

Guide to First Baptist Church of Greeley Collection– 2014.52

Reference code US CoGrCGM 2014.52
Title First Baptist Church of Greeley
Processed by Mary Grey
Finding aid
Prepared by Mary Grey

Name and location of repository Hazel E. Johnson Research Center
Greeley History Museum
714 8th Street
Greeley, CO 80631
Phone: (970) 336-4187
Email: museums@greeleygov.com
URL: <http://greeleymuseums.com/>

Collection Summary

Dates 1870-2014
Bulk dates
Level of description Subseries
Extent Approximately 26.5 cubic feet, plus artifacts and framed images
Creator(s) First Baptist Church of Greeley

Administrative/Biographical History

The First Baptist Church of Greeley, Colorado, was incorporated on January 8, 1871 with twenty charter members. They initially met at the home of J. F. Sanborn, church moderator. The church won a \$500 prize from the Denver Pacific Railroad for completing the first church building in the Union Colony. The building was erected on the south side of 9th St, between 9th and 10th Ave. Shortly thereafter, a Sunday school was formed and in 1880, a Women's Missionary Society. A parsonage was purchased in 1906.

In 1910, church membership had grown to 220 members. The church lot was sold to the Elks Lodge for \$15,000 and the building was moved to Island Grove Park, where it was used as an exhibition building until 1960. It was subsequently demolished in 1973. The members of the church erected a new building at the corner of 10th Ave. and 11th St. for a cost of \$43,000. The building was dedicated on March 5, 1911. Members recalled working extra hours in the sugar beet fields to cover the cost of the mortgage, which was paid off in 10 years. A pipe organ was purchased in 1927. During the Depression, the church struggled to meet its financial obligations, at one point mortgaging the parsonage to cover expenses. In the 1940s and '50s, church membership grew to 400-500 members and an educational building was constructed adjoining the west side of the original building. The original structure was remodeled in 1974 and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987.

By 2004, membership had dwindled and there were only 40-50 members left. The aging building, lack of parking, and shifting demographics proved to be too high a hurdle to surmount and in 2014 the congregation disbanded; Crossroads Church later occupied the building

Throughout its history, organizations within the church provided services to the church and the community via the Women's Missionary Society (later renamed Baptist Missionary Society in 1926, then American Baptist Women in 1970). The Men's Brotherhood Group (est. 1913), the Quaintance Club, (1937-1992), the Sunshine Circle (1943-1992), as well as the BYF provided social outlets within the church.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of loose photographs, photograph albums, slides taken at the Church's centennial in 1970, scrapbooks, anniversary booklets, membership records, membership directories, annual reports, minutes of meetings, a Cochran family history, legal documents, architectural/engineering reports, historical pamphlets, a hymnal, and press clippings regarding the First Baptist Church of Greeley, Colorado.

System of arrangement

Order imposed by material type and subject. Original order maintained within scrapbooks, photograph albums, and records of minutes of organizations and boards/committees of the First Baptist Church. Loose photographs are arranged by age of photographs.

Conditions governing access

There are no restrictions on the access of this collection.

Conditions governing reproduction and use

There are no restrictions on the use or reproduction of this collection.

Languages and scripts of the materials

English

Immediate source of acquisition

This collection was donated by the American Baptist Church of the Rocky Mountains.

Notes

Preferred citation: First Baptist Church of Greeley Collection, City of Greeley Museum #2014.52

Names

Allen (Norcross), (Henderson), Grace
Baab, Albert
Baab, August
Baab, Barbara
Baab, Clarence T.

Baab, Ethyl
Baab, Henry
Baab, Henry Jr., Mrs.
Baab, John
Baab, Mamie
Baab, Mrs. Henry
Baab, Mrs. William R.
Baab, William, R.
Baldus, Fred
Bell, James E.
Bohlender, Annetta
Bohlender, Carl
Bohlender, Dave
Bohlender, Henry
Bohlender, Nancy
Briggs, Roy. M
Brock, Oliver W.
Cochran, Homer G.
Cook, Theodora
Coon, D. I.
Darling, Frank
Fisk, Russell
Forward, Mrs. D. D.
Fowle, Walter I.
Glazier, Mamie
Gordon, Chester
Gordon, Velma
Hanna, Otis
Hargrove, W. H.
Houtchens, E.H.
Houtchens, Rodger
Jarvis, Mrs. G.W.
Klein, Alice Glazier
Krueger, Hilda
Krueger, Leonard
Larson, Robert E.
Lee, E. J.
Lowe, M. H.
Lowe, Mrs. Rhonda A.
Lundgren, Harold
McGrew, E. P. Mrs.
Mason, Charles F.
Mason, Mary D.
Meeker, Janice
Moore, Paul
Nichols, E. F.
Nix, Ida
Oliver, Vic

Perdue, John
Sanborn, C. W.
Sanborn, Jennie, Mrs.
Sargeant, M. W.
Simpson, R. L.
Smallwood, Gene
Smith, Luna
Speer, Rollo C., D.D.
Thompson, S. R.
Tinker, Grace
Toothaker
Toussaint, Alma
Toussaint, Carol
Toussaint, Dr. S. R.
Toussaint, Edith
Toussaint, Edith
Tuma, Roger
Ward, Ira F.
Werkheiser, Nettie Viola, Mrs.
Whitlow, Maybelle A.

Places	Greeley (Colo)
Subjects	Churches Baptist churches Religious groups
Document forms	Photographs Scrapbooks Photograph albums Minutes Pamphlets Membership directories Membership records Correspondence Reports Newspaper clippings Legal documents Architecture/Engineering Studies Books (hymnal)

Contents

Series I: Photographs

Consists of photographs not included in photograph albums or scrapbooks.

Subseries A: 1870-1949

Consist of 13 loose photographs and one framed photograph dating from the period of 1870-1949 of the original church building, members, and activities.

Subseries B: 1950-2014

Consists of 140 photographs of church buildings, members, and activities dating from the period 1950-2014.

Subseries C: Undated photographs (1870-2014)

Consists of 88 photographs without dates of church buildings, members, and activities; most photographs appear to have been processed between 1990 and 2014.

Series II: Negatives and Slides**Subseries A: Negatives**

Consists of three strips of negatives of 1991 Bible School members and activities.

Subseries B: Slides

Consists of one box of 238 slides of church members and activities circa 1970

Series III: Photograph Albums**Subseries A: Album of Church Members Serving in World War II**

Consists of one album of World War II service men and women and scenes from areas in Burma and India where one member was stationed. There is also an obituary of a member of the First Baptist Church who was killed during the war.

Subseries B: "1968-1970 First Baptist Church/Member Portraits by Markay"

Consists of one photograph album of portraits of members. The photographs are in random order and include individuals, couples, and family groups.

Subseries C: 1976 Baptist Youth Fellowship (BYF)

Consists of one album of photographs of a retreat to Estes Park and a melodrama presented by members of the Junior High Baptist Youth Fellowship in 1976. A letter written by the persons who compiled the album is included.

Subseries D: 1894-1989

Consists of one beige-colored three-ring binder photograph album containing photographs of church members dating from 1894-1989. Most of the photographs have handwritten notations identifying the persons or activity.

Subseries E: 1990-1997

Consists of one dark brown three-ring binder photograph album containing photographs of church members and activities. In the back of the album are seven loose pages of photographs that are assumed to belong to this album but were never permanently affixed.

Subseries F: 1998-2010

Consists of one maroon-colored album containing photographs of church members and activities dating from 1998 until 2010. The album also contains several pages of newspaper articles and obituaries regarding church members and activities.

Series IV: Scrapbooks

Subseries A: First Baptist Church- General

Consists of eleven scrapbooks containing weekly church bulletins, newspaper clippings of church events, members' weddings, obituaries, and other significant life events. Also included are memoirs written by members recalling the early days of Greeley and the founding of the First Baptist Church. The scrapbooks are organized chronologically, beginning in 1921 and ending in 1996.

Subseries B: First Baptist Church- Organizations and Clubs

Consists of five scrapbooks compiled by group and organizations within the First Baptist Church. Each scrapbook contains photographs, newspaper clippings and programs. They are arranged by individual groups/organization then chronological order. Groups include the Alice Klein Circle, Circles, the Missionary Society, the Sunshine Group, "The Group," and the Publicity Committee for Capital Fund Campaign.

Subseries C: First Baptist Church- Weddings

Consists of one scrapbook of newspaper clippings of weddings performed at the First Baptist Church from 1942-1958, obituaries of members of the congregation, and one thank-you letter to Mrs. Larkin.

Series V: Minutes

Subseries A: Deacons

Consists of 15 sets of records (3 folders, 3 binders, and 9 bound books)

Subseries B: Trustees

Consists of 10 sets of records (1 bound book, 4 binders, and 5 folders)

Subseries C: Board of Worship

1 binder

Subseries D: Board of Worship and Fellowship

1 folder

Subseries E: Board of Missions

1 binder

Subseries F: Board of Education/Christian Education

2 binders

Subseries G: Advisory Church Council

2 folders

Subseries H: Combined minutes of Deacons, Trustees, Worship, Missions, Outreach and Education

2 folders

Subseries I: Church Congregational Business Meetings

1 bound book

Subseries J: Baptist Women's Missionary Society (BWMS)

2 bound books

Subseries K: Ladies Society

3 bound books, 1 folder

Subseries L: Alice Klein Circle

4 bound books, 3 folders

Subseries M: Ruth Circle

1 folder

Subseries N: Sunshine Group

1 folder

Subseries O: Merry/Ann Judson Circles/ABW Board

2 folders

Subseries P: Circle 4

1 folder

Subseries Q: Quaintance Club

4 folders, 1 bound book

Series VI: Membership Directories

Consists of 5 folders of membership directories dating from circa 1913 to 1998. Not all years are included and some of the directories are undated.

Series VII: Membership Records

Consists of 6 sets of records (2 folders and 4 bound books) of members of the church, including any change of status during their membership. **Note:** One bound volume also contains minutes of congregational business meetings (Series V, subseries I).

Series VIII: Annual Reports

Subseries A: First Baptist Church

Consists of 5 binders from 1948-2014

Subseries B: American Baptist Church of the Rocky Mountains (ABCRM) Annual Reports

Consists of 1 binder and 1 folder covering the years 1952-1964, 1966, 1969-1979, 1991-2009

Subseries C: American Baptist Women (ABW) Annual Reports

Consists of 2 folders for the years 1968-1983

Subseries D: BWMS Annual Reports

1 folder

Series IX: Loose Items

Subseries A: Wedding Invitation- 2002

1 folder

Subseries B: Miscellaneous Correspondence to First Baptist Church

1 folder

Subseries C: ABW notes from meeting (undated)

1 folder

Subseries D: Quaintance Club documents

1 folder

Subseries E: 1941-1942 Program for BWMS

1 folder

Subseries F: Newspaper Clippings circa 1940-2003

1 folder

Series X: Legal Documents

Subseries A: Deeds and Quit Claims

1 folder

Subseries B: Church Constitutions

1 folder

Subseries C: By-laws

1 folder

Subseries D: Covenant

1 folder

Subseries E: Pastor's Contract (Blank)

1 folder

Subseries F: Brotherhood Constitution

1 folder

Series XI: Building Expansion

Subseries A: Engineering and Architectural Studies

1 folder

Subseries B: Correspondence and Reports

1 folder

Series XII: Historical Booklets

Subseries A: Anniversary Booklets

1 folder containing 5 booklets commemorating anniversaries of the church from 1938-1995

Subseries B: Church Organ Dedication

1 leather-bound book

Subseries C: Manuscript

1 folder consisting of remarks given by Hazel E. Johnson regarding the history of the First Baptist Church of Greeley

Series XIII: Composition Book

Composition book compiled by Wilbur J. Cochran containing genealogy of the Cochran family, sermon notes, information regarding Baptist Missions in India and listing of pledges for the redecoration fund for the First Baptist Church in 1942-1943.

Series XIV: Hymnal

Hymnal dated 1907 used by the First Baptist Church

Series XV: 3-D Objects

Subseries A: Religious Items

Two traveling communion sets, which include three communion cups and one flask, and two offering plates used by the First Baptist Church of Greeley.

Subseries B: Collages

Three matted and framed collages of pastors, missionaries and church buildings.

Subseries C: Nails

One set of four nails preserved on a 3 inch x 5 inch card; nails date to when the building located at 10th Ave. and 11St. was constructed in 1911.

Subseries D: Quilt

One quilt made by women belonging to the First Baptist Church.

Subseries E: Furniture

Three wooden tables that were used in the church.

Subseries F: Visual Aids

One stereoscope and two boxes of stereoviews

Container List

Series I: Photographs

Subseries A: 1870-1949

Box	Folders
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1	1-2
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Framed photograph rehoused with framed images

Subseries B: 1950-2014

Box	Folders
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1	3-7
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2	1-5
---	-----

Subseries C: Undated Photographs (1870-2014)

Box	Folders
------------	----------------

3	1-3
---	-----

Series II: Photograph Negatives and Slides

Subseries A: Negatives

Box	Folder
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3	4
---	---

Subseries B: Slides

Box	Folder
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9	N/A
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Series III: Photograph Albums

Subseries A: Album of Church Members Serving in World War II

Rehoused with photograph albums

Subseries B: "1968-1970 First Baptist Church/Member Portraits by Markay"

Rehoused with photograph albums

Subseries C: 1976 BYF

Rehoused with photograph albums

Subseries D: 1894-1989

Rehoused with photograph albums

Subseries E: 1990-1997

Rehoused with photograph albums

Subseries F: 1998-2010

Rehoused with photograph albums

Series IV: Scrapbooks

Subseries A: First Baptist Church- General

Rehoused with scrapbooks

Subseries B: First Baptist Church – Organizations and Clubs

Rehoused with scrapbooks

Subseries C: First Baptist Church - Weddings

Rehoused with scrapbooks

Series V: Minutes

Subseries A: Deacons

Box	Folder
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3	5-7
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3 binders and 9 bound books rehoused with minutes

Subseries B: Trustees

Box	Folder
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4	1-5
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1 bound book and 4 binders rehoused with minutes

Subseries C: Board of Worship

1 binder rehoused with minutes

Subseries D: Board of Worship and Fellowship

Box	Folder
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5	1
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Subseries E: Board of Missions

1 binder rehoused with minutes

Subseries F: Board of Education/Christian Education

2 binders rehoused with minutes

Subseries G: Advisory Church Council

Box	Folder
------------	---------------

5	2-3
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Subseries H: Combined Minutes of Deacons, Trustees, Worship, Missions, Outreach and Education

Box	Folder
5	4-5

Subseries I: Church Congregational Business Meetings

1 bound book rehoused with minutes and membership records

Subseries J: BWMS

2 bound books rehoused with minutes

Subseries K: Ladies Society

Box	Folder
5	6

3 bound books rehoused with minutes

Subseries L: Alice Klein Circle

Box	Folder
6	1-3

4 bound books rehoused with minutes

Subseries M: Ruth Circle

Box	Folder
6	4

Subseries N: Sunshine Circle

Box	Folder
6	5

Subseries O: Merry/Anne Judson Circles/ABW Board

Box	Folder
6	6-7

Subseries P: Circle 4

Box	Folder
6	8

Subseries Q: Quaintance Club

Box	Folder
6	9-10
7	1-2

1 bound book rehoused with minutes

Series VI: Membership Directories

Box	Folder
7	3-7

Series VII: Membership Records

Box	Folder
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7	8-9
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4 bound books rehoused with Membership Records and minutes

Series VIII: Annual Reports

Subseries A: First Baptist Church

5 binders rehoused with Annual Reports

Subseries B: American Baptist Church of the Rocky Mountains (ABCRM) Annual Reports

Box	Folder
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8	1
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1 binder rehoused with Annual Reports

Subseries C: ABW Annual Reports

Box	Folder
------------	---------------

8	2
---	---

Subseries D: BWMS Annual Reports

Box	Folder
------------	---------------

8	3
---	---

Series IX: Loose Items

Subseries A: Wedding Invitation (2002)

Box	Folder
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8	4
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Subseries B: Miscellaneous Correspondence to First Baptist Church

Box	Folder
------------	---------------

8	5
---	---

Subseries C: ABW notes from a meeting (undated)

Box	Folder
------------	---------------

8	6
---	---

Subseries D: Quaintance Club documents

Box	Folder
------------	---------------

8	7
---	---

Subseries E: Program for BWMS dated 1941-1942

Box	Folder
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8	8
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Subseries F: Newspaper Clippings (circa 1940-2003)

Box	Folder
8	9

Series X: Legal Documents

Subseries A: Deeds and Quit Claims

Box	Folder
8	10

Subseries B: Church Constitutions

Box	Folder
8	11

Subseries C: By-laws

Box	Folder
8	12

Subseries D: Covenant

Box	Folder
8	13

Subseries E: Pastor's Contract (Blank)

Box	Folder
8	14

Subseries F: Brotherhood Constitution

Box	Folder
8	15

Series XI: Building Expansion

Subseries A: Engineering and Architectural Studies

Box	Folder
8	16

Subseries B: Correspondence and Reports

Box	Folder
8	17

Series XII: Historical Booklets

Subseries A: Anniversary Booklets

Box	Folder
8	18

Subseries B: Church Organ Dedication

1 leather-bound book rehoused with bound books

Subseries C: Manuscript

Box	Folder
8	19

Series XIII: Composition Book

Box	Folder
8	20

Series XIV: Hymnal

Rehoused with bound books

Series XV: 3-D Objects

Subseries A: Religious Objects

Rehoused with objects

Subseries B: Collages

Rehoused with framed images

Subseries C: Nails

Rehoused with objects

Subseries D: Quilt

Rehoused with objects

Subseries E: Furniture

Rehoused with objects

Subseries F:

Rehoused with objects