



## Michigan Conference United Methodist Archives

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## Wayne First United Methodist Church Records, 1924-2020

### History Note:

The first Methodist class was organized in 1832, leading to the construction of a Union Church shared with other Protestant groups in 1850. In 1862, a separate Methodist church was constructed. The final church for this congregation was built in 1956-1957. The church closed 31 December 2020.

### Scope Note:

In addition to a History File on the church, the collection contains vital records, meeting minutes, bulletins, directories, estates and trusts, newsletters, treasurer's reports, and property deeds.

### Extent:

10.1 linear feet (ca. 20,200 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 William H. McNitt, January 2021 (revised August 2021)

## Appointments List

- 1852-1853: Samuel Bessey
- 1853-1854: Ebenezer Steele
- 1853-1854: Charles W. Seaman
- 1854-1855: Curtis Mosher
- 1855-1856: James H. Caster
- 1856-1858: Jason W. Kellogg
- 1857-1858: [Andrew J. Bigelow](#)
- 1858-1859: John Levington
- 1858-1860: William C. Way
- 1860-1861: George Smith
- 1861-1862: Charles L. Church
- 1861-1863: Benjamin H. Hedger
- 1863-1865: Jason W. Kellogg
- 1865-1868: Thomas G. Potter
- 1868-1871: John A. McIlwain
- 1871-1872: Elias E. Pearman
- 1872-1874: John S. Joslin
- 1874-1876: [Lodowick C. York](#)
- 1876-1877: William J. Campbell
- 1877-1879: Henry O. Parker
- 1879-1881: Thomas H. Baskerville
- 1881-1884: James H. Kilpatrick
- 1884-1886: Jacob C. Wortley
- 1886-1889: John A. McIlwain
- 1889-1890: [Henry W. Hicks](#)
- 1890-1892: Gilbert C. Squire
- 1892-1895: James Jackson
- 1895-1900: Martin H. Bartram
- 1900-1901: [N. Norton Clark](#)
- 1901-1904: Samuel W. Bird
- 1904-1908: Charles E. Stedman
- 1908-1912: Franklin Bradley
- 1912-1914: Ezra R. Stevenson
- 1914-1916: Elmer W. Exelby
- 1916-1921: Harry E. Smith
- 1921-1925: Harry Biddlecombe
- 1925-1934: Walter B. Heyler
- 1934-1937: DeWitt C. Littlejohn
- 1937-1941: W. Harry Young
- 1941-1948: Reinhardt E. Niemann
- 1948-1958: Gernsey F. Gorton
- 1958-1966: William Cardwell Prout
- 1965-1966: Meldon E. Crawford (Associate)
- 1966-April 1970: Russell W. Sursaw (died under appointment)
- April 1970-June 1970: Neal Dow Kelley
- 1970-1984: Charles E. Jacobs
- 1984-1989: Daniel J. Wallace

## Appointments List

- 1984-1985: Martha C. Gregg (Associate)
- 1989-1995: John W. Kershaw
- 1995-July 2000: Fredrick P. Cooley
- August 2000-2008: David K. Stewart
- 2008-2011: Gregory E. Rowe
- 2011-2013: Paul S. Hahm
- 2013-2014: Jennifer Jue
- 2014-2018: Carter L. Cortelyou
- 2018-2020: Marva Pope

## Contents List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administrative Board<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1970-1972</li><li>○ 1973-1975</li><li>○ 1976-1977</li><li>○ 1978-1979</li><li>○ 1980</li><li>○ 1981</li><li>○ 1982-1983</li><li>○ 1984</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 2</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administrative Board<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1985</li><li>○ 1986</li><li>○ 1987</li><li>○ 2000</li><li>○ 2001</li></ul></li><li>• Administrative Council<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 2002</li><li>○ 2003</li><li>○ 2004</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 3</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administrative Council<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 2005</li><li>○ January-June 2006</li><li>○ July-December 2006</li><li>○ January-June 2007</li><li>○ July-December 2007</li><li>○ January-June 2008</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 4</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administrative Council<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ July-December 2008</li><li>○ 2009</li><li>○ 2013</li><li>○ 2014</li><li>○ 2015</li><li>○ 2016-2017</li><li>○ 2018</li><li>○ 2019-2020</li></ul></li><li>• Articles of Incorporation, 1968-1983</li><li>• Budget, 1955-2004</li></ul>

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<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Building Committee<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1973-1974</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 5</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Building Committee<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1975</li><li>○ 1976-1980</li><li>○ 1983-1984</li><li>○ 1985</li><li>○ 1986-1987</li></ul></li><li>• Building Sale, 2020-2021</li><li>• Bulletins<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 2003</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 6</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bulletins<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 2004</li><li>○ 2005</li><li>○ 2015</li><li>○ 2017</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 7</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bulletins<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 2018</li><li>○ 2019</li></ul></li><li>• Calendars<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 2015</li><li>○ 2016</li><li>○ 2018-2019</li></ul></li><li>• Church Closing Meetings, 2020</li><li>• Church Conferences<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1968-1970</li><li>○ 1971-1973</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 8</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Church Conferences<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1974-1975</li><li>○ 1976-1977</li><li>○ 1978-1979</li><li>○ 1980-1982</li><li>○ 1983</li><li>○ 1984</li><li>○ 1985</li><li>○ 1986</li><li>○ 1987</li></ul></li></ul>

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Container	Contents
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1994-1995</li></ul>
<b>Box 9</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Church Conferences<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1998</li><li>○ 1999</li><li>○ 2000</li><li>○ 2001</li><li>○ 2002</li><li>○ 2003</li><li>○ 2004</li><li>○ 2005</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 10</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Church Conferences<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 2006</li><li>○ 2007-2008</li><li>○ 2011</li><li>○ 2012</li><li>○ 2013-2017</li><li>○ 2018</li><li>○ 2019-2020</li></ul></li><li>• Church Records<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Membership Roll, undated (1 folder)</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 11</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Church Records<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Membership Roll, undated (1 folder)</li><li>○ Membership, 1876-1957</li><li>○ Baptisms, Marriages, and Membership, 1894-1921</li><li>○ Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, 1921-1948</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 12</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Church Records<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Membership, 1931-1937 (3 folders)</li><li>○ Baptisms, Marriages, Membership, and Deaths, 1944-2021 (marriages and deaths begin in the 1970s) (see Oversize)</li><li>○ Marriages, Membership, and Historical Record, 1948-1953 (see Oversize)</li><li>○ Marriages and Membership<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 1953-1957 (see Oversize)</li><li>▪ 1957-1967 (see Oversize)</li></ul></li><li>○ Membership, 1957-1969</li><li>○ Marriages, Membership, and Deaths, 1966-1974 (see Oversize)</li><li>○ Baptisms, 1994-2018</li><li>○ Baptisms, Marriages, Membership, and Deaths, 1997-2018</li></ul></li></ul>

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<b>Box 13</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Council of Ministries<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1972-1975</li></ul></li><li>• Directories<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1967-1978</li><li>○ 1981-1992</li><li>○ 1996-2007</li><li>○ 2008-2016</li></ul></li><li>• Estates and Trusts<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Avery, Cora, 1986-1998</li><li>○ Bevernitz, Nettie, 1985</li><li>○ Boyles, Robert and Grace, 2012</li><li>○ Breningstall, Grace, 1986-1988</li><li>○ Dietrich, Miles, 2004-2006</li><li>○ English, Anna, 1973-1974</li><li>○ Gahan, Andrew, 1985</li><li>○ Galloska, Mary Lou, 2000-2001</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 14</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Estates and Trusts<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Jackson, Robey, 1976-1977</li><li>○ Langworthy, Harold, 1974</li><li>○ Langworthy, Inez, 1953</li><li>○ Roe, Steven, 2007-2008</li><li>○ Sprague, S. Ewart, 1996-2000</li><li>○ Uht, Mantous</li><li>○ Van Wagoner, Ruth, 2014</li><li>○ Vincent, Rose, 1984</li><li>○ Wadsworth, Sarah, 1985</li><li>○ Weiser, Norma Gail, 2018</li><li>○ Wilson, Leona, 1989</li><li>○ Wofford, Jonathan and Laura, 1985</li></ul></li><li>• Finance Committee, 1962-1983</li><li>• Financial Reports<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 2003</li><li>○ 2012-2013</li><li>○ 2014</li><li>○ 2015</li><li>○ 2016-2017</li><li>○ 2018</li><li>○ 2019</li></ul></li></ul>

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<b>Box 15</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• History File<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Anniversaries</li><li>○ Anniversaries – 150<sup>th</sup></li><li>○ Church History, 1982</li><li>○ Clippings</li><li>○ Dedication Programs</li><li>○ Final Service Booklet</li><li>○ General</li><li>○ Heritage Sundays</li><li>○ Photographs</li><li>○ Photographs – Church Members, 2016-2019 [Compact Disc]</li></ul></li><li>• Membership Lists<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1995-1996</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 16</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Membership Lists<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 2003</li></ul></li><li>• Membership Transfers<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1992-1995</li><li>○ 1997-2008</li></ul></li><li>• Memorials<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Book<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 1956-1975 (2 folders)</li><li>▪ 1980-1996 (2 folders)</li><li>▪ 1997-2020</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 17</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Memorials<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Committee, 2000-2004</li><li>○ Dedications, 1995</li><li>○ Lists<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 1975-1993</li><li>▪ 1997-2016</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• Merger Discussions with Presbyterians, 2004-2005</li><li>• Michigan Area Loan Funds, 1994-2005</li><li>• New Members Pictures, June 2006</li><li>• Newsletters<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Methodist Newsheet</i>, 1948-1953</li><li>○ <i>Methodist News</i>, 1958-1962</li><li>○ <i>Fellowship Lantern</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ January-June 2003</li><li>▪ July-December 2003</li><li>▪ January-June 2004</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>



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<b>Box 18</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Newsletters<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Fellowship Lantern</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ July-December 2004</li><li>▪ January-June 2005</li><li>▪ July-December 2005</li><li>▪ 2015</li><li>▪ 2017</li><li>▪ 2018</li><li>▪ 2019-2020</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• Nominations, 2018</li><li>• Non-Profit Corporation Reports, 1981-2020</li><li>• Official Board<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1924</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 19</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Official Board<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1946-1950</li><li>○ 1951-1952</li><li>○ 1953-1954</li><li>○ 1955-1956</li><li>○ 1957</li><li>○ 1958-1959</li><li>○ 1960-1961</li><li>○ 1962-1964</li><li>○ 1965-1966</li><li>○ 1967-1969</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 20</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parsonage Sale, 2018</li><li>• Pastor's Report to Conference, 1969-1980</li><li>• Policy Manual, 2007</li><li>• Property<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Abstract of Title</li><li>○ Deeds and Mortgages<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ 1929-1967</li><li>▪ 1974</li><li>▪ 1975-1986</li><li>▪ 1987-1988</li><li>▪ 1993-1996</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>• Quarterly Conference Reports<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1947-1956</li><li>○ 1957-1959</li></ul></li></ul>

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<b>Box 22</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff-Parish Relations<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 2006</li><li>○ 2007</li><li>○ 2008-2011</li><li>○ 2012</li><li>○ 2013</li><li>○ 2014-2015</li><li>○ 2016-2017</li><li>○ 2018</li><li>○ 2020</li></ul></li><li>• Town Hall Meeting, July 2007</li></ul>
<b>Box 23</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Treasurer's Book<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1928-1933 (2 folders)</li><li>○ 1940-1945 (5 folders)</li></ul></li><li>• Trustees<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1934-1945</li><li>○ 1964-1970</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Box 24</b>	<b>Wayne First</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trustees<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1971-1973</li><li>○ 1974-1976</li><li>○ 1982-1989</li><li>○ 1990-1993</li><li>○ 1994-1999</li><li>○ 2000-2002</li><li>○ 2003-2007</li><li>○ 2015-2017</li><li>○ 2018-2020</li><li>○ Annual Reports, 1983-1992</li></ul></li></ul>

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- Willing Workers Sunday School, 1929-1953
- Backup of Computer Hard Drive and Thumb Drives, 2009-2020

### Oversize 1      Wayne First

- Church Records
  - Baptisms, Marriages, Membership, and Deaths, 1944-2021 (marriages and deaths begin in the 1970s)
  - Marriages, Membership, and Historical Record, 1948-1953
  - Marriages and Membership
    - 1953-1957
    - 1957-1967
  - Marriages, Membership, and Deaths, 1966-1974