

Detroit Conference United Methodist Archives



Shipman Library
Adrian College
110 S. Madison St.
Adrian, MI 49221



(517) 265-5161 ext. 4429 / dcumcarchives@adrian.edu



Franklin William Stephenson Personal Papers, 1899-1972

Biographical Note:

Franklin Stephenson was born 29 June 1882 in Franklin, Michigan. In 1906, he graduated from Adrian College and was ordained a minister. He received a Bachelor's degree in Sacred Theology from Westminster Seminary in Maryland (now Wesley Seminary in Washington, D.C.) in 1913. He was awarded a Doctor of Divinity degree in 1926 and was inducted into the John Wesley Society of the Wesley Theological Seminary in 1928. He served at churches in North Branch, Owosso, and Lansing before leaving the state. In 1959, he returned to Adrian College to serve as assistant to President John Dawson. At this time, he also served as interim pastor of the West Adrian Congregational Church for four years before retiring to Florida. He was married three times: to Jennie Mabel Darling from 29 June 1910 until her death in 1956; to Elsie Bradshaw from 1 November 1959 to her death in 1965; and to Faye Mollan from 2 September 1967 until his death on 22 April 1976 in Lansing, Michigan.

Scope Note:

This collection contains two series: a set of diaries covering 1899 through 1919, 1921 through 1939, 1965 through 1966, and 1968 through 1972; and a series of his personal writings.

Extent:

5.2 linear feet (ca. 10,400 pages)

Access Restrictions:

The collection is open to research.

Restrictions on Use:

Photocopying is handled by the staff and may be limited in certain instances. Before using any material for publication from this collection a formal request for permission to publish is expected and required.

Finding aid created by Rebecca J. McNitt, October 2011

Conference Appointments

- 1906-1908: North Branch
- 1909-1911: Owosso
- 1913-1921: Lansing
- 1921-1924: Muncie, Indiana
- 1946-1949: Kittanning, Pennsylvania/Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- 1949-1955: Mars, Pennsylvania (retired in 1955)
- 1955-1959: Uniontown, Pennsylvania
- West Adrian Congregational

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Box 10	Diaries 1956 1957 1958 1959
Box 11	Diaries 1965 1966 1968 1969
Box 12	Diaries 1970 1971 1972
Box 13	Writings "Biblical Criticism: Graduation Thesis", 1913 "The Development of the Methodist Protestant Church in the Mid-West", 9 July 1963 "Education and Character", June 1926 (2 folders) "The Story of the Historical Society of the Detroit Conference of the United Methodist Church", 1969 (2 folders)