

MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
SOUTH CAROLINIANA LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Records, 1794-1994
of the First Presbyterian Church (Columbia, S.C.)

See other finding aids to collections at South Caroliniana Library

<http://www.sc.edu/library/socar/mnscrpts/findaids.html>

Some Materials stored offsite; advance notification required.

Extent:

Ca. 93 volumes

64 manuscripts

Background:

Congregation organized in Columbia, S.C., in 1795; present building, constructed ca. 1854, is second church building constructed on this site; currently affiliated with the Catawba Presbytery of the Associate Reform Presbyterian Church (ARP); in 1983, this congregation requested and received dismissal from Congaree Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in the United States [i.e. PC (U.S.A.)]; this realignment coincided with the 1983 merger of the former Presbyterian Church in the United States, with the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Summary:

Historical essays and related records, 1794-1994, include: "First Presbyterian Church," A History compiled by John M. Bateman [ca. 1933] (unbound, filed in folder); "Manuscript History of the

Presbyterian Church, Columbia, S.C., Compiled from Original Papers by B.M. Palmer, Jr., Pastor" (ca. 1850, 1 vol.); World War I Records (1 vol., 1921); and text of commemorative sermon delivered, 23 Mar. 1986: "I Will Remember the Works of the Lord... A sermon preached on March 23, 1986, marking the Bicentennial of the City of Columbia and 192 years of history of the First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, S.C.," by the Rev. Glen Charles Knecht (14 pp.).

Unbound papers, 1794-1986 and undated, include letter, 30 March 1794 (Columbia, S.C.) from Tho[ma]s Taylor and B[enjami]n Waring to David Dunlap (Fairfield County, S.C.), informing him of the intention of establishing a church and requesting his services as minister as early as possible since "it is greatly contrary to the interest of a young town to be growing up without the Sabbath day's observation" and stating the amount of money raised.

Deed, 26 May 1824, for two lots sold to the Rev. Robert Means, signed by "a committee of said corporation for that purpose specially appointed," William Edward Hayne, Benjamin F. Taylor, William Hall, Robert Mills, and David Ewart; letter, 8 March 1854 (Greenwood, S.C.), from Mrs. M.R. Donnelly to [Benjamin Morgan Palmer], replying to his request for information re early members of the church; copies of receipts for pew rent; and printed rules and regulations of the Church.

Five manuscripts, 1866-1925, consisting of land papers and plats showing buildings and grave sites; printed manuscript, 1940, portions of the church bulletin devoted to various phases of the church's history.

Other materials (chiefly bound volumes) consist of the records of: Board of Deacons / Diaconate Minutes (1927-1994); Bulletins (1957-1993); Cemetery volume, with photographs and transcriptions of epitaphs from church cemetery and notes re individuals buried there; "First Things" newsletter (1988-1994); Membership Lists / Miscellaneous Accounts (1854-1901); Men's Auxiliary Records (1905-1915); Pew Rent Financial Records (1827-1843); Session Minutes (1819-1994); Sunday School Finance Records (1888-1914); Sunday School Records (1872-1915); and Women's Auxiliary Records (1925-1926) (unbound, filed in folder).

Images of the church from SCDAH:

<http://www.nationalregister.sc.gov/richland/S10817740010/index.htm>

History of the Congregation from the Church's own site:

<http://www.firstprescolumbia.org>

[click on "About Us" for history]

See "Churchyard Information" to Download a spreadsheet listing those interred in the cemetery.

First Presbyterian Church (Columbia, S.C.) materials at the South Caroliniana Library (USC):

*Materials labeled "Annex" are stored at a remote storage facility and require advance notification before they can be accessed.

Board of Deacons / Diaconate Minutes, 1927-1994

Vol., 1927-1929

Vol., 1930-1933

Vol., 1933-1935

Vol., 1937-1939

Vol., 1939-1940

Vol., 1947-1948

Vol., 1958-1960 (Annex)

Vol., 1962 (Annex)

Vol., 1963 (Annex)

Vol., 1968 (Annex)

Vol., 1971 (Annex)

Vol., 1972-1973 (Annex)

Vol., 1974-1975 (Annex)
Vol., 1976-1977 (Annex)
Vol., 1978-1979 (Annex)
Vol., 1980-1982 (Annex)
Vol., 1983-1984 (Annex)
Vol., 1985-1986 (Annex)
Vol., 1987-1988 (Annex)
Vol., 1989-1990 (Annex)
Vol., 1991-1992 (Annex)
Vol., 1993-1994 (Annex)

Bulletins, 1957-1993 (Annex)

Vol., 1957-1959
Vol., 1960-1961
Vol., 1962-1963
Vol., 1964-1965
Vol., 1966-1967
Vol., 1968-1969
Vol., 1970-1971
Vol., 1972-1973
Vol., 1974-1975
Vol., 1976-1977
Vol., 1978-1979
Vol., 1980-1981
Vol., 1982-1983
Vol., 1984-1985
Vol., 1986-1987
Vol., 1988-1989
Vol., 1990-1991
Vol., 1992-1993

“First Presbyterian Church,” A History compiled by John M. Bateman

1 essay [ca. 1933] (Unbound, filed in folder)

Newsletter, *First Things*, (1988-1994) (Annex)

1988-1989

1990
1991
1992
1993
1994

**“Manuscript History of the Presbyterian Church, Columbia, S.C.,
Compiled from Original Papers by B.M. Palmer, Jr., Pastor”**
ca. 1850

Membership Lists/Miscellaneous Accounts
1854-1901

Men’s Auxiliary Records, 1905-1915
Vol., 1905-1909
Vol., 1909-1915

Pew Rent Records
Vol., 1827-1843

Session Minutes, 1819-1994
Vol., 1819-1847
Vol., 1847-1874 (Includes WPA Typescript)
Vol., 1873-1904
Vol., 1904-1913
Vol., 1913-1920
Vol., 1920-1925
Vol., 1925-1927
Vol., 1927-1931
Vol., 1931-1935
Vol., 1935-1939
Vol., 1939-1944
Vol., 1944-1947
Vol., 1947-1950
Vol., 1951-1952
Vol., 1953-1955 (Annex)
Vol., 1956-1958 (Annex)

Vol., 1959-1960 (Annex)
Vol., 1961-1962 (Annex)
Vol., 1963-1964 (Annex)
Vol., 1965-1966 (Annex)
Vol., 1967-1968 (Annex)
Vol., 1969-1970 (Annex)
Vol., 1971-1972 (Annex)
Vol., 1973-1974 (Annex)
Vol., 1975-1976 (Annex)
Vol., 1977-1978 (Annex)
Vol., 1979-1980 (Annex)
Vol., 1981-1982 (Annex)
Vol., 1983-1984 (Annex)
Vol., 1985-1986 (Annex)
Vol., 1987-1988 (Annex)
Vol., 1989-1990 (Annex)
Vol., 1991-1992 (Annex)
Vol., 1993-1994 (Annex)

Women's Auxiliary Records

Records, 1925-1926 (Unbound, filed in folder)

Sunday School Finance Records, 1888-1914

Vol. 1888-1914

Sunday School Records, 1872-1915

Vol., 1872-1873
Vol., 1890-1895
Vol., 1895-1897
Vol., 1903-1907
Vol., 1913-1914
Vol., 1914-1915

World War I Records

Vol., 1921

Other manuscript collections at South Caroliniana Library that include references to First Presbyterian Church (Columbia, S.C.)

include the papers of :

John M. Bateman (1864-1940)

Bryce Family

Henry Campbell Davis (1879-1951)

W.K. Duffie

James Wyly Jackson (1893-1963)

Eliza Hibben Leland (1792-1856)

Benjamin Morgan Palmer (1818-1902)

Mary Verner Schlaefer

Kathleen Lewis Sloan

John Eldred Swearingen (1875-1957)