

## Guide to First Baptist Church of Greeley Collection– 2014.52

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**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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

<b>Places</b>	Greeley (Colo)
<b>Subjects</b>	Churches Baptist churches Religious groups
<b>Document forms</b>	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 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 11<sup>th</sup> St. 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**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folders</b>
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1	1-2
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Framed photograph rehoused with framed images

**Subseries B: 1950-2014**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folders</b>
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1	3-7
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2	1-5
---	-----

**Subseries C: Undated Photographs (1870-2014)**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folders</b>
------------	----------------

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

**Series II: Photograph Negatives and Slides**

**Subseries A: Negatives**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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3	4
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**Subseries B: Slides**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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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**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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3	5-7
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3 binders and 9 bound books rehoused with minutes

**Subseries B: Trustees**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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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**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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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**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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5	2-3
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**Subseries H: Combined Minutes of Deacons, Trustees, Worship, Missions, Outreach and Education**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
5	6

3 bound books rehoused with minutes

**Subseries L: Alice Klein Circle**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
6	1-3

4 bound books rehoused with minutes

**Subseries M: Ruth Circle**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
6	4

**Subseries N: Sunshine Circle**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
6	5

**Subseries O: Merry/Anne Judson Circles/ABW Board**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
6	6-7

**Subseries P: Circle 4**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
6	8

**Subseries Q: Quaintance Club**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
6	9-10
7	1-2

1 bound book rehoused with minutes

**Series VI: Membership Directories**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
7	3-7

**Series VII: Membership Records**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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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**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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8	1
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1 binder rehoused with Annual Reports

**Subseries C: ABW Annual Reports**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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8	2
---	---

**Subseries D: BWMS Annual Reports**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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8	3
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**Series IX: Loose Items**

**Subseries A: Wedding Invitation (2002)**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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8	4
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**Subseries B: Miscellaneous Correspondence to First Baptist Church**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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8	5
---	---

**Subseries C: ABW notes from a meeting (undated)**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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8	6
---	---

**Subseries D: Quaintance Club documents**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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8	7
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**Subseries E: Program for BWMS dated 1941-1942**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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8	8
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**Subseries F: Newspaper Clippings (circa 1940-2003)**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
8	9

**Series X: Legal Documents**

**Subseries A: Deeds and Quit Claims**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
8	10

**Subseries B: Church Constitutions**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
8	11

**Subseries C: By-laws**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
8	12

**Subseries D: Covenant**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
8	13

**Subseries E: Pastor's Contract (Blank)**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
8	14

**Subseries F: Brotherhood Constitution**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
8	15

**Series XI: Building Expansion**

**Subseries A: Engineering and Architectural Studies**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
8	16

**Subseries B: Correspondence and Reports**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
8	17

**Series XII: Historical Booklets**

**Subseries A: Anniversary Booklets**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
8	18

**Subseries B: Church Organ Dedication**

1 leather-bound book rehoused with bound books

<b>Subseries C: Manuscript</b>	
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
8	19

**Series XIII: Composition Book**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
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