



Community United Church of Christ  
Records, 1853-1968

Collection 11

## Champaign County Historical Archives

**Compiled by:** Laura Mondt, 2009

**Creator/Corporate name:** Community United Church of Christ

**Inclusive Dates:** 1853-1968

**Physical Description:** 11 boxes (5.5 linear ft.)

**Language:** English

**Provenance:**

The Community United Church of Christ records were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives in October 2008.

**Access:**

These records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

**Historical Note:**

Community United Church of Christ is composed of three different congregations that merged in 1968. First Christian Church, located on Main Street in Urbana, was founded in 1885 and operated under that name until 1931 when it became the First Congregational Christian Church. In 1957, the national merger of the Congregational Christian Church with the Evangelical and Reformed Church led to yet another name change, this time to the First United Church of Christ. The second church, St. Andrew's United Church of Christ, was founded in 1961 in the southern portion of Urbana. Recent development in the area created demand for a new church. St. Andrew's was a small church that met in a converted house in a development. The third church, The First Congregational Church on Campus, dates back to 1853, when it was known as the Goose Pond Congregational Church. This church met in various locations throughout the downtown Champaign area before moving to the UIUC campus in 1920 at the intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> and Daniel, which became the home of Community United Church of Christ.

Before the congregations merged, each congregation had a slightly different mission, but they all had several active church groups as well as Sunday Schools and shared the core mission of spreading the faith throughout the community. By 1967, all three churches were faced with stagnant or declining enrollment. First United Church of Christ was considering a new building as was First Congregational Church. While informal merger talks began in 1965, it became a serious reality in 1967 when the Committee of Nine was formed. The Committee of Nine had representatives from each church who created a proposal for merger that was then voted on by members of each congregation. The merger was approved in January 1968 and Community United Church of Christ was born.

**Scope and Content Note:**

This collection contains records from each of the three churches prior to 1968. In addition, there is a collection of records of the Women's Fellowship, both from before and after the merger. The records of



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St. Andrew's United Church of Christ cover the entire existence of the church from 1960-1967. There are records from the founding of the church, membership, organizations, finances, and bulletins. The records of First Christian/First Congregational Christian/First United Church of Christ date back to 1853. The records document finances, membership, church organizations, and administrative minutes. The records of the First Congregation Church on Campus contain bulletins and church newsletters, with a few membership and financial records. The records of the Women's Fellowship represent the history of the group, following the group from the First Congregational Church in 1914 through the 1960s. The records contain meeting minutes, yearbooks, and information from the group's charity work.

**Arrangement:**

Records are arranged into four series and alphabetically by folder within each series.

**Series 1: St. Andrew Community United Church of Christ**

Contains the records of St. Andrew's Community United Church of Christ. These records include membership, finances, founding information, newsletters and bulletins.

**Series 2: First Christian/First Congregational/ First United Church of Christ**

Contains the records of First Christian/First Congregational Christian/First United Church of Christ. The records include membership, financial information, administrative meeting minutes, newsletters and correspondence.

**Series 3: First Congregational Church on Campus**

Contains the records of the First Congregational Church on Campus. The records consist of bulletins, newsletters, and attendance ledges from several Christian conferences.

It also contains the records (bound) for Plans for University Church, 1908-1922.

**Series 4: Women's Fellowship**

Contains the records of the Women's Fellowship, which is a church organization. These records begin in 1914 and cover the group as it existed under the First Congregational Church on Campus and the First United Church of Christ as well as the group's activities after the merger joined the groups together. Note: Records belonging to First Congregational Church on Campus will be marked (Champaign) while those from the First United Church of Christ will be marked (Urbana-Main St.). Unmarked records represent those created after the merger in 1968.

**Separated Material:**

Photographs from the First United Church of Christ have been moved to the general photo collection.

These photographs include:

Photographs ca. 1909-1960s

Membership Photos 1966 A-F (from scrapbook)

Membership Photos 1966 G-M (from scrapbook)

Membership Photos 1966 N-Z (from scrapbook)

**Subject Terms:**

Churches of Christ – Urbana (Ill.) – History – Sources

Churches of Christ – Urbana (Ill.) – History – Photographs

Churches of Christ – Urbana (Ill.) – History – Newspapers



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Churches of Christ – Urbana (Ill.) – History – Archives  
Christians – Urbana (Ill.) – Photographs  
Church records and registers – Urbana (Ill.)

**Container List:**

**Box 1**

**Series 1: St. Andrew Community United Church of Christ**

- Folder 1: Annual Reports/Meeting Minutes-1960-1967
- Folder 2: Bulletins 1960-1962
- Folder 3: Bulletins 1962-1963
- Folder 4: Bulletins 1965-1967
- Folder 5: Charter Members 1961
- Folder 6: Church Constitutions ca. 1961
- Folder 7: Church Council Meeting Minutes (binder) 1960-1962
- Folder 8: Church Council Meeting Minutes (binder) 1963-1966
- Folder 9: Church Council Meeting Minutes (binder) 1966-1967
- Folder 10: Financial Reports 1960-1967
- Folder 11: Membership-applications/letters of transfer ca. 1960s
- Folder 12: Membership-baptism applications ca. 1960s

**Box 2**

- Folder 1: Membership- letters of transfer from St. Andrew ca. 1960s
- Folder 2: Membership- lists and correspondence ca. 1960s
- Folder 3: Naming Committee 1961
- Folder 4: Newspaper clippings 1961
- Folder 5: The Pioneer Newsletter 1966-1967
- Folder 6: Property Information 1961

**Series 2: First Christian/First Congregational/ First United Church of Christ**

- Bound item: Goose Pond Congregational Church, Minutes, 1853-1866
- Bound item: Congregational Church Records, 1866-1916
- Bound item: Union Sunday School Records, 1854-1855
- Folder 7: 1918
- Folder 8: 1919
- Folder 9: 1920
- Folder 10: 1921
- Folder 11: 1922
- Folder 12: 1923
- Folder 13: 1924
- Folder 14: 1925
- Folder 15: 1926
- Folder 16: 1927
- Folder 17: 1930



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Folder 18: 1931  
Folder 19: 1932  
Folder 20: 1934  
Folder 21: 1935  
Folder 22: 1936  
Folder 23: 1937  
Folder 24: 1938  
Folder 25: 1939  
Folder 26: 1940  
Folder 27: 1941  
Folder 28: 1942  
Folder 29: 1943  
Folder 30: 1944  
Folder 31: 1945  
Folder 32: 1946  
Folder 33: 1947  
Folder 34: 1948

**Box 3**

Folder 1: 1949  
Folder 2: 1950  
Folder 3: 1951  
Folder 4: 1954  
Folder 5: 1955  
Folder 6: 1958  
Folder 7: 1959  
Folder 8: 1960  
Folder 9: 1961  
Folder 10: 1962  
Folder 11: 1963  
Folder 12: 1964  
Folder 13: 1965  
Folder 14: 1966  
Folder 15: 1967  
Folder 16: Annual Report 1956-1959  
Folder 17: Annual Report 1960-1966  
Folder 18: Boy Scouts 1920s-1950s  
Folder 19: Church Clerk 1952  
Folder 20: Church Clerk 1955  
Folder 21: Church Clerk 1956-1957  
Folder 22: Church Clerk 1958  
Folder 23: Church Constitutions- FUCC and others ca. 1960  
Folder 24: Church Council 1962-1963



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Folder 25: Church Council 1964-1965

**Box 4**

Folder 1: Church Council 1965-1966

Folder 2: Church Council 1966-1968

Folder 3: Church History ca. 1960s

Folder 4: Church Newsletters 1957-1960

Folder 5: Church Newsletters 1961-1963

Folder 6: Church Procedures ca. 1960s

Folder 7: Cooperative Ministry 1967-1969

Folder 8: Cooperative Ministry Newsletters 1967-1968

Folder 9: Correspondence –Carl H. Anderson 1947

Folder 10: Correspondence- Russell Siferd 1950s-1960s

Folder 11: East Side Circle Minutes 1939-1941

Folder 12: Financial Records 1954

Folder 13: Financial Records 1955

Folder 14: Financial Records 1957

Folder 15: Financial Records 1958

Folder 16: Financial Records ca.1963-1967

Folder 17: Financial Records 1965

Folder 18: Financial Records 1966-1967

Folder 19: First Congregational Christian Church Constitution 1964

Folder 20: First United Church of Christ Constitution (undated)

Folder 21: Legal Documents 1930

Folder 22: Mailing Permits 1964

Folder 23: Membership and services ca. 1960s

Folder 24: Membership lists ca. 1950 and 1966

**Box 5**

Folder 1: Merger information 1967

Folder 2: Name change- First Christian to First United 1957-1959

Folder 3: National Merger 1948

Folder 4: New Building Proposal 1965-1966

Folder 5: Newsletters 1960s

Folder 6: Newspaper clippings ca. 1950s-1960s

Folder 7: Official Board Minutes 1927-1932

Folder 8: Official Board Minutes 1933-1938

Folder 9: Official Board Minutes 1940-1943

Folder 10: Official Board Minutes 1944-1948

Folder 11: Official Board Minutes 1949-1951

Folder 12: Official Board Minutes 1952-1955

Folder 13: Official Board Minutes 1955-1960s

Folder 14: Pastor search 1963



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Folder 15: Receipts 1966

**Box 6**

Folder 1: Treasurer's Report 1944-1950

Folder 2: Treasurer's Report 1965-1966

Folder 3: Treasurer's Report 1967

Folder 4: Undated materials

**Series 3: First Congregational Church on Campus**

Plans for University Church, 1908-1922 (*BOUND* on shelf)

Folder 5: American Board Newsletters 1954

Folder 6: Bulletins 1917

Folder 7: Bulletins 1927-1928

Folder 8: Bulletins 1929

Folder 9: Bulletins 1930

Folder 10: Bulletins 1931

Folder 11: Bulletins 1932-1936

Folder 12: Bulletins 1937-1940

Folder 13: Bulletins 1943

Folder 14: Bulletins 1944-1945

Folder 15: Bulletins 1946

Folder 16: Bulletins 1947

Folder 17: Bulletins 1948-1949

**Box 7**

Folder 1: Bulletins 1950-1951

Folder 2: Bulletins 1952-1953

Folder 3: Bulletins 1954-1955

Folder 4: Bulletins 1956-1957

Folder 5: Bulletins 1958-1959

Folder 6: Bulletins 1960

Folder 7: Bulletins 1961

Folder 8: Bulletins 1962

Folder 9: Bulletins 1963-1964

**Box 8**

Folder 1: Bulletins 1965

Folder 2: Bulletins 1966

Folder 3: Bulletins- undated

Folder 4: The Calendar 1941-1942 (binder)

Folder 5: The Calendar 1942-1943 (binder)

Folder 6: The Calendar 1944-1945 (binder)

Folder 7: Church Messenger 1945

Folder 8: Church Notes/ Calendar 1932



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- Folder 9: Church Notes/ Calendar 1933
- Folder 10: Church Notes/ Calendar 1934
- Folder 11: Church Notes/ Calendar 1935
- Folder 12: Church Notes/ Calendar 1936
- Folder 13: Church Notes/ Calendar 1937
- Folder 14: Church Notes/ Calendar 1938
- Folder 15: Church Notes/ Calendar 1939
- Folder 16: Church Notes/ Calendar 1940
- Folder 17: Congregational and Christian Conference Newsletters 1957-1958
- Folder 18: Finance 1932
- Folder 19: Membership ca. 1930
- Folder 20: National Congregational Christian Church ca. 1950
- Folder 21: Worship- undated

**Box 9**

**Series 4: Women's Fellowship**

- Folder 1: Ladies' Aid Society Minute Books 1914-1919
- Folder 2: Women's Fellowship 2001
- Folder 3: Women's Fellowship Calendars 1940s-1950s (Urbana- Main St.)
- Folder 3a: Women's Fellowship Calendars 1960s-1980s
- Folder 4: Women's Fellowship Cards for India 1966-1967
- Folder 5: Women's Fellowship Central Association Meetings 1980s
- Folder 6: Women's Fellowship Church World Service ca. 1965-1970
- Folder 7: Women's Fellowship Correspondence 1950 (Champaign)
- Folder 8: Women's Fellowship Elon Home ca. 1967
- Folder 9: Women's Fellowship History ca. 1930s-1990s
- Folder 10: Women's Fellowship Materials Aid Committee ca. 1967-1971
- Folder 11: Women's Fellowship Meeting Materials 9/13/01 (contains photocopies of 1903 and 1926 cookbooks)
- Folder 12: Women's Fellowship Meeting Minutes ca. 1940s-1950s (Urbana-Main St.)
- Folder 13: Women's Fellowship Migrant Mission 1967-1968
- Folder 14: Women's Fellowship Missionary Chairman Minutes 1930-1935 (Champaign)
- Folder 15: Women's Fellowship New Eyes for the Needy 1968-1969
- Folder 16: Women's Fellowship Programs 1975-1976
- Folder 17: Women's Fellowship Reports 1930s-1970s (Champaign)
- Folder 18: Women's Fellowship Stamp Project 1967-1968
- Folder 19: Women's Fellowship World Community Day 1966-1971
- Folder 20: Women's Fellowship World Medical Relief 1966-1967
- Folder 21: Women's Fellowship Yearbooks 1927-1976 (Champaign)
- Folder 22: Young Married Women's Club ca. 1925-1927 (Champaign)

**Box 10**

**Series 2: First Christian/First Congregational/ First United Church of Christ, cont.**



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[OVERSIZED]

Ledger: Board of Deacons Minutes 1947-1955

Ledger: Board of Deacons Minutes 1956-1962

Ledger: Board of Deacons Minutes 1962-1967

Ledger: Register of General Convention Urbana, Illinois, 1926 and Register of 92nd Annual Meeting of the Congregational and Christian Conference of Illinois, 1935 and Register of Central Association Meeting, April 19, 1938

**Series 4: Women's Fellowship, cont.**

[OVERSIZED]

Ledger: Women's Missionary Society Meeting Minutes 1926- 1936 (Urbana)

Ledger: Women's Fellowship Meeting Minutes 1937-1940 (Urbana)

Ledger: Women's Fellowship Meeting Minutes 1941-1944

Ledger: Women's Fellowship Meeting Minutes 1944-1948

Ledger: Women's Fellowship Meeting Minutes 1949-1957

Ledger: Women's Fellowship Meeting Minutes 1957-1963 (Urbana)

Ledger: Women's Fellowship Meeting Minutes 1963-1968 (Urbana)

Ledger: Women's Fellowship Meeting Minutes 1965-1967(Urbana)

Ledger: Women's Fellowship Treasurer 1951-1965 (Urbana)

**Box 11**

**Series 3: First Congregational Church on Campus, cont.**

[OVERSIZED]

Copper photo plates of church members and various functions

3 Wooden boxes with member information cards