



Michigan Conference United Methodist Archives

Shipman Library, Adrian College
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Pontiac First United Methodist Church Records, 1861-1997

History Note:

This church was organized in 1818 outside of the village of Pontiac. The church was moved into Pontiac in 1830. The permanent location and building began construction in 1861 and was “with great sacrifice members brought the building to completion” during the Civil War. In 1864, a 2,035 pound bell was installed in the bell tower. The church closed in January 2009.

Scope Note:

In addition to a History File on the church, the collection contains annual reports, deeds and other legal papers, minutes of various groups, church and quarterly conferences, photographs, and vital records.

Extent:

7.6 linear feet (ca. 15,200 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, May 2012

Appointments List

- 1838-1839: Josiah Brakeman
- 1839-1840: Miles Sanford & Resin Sapp
- 1840-1841: Francis B. Bangs & James Shaw
- 1841-1842: Thomas Fox & James Shaw
- 1842-1843: Thomas Fox, Hiram M. Roberts, & Stephen C. Woodard
- 1843-1844: Thomas C. Gardner
- 1844-1845: Elliot M. Crippen
- 1845-1846: David Burns
- 1846-1848: Samuel D. Simonds
- 1848-1849: William F. Cowles
- 1849-1850: Lorenzo D. Price
- 1850-1851: [Seth Reed](#)
- 1851-1852: Michael W. Stambaugh & George Taylor
- 1852-1853: George Taylor
- 1853-1854: William Kelly
- 1854-1855: James Somerville
- 1855-1857: [Daniel C. Jacokes](#)
- 1857-1859: William Mahon
- 1859-1861: John Russell
- 1861-1863: [Samuel Clements](#)
- 1863-1865: Sylvester Calkins
- 1865-1868: [Daniel C. Jacokes](#)
- 1868-1871: William H. Shier
- 1871-1873: Oliver J. Perrin
- 1873-1875: Thomas J. Joslin
- 1875-1877: Charles T. Allen
- 1877-1880: Thomas Stalker
- 1880-1882: Oliver J. Perrin
- 1882-1885: John S. Joslin
- 1885-1889: Charles T. Allen
- 1889-1892: Nelson G. Lyons
- 1892-1896: Fred C. Pillsbury
- 1896-1900: Wilbur F. Sheridan
- 1900-1907: George W. Jennings
- 1907-1908: William H. Rider
- 1908-1910: Luther E. Lovejoy
- 1910-1916: William G. Nixon
- 1916-1918: Eli P. Bennett
- 1918-1920: Alfred E. Healey
- 1920-1921: Harvey G. Pearce
- 1921-1923: William E. Marvin
- 1923-1926: Decatur N. Lacy
- 1926-1929: Frank L. Fitch
- 1929-1933: Peter Isaac Osborne
- 1933-1933: Victor Longfield
- 1933-1936: Floyd Charles Johnson
- 1936-1937: Horace B. Sellers

Appointments List

- 1937-1940: Merton L. Stevens
- 1940-1944: Robert O. Bryce
- 1944-1956: Paul R. Havens
- 1956-1961: Paul T. Hart
- 1961-1962: Donald A. Wittbrodt
- 1962-1965: Carl G. Adams
- 1965-1968: Clyde E. Smith
- 1968-1970: Walter T. Ratcliffe
- 1970-1976: Herman R. Whiting
- 1976-1980: Arthur V. Norris
- 1980-1988: Phillip D. Miles
- 1988-1992: Robert E. Burkey
- 1992-1997: Bonnie D. Byadiah
- 1997-2000: Paul G. Donelson
- 2000-2008: Thomas L. Taylor

Contents List

Container	Contents
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Box 2	Pontiac First <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bulletins<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 1990 (2 folders)○ 1996○ 1997○ 1998○ 2002
Box 3	Pontiac First <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Charge Conference Reports<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 1969-1970○ 1971-1973○ 1974-1977○ 1980-1984○ 1987-1990○ 1995-1997• Church Growth Committee Meeting Minutes• Church Records<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Baptisms, Marriages, and Memberships<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 1861-1871▪ 1877-1883
Box 4	Pontiac First <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Church Records<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Baptisms and Memberships<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 1889-1892▪ 1896-1904○ Baptisms, Marriages, and Memberships, 1904-1926
Box 5	Pontiac First <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Church Records<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Memberships, 1924-1956○ Baptisms and Marriages, 1926-1956○ Memberships, 1950s-1980s

Appointments List

Box 6

Pontiac First

- Church Records
 - Membership Removals, 1950s-1980s
 - Membership Removals and Transfers, 1950s-1980s
 - A-C
 - D-G

Box 7

Pontiac First

- Church Records
 - Membership Removals and Transfers, 1950s-1980s
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 - N-R
 - S

Box 8

Pontiac First

- Church Records
 - Membership Removals and Transfers, 1950s-1980s
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 - Transfers, 1965-1969
 - Memberships
 - 1968-1974
 - 1969-1981
 - Transfers, 1972-1978
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- Committee on Nominations and Personnel, 1969-1971
- Correspondence
 - 1957-1963

Box 9

Pontiac First

- Correspondence
 - 1964-1967
 - 1968-1970
 - 1971-1980
- Council of Ministries Meeting Minutes, 1972-1981

Box 10

Pontiac First

- Deeds
- Dorcas Group Financial Records, 1945-1949
- Estate Records and Obituaries (2 folders)
- Financial Reports, 1992-1998
- Growth Planning (Evangelism), 1980 (2 folders)

Appointments List

Box 11

Pontiac First

- Harvest Home Banquets (2 folders)
- History File
- Legal Documents and Non-Profit Information, 1860-1995
- Membership Directories, 1960, 1970, and 1980
- Membership Statistics, 1978-1996
- Memorial and Endowment Cards and Envelopes

Box 12

Pontiac First

- Memorial and Endowment Letters
 - 1961-1969
 - 1970-1972
 - 1973-1975
 - 1976-1979
 - 1980-1982

Box 13

Pontiac First

- Memorial and Endowment Letters
 - 1983-1989
 - 1990-1994
- Men's Fellowship - Constitution
- Miscellaneous
- Mortgage Burning
- *Oakland Press* Church Page, 1969-1994 (2 folders)
- Official Board Meeting Minutes
 - 1951-1956

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Pontiac First

- Official Board Meeting Minutes
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 - 1956-1960
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 - 1964-1965
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- Pastor-Parish Relations Committee
- Photographs
- Pictorial Directories

Box 15

Pontiac First

- Printing Plates
- Progressive Class Meeting Minutes
 - 1950-1952
 - 1954-1958
- Promotional Letters, 1965-1968
- Pulpit Hymnal

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- Quarterly Conference Records, 1943-1959

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Pontiac First

- Quarterly Conference Reports
 - 1929-1931
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 - 1943-1945
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- "Revival Gems"
- Scrapbook (Dorothy Gilbert), 1894-1995

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Pontiac First

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- Special Events
- Specifications for Alterations and Additions, 1923
- Sunday School Record, 1928-1934
- Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1980-1993
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- United Methodist Women, 1979-1986
- United Methodist Women Directories
 - 1972-1983
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Pontiac First

- Wesleyan Class Record Book, 1955-1977
- Woman's Division of Christian Service Subscription Record, 1940-1952
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- Woman's Home Missionary Society
 - Finance Records, 1904-1907
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- Woman's Society of Christian Service Meeting Minutes
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Pontiac First

- Woman's Society of Christian Service Meeting Minutes
 - 1948-1952
 - 1952-1961

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- 1961-1965
- 1966-1984
- Woman's Society of Christian Service/United Methodist Women Membership Roll, 1962-1987
- Workshop Summary