4	33	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1997
4	34	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1998
4	35	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 1999
4	36	Andrew Riverside - Bulletins 2000
5	1	Andrew Riverside - Campus Forum
5	2	Andrew Riverside - Campus Ministry

5	3	Andrew Riverside - Clippings
5	4	Andrew Riverside - Directory 1969
5	5	Andrew Riverside - Events 2001-2002
5	6	Andrew Riverside - Financial 1986
5	7	Andrew Riverside - Financial 1992
5	8	Andrew Riverside - Financial 2001
5	9	Andrew Riverside - Grant Proposal 2000
5	10	Andrew Riverside - History
5	11	Andrew Riverside - History - Celebrations
5	12	Andrew Riverside - History - Clippings
5	13	Andrew Riverside - History - Safe Deposit Box Contents
5	14	Andrew Riverside - Kruse, Harlan
5	15	Andrew Riverside - Merger
5	16	Andrew Riverside - Merger 1966
5	17	Andrew Riverside - Merger 1968-1969
5	18	Andrew Riverside - Merger 1970-1971
5	19	Andrew Riverside - Merger 1977
5	20	Andrew Riverside - Merger 1998
5	21	Andrew Riverside - Merger Bethany
5	22	Andrew Riverside - Merger Issues
5	23	Andrew Riverside - Merger - Personal Essay
5	24	Andrew Riverside - Ministry - Daycare
5	25	Andrew Riverside - Ministry - Shared Ministry
5	26	Andrew Riverside - Summer Drama Program
5	27	Andrew Riverside - Newsletters 1985
5	28	Andrew Riverside - Newsletters 1987
5	29	Andrew Riverside - Newsletters 1988
5	30	Andrew Riverside - Newsletters 1989
5	31	Andrew Riverside - Newsletters 1990-1991
5	32	Andrew Riverside - Photos - Andrew Riverside Church
5	33	Andrew Riverside - Photos - Members
5	34	Andrew Riverside - Photos - Members unidentified
5	35	Andrew Riverside - Programs ND
5	36	Andrew Riverside - Records Receipt 1989
5	37	Andrew Riverside - Report Cedar Riverside
5	38	Andrew Riverside - Session 1965-1967
5	39	Andrew Riverside - Session 1988
5	40	Andrew Riverside - Session 1989
5	41	Andrew Riverside - Session 1990
5	42	Andrew Riverside - Session 1990
5	43	Andrew Riverside - Session 1991
5	44	Andrew Riverside - Session 1993
5	45	Andrew Riverside - Session 1994
5	46	Andrew Riverside - Session 1995
5	47	Andrew Riverside - Session 1996
5	48	Andrew Riverside - Session 1997

5	49	Andrew Riverside - Session 1998
5	50	Andrew Riverside - Session 1999
5	51	Andrew Riverside - Session 2000
5	52	Andrew Riverside - Session 2001
5	53	Andrew Riverside - Session Communication 2001
7		Andrew Riverside - Guest Book
7		Andrew Riverside - Hymnal
7		Andrew Riverside - Session 1982-1993
7		Andrew Riverside - Session 1966-1982



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