

# Winthrop, Mass. Union Congregational Church records, 1896-2011. RG5048

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Congregational Library & Archives

14 Beacon Street Boston, MA 02108 info@14beacon.org

URL: http://www.CongregationalLibrary.org

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# **Summary Information**

**Repository:** Congregational Library & Archives

**Creator:** Union Congregational Church (Winthrop, Mass.)

**Title:** Winthrop, Mass. Union Congregational Church records, 1896-2011.

**ID:** RG5048

**Date [inclusive]:** 1896-2011

**Physical Description:** 3.27 Cubic Feet (3 boxes)

Language of the

English

Material: Abstract:

Union Congregational Church was formally organized in 1896 in the Point Shirley neighborhood of Winthrop, Massachusetts. On February 22, 1896, a meeting led by Arthur Truslow met to discuss the creation of a "Christian Church at the Beach". The neighborhood consisted of roughly 200 families during the winter, the population increasing to 2,500 during the summer months. At that present time, families had to travel to Congregational Churches in Revere or Chelsea for service Winthrop had only just become an independent town from Chelsea in 1852, and had not yet established an independent church. E.J. Underhill offered the Tewksbury Memorial Chapel as the place of Worship, and so the church was founded with 17 members. Later that year, Union Congregational Church joined the Suffolk North Association of Congregational Churches. The Union Church of Christ at Point Shirley was founded shortly thereafter, in 1911, but due to low membership merged with the Union Congregational Church at Winthrop in 1926. UCC Winthrop had many active auxiliary organizations, most notable and oldest of which was the Women's Association. The Association sponsored many church and community programs, and contributed financial aid the church when necessary. They maintained a robust membership through the late 1970s. After membership started to dwindle, the Association continued to be a prominent organization. At its height, the Union Congregational Church at Winthrop had approximately 300 members, but serious membership fluctuations, financial difficulties, and general community apathy led to the church's closure in May of 2011. This collection contains records pertaining to the formation and maintenance of the Union Congregational Church at Winthrop, Massachusetts from the period of 1896-2011. Records include constitution, by-laws, financial records, annual reports, and records of the clerk, treasurer and registers. Records of annual reports are missing from 1941-1950, 1961-1968, 1995, and 1997. Treasurer's reports from 1965-1979 are missing,

although annual reports can be used to reference the years 1969-1979. The Women's Association is well represented in its records, with additional records from the Get-Together Club, Brotherhood and Sunday school. The records of the Couples Club, Pilgrim Youth Fellowship and Stewardship Committee are poorly represented. Also included are membership lists, baptismal, transfer and dismission records. Memorabilia include the Sermons of Rev. Karen Fritz from 1991-1992, correspondence, newspaper clippings, transcript of a church radio broadcast, and town of Winthrop vital statistics circa 1957.

#### **Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], in the Winthrop Mass. Union Congregational Church records, 1896-2011, RG5048. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

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# **Biographical / Historical**

Union Congregational Church was formally organized in 1896 in the Point Shirley neighborhood of Winthrop, Massachusetts. On February 22, 1896, a meeting led by Arthur Truslow met to discuss the creation of a "Christian Church at the Beach". The neighborhood consisted of roughly 200 families during the winter, the population increasing to 2,500 during the summer months. At that present time, families had to travel to Congregational Churches in Revere or Chelsea for service Winthrop had only just become an independent town from Chelsea in 1852, and had not yet established an independent church. E.J. Underhill offered the Tewksbury Memorial Chapel as the place of Worship, and so the church was founded with 17 members. Later that year, Union Congregational Church joined the Suffolk North Association of Congregational Churches. The Union Church of Christ at Point Shirley was founded shortly thereafter, in 1911, but due to low membership merged with the Union Congregational Church at Winthrop in 1926. UCC Winthrop had many active auxiliary organizations, most notable and oldest of which was the Women's Association. The Association sponsored many church and community programs, and contributed financial aid the church when necessary. They maintained a robust membership through the late 1970s. After membership started to dwindle, the Association continued to be a prominent organization. At its height, the Union Congregational Church at Winthrop had approximately 300 members, but serious membership fluctuations, financial difficulties, and general community apathy led to the church's closure in May of 2011.

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## **Arrangement**

The Union Congregational Church records are arranged into six series and each individual series is arranged chronologically.

Series 1: Church and Annual Reports, 1896-2011.

Series 2: Financial Records, 1898-1996.

Series 3: Historical Items, 1902-1996.

Series 4: Church Staff Records, 1903-1989.

**Series 5:** Auxiliary Organizations, 1903-1991.

Subseries 1: Women's Association, 1924-1975.

**Subseries 2:** Prudential Committee, 1925-1991.

Subseries 3: Get-Together Club, 1942-1986.

Series 6: Church Vital Statistics, 1934-2008.

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## **Administrative Information**

#### **Publication Statement**

Congregational Library & Archives

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URL: http://www.CongregationalLibrary.org

## **Revision Description**

William McCarthy. Re-organized the entire collection. 2018-09-11

#### **Restrictions on Access**

Access to this collection is unrestricted and open to the public.

#### **Restrictions on Use**

Items in this collection are subject to U.S. Copyright Law. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine the copyright status of collection items and to secure any permissions necessary for their reproduction and publication. Requests for permission to publish material must be discussed with the archivist or librarian.

## **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Received in June 2011; Accession: 2011-68.

# **Processing Information**

Accessioned by Cristina Prochilo, December 2012, using MPLP. Processed by Elyse Edwards, November 2013, using DACS Second Edition. Re-processed by William McCarthy in September 2018.

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#### **Related Materials**

#### **Related Materials**

"A history of the Union Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Winthrop, Massachusetts" by Patricia I. Brown (1989), CLA 17.11.1. W73.85 UNICC HB 1989

"Ordination and installation of Arthur Truslow at the Union Congregational Church of Winthrop, Massachusetts, Tewksbury Memorial Chapel, Wednesday evening, September 30, 1896, seven o'clock".; Harvard Library 005850405 (Hollis Number)

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# **Controlled Access Headings**

- Congregational churches -- Massachusetts -- Winthrop.
- Church buildings -- Massachusetts -- Winthrop.
- Church records and registers -- Massachusetts -- Winthrop.
- Women Clergy -- Congregational churches.
- Women -- United States -- Society and Clubs -- History.
- Women in church work -- History.
- Ordination.
- Baptismal records.
- Church membership.
- Local Church Histories.
- Massachusetts -- Church history.
- Installation (Clergy) -- Winthrop (Mass.) -- History.
- Union Congregational Church (Winthrop, Mass.)

# **Collection Inventory**

# Church and Annual Reports, 1896-2011

Physical Description: 23 Folders

#### **Scope and Contents**

This series contains church records, including constitution, by-laws, minutes, membership lists, baptism records, and annual reports. Annual Reports are missing from 1961-1968, 1995, and 1997. The Union Congregation Church at

Point Shirley ledger contains its history, constitution by-laws, and minutes from its creation in 1911 until it merged with the Union Congregational Church at Winthrop, Mass. in 1926.

Title/Description	Instances	
Church Register and Record, 1896-1915	box 2	folder 1
Records of UCC Point Shirley, 1911-1926	box 2	folder 2
Constitution, By-Laws and History, 1913-1931, 1967-1989	box 1	folder 1
Church Register, 1914-1977	box 2	folder 3
Church Reports, 1951-1953	box 1	folder 2
Annual Report, 1957	box 1	folder 3
Annual Report, 1959-1960	box 1	folder 4
Annual Report, 1969-1970	box 1	folder 5
Annual Report, 1971	box 1	folder 6
Annual Report, 1972	box 1	folder 7
Annual Report, 1973-1975	box 1	folder 8
Annual Report, 1976-1977	box 1	folder 9
Annual Report, 1978-1979	box 1	folder 10
Church Register and Record, 1978-2011	box 2	folder 4
Annual Report, 1980-1981	box 1	folder 11
Annual Report, 1982-1984	box 1	folder 12
Annual Report, 1985-1987	box 1	folder 13
Annual Report, 1988-1990	box 1	folder 14
Annual Report, 1991-1992	box 1	folder 15
Annual Report, 1993	box 1	folder 16
Annual Report, 1994-1999	box 1	folder 17
Annual Report, 2000-2003	box 1	folder 18
Annual Report, 2004-2010	box 1	folder 19

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# Financial Records, 1898-1996

Physical Description: 20 Items (15 folders, 5 volumes)

#### **Scope and Contents**

The Financial records document the church finances and the church building. Included are the Treasurer's reports, deeds, legacies, property records, and documents related to building repairs and renovations. Treasurer's reports

from 1965-1979, 1982, 1984, 1991, 1994-2011 are missing, although Annual reports can be referenced in lieu of those reports for all but the years 1965-1968 and 2011.

Title/Description	Instances	
Mortgage Deeds and Receipts, 1889-1957	box 3	folder 1
Treasurer's Ledger, 1898-1916	box 2	folder 5
Treasurer's Ledger, 1917-1937	box 2	folder 6
Treasurer's Reports and Records, 1920, 1959-1962	box 1	folder 20
Treasurer's Ledger, 1938-1960	box 2	folder 7
Building Records, 1950-1991	box 1	folder 21
Grant Papers, 1951, 1986-1988	box 1	folder 22
Treasurer's Reports and Records, 1962-1964	box 1	folder 23
Facility Management and Operations, 1968-1973	box 1	folder 24
Legacies, 1974, 1982, undated	box 3	folder 2
Treasurer's Report, 1980-1981	box 1	folder 25
Ledger, 1981	box 3	volume 1
Ledger, 1983	box 3	volume 2
Investment Records, 1983-1984, 1996	box 1	folder 26
Church Rectory, 1984-1988	box 3	folder 3
Donations of UCC Winthrop, 1985-1986	box 1	folder 27
Treasurer's Reports and Records, 1985-1989	box 1	folder 28
Ledger, 1990	box 3	volume 3
Ledger, 1992	box 3	volume 4
Ledger, 1993	box 3	volume 5

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# Historical Items, 1902-1996

Physical Description: 10 Folders

#### **Scope and Contents**

This series includes service programs, newsletters, Sermons from Karen Fritz, clippings from a "60 Minutes" report on church donations, correspondence and vital statistics of the town of Winthrop. In addition, correspondence and memorabilia from the funeral of Hallie Barnard, a prominent member of the Church and Women's Association, are included. Of note in this series is a transcript of church broadcasts given by Rev. Linwood C. Potter from the fall of 1945 through spring 1946.

Title/Description	Instances
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Newspaper clippings, Hymns, Correspondence, 1902-1926, 1960-1989	box 3	folder 4	
Service Programs, 1905-1966	box 1	folder 29	
Church Radio Broadcast Transcript, September 1944-May 1945	box 3	folder 5	
Hallie Barnard Funeral Papers, 1957	box 1	folder 30	
Town of Winthrop Vital Statistics, 1957	box 1	folder 31	
Correspondence, 1957-1996	box 1	folder 32	
Newsletters, 1957, 1982-1996	box 1	folder 33	
Service Programs, 1981-1992	box 1	folder 34	
Papers and clippings from "60 Minutes" report, 1983	box 1	folder 35	
Karen Fritz Sermons, 1991-1992	box 1	folder 36	

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# Church Staff Records, 1903-1989

**Physical Description**: 7 Folders

## **Scope and Contents**

This series contains records related to various ministers and other church staff.

Title/Description	Instances		
Cabinet and Church Staff, 1903, 1971-1988	box 1	folder 37	
Ministerial Appointments and Selection Policies, 1962-1988	box 1	folder 38	
Francis Archer Papers, 1966-1969	box 1	folder 39	
John R. Coyle Papers, 1982-1984	box 1	folder 40	
Laurel V. Greenwood Papers, 1983-1984	box 1	folder 41	
Karen B. Fritz Papers, 1986-1987	box 1	folder 42	
Associate Ministers, 1987-1989	box 1	folder 43	

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# **Auxiliary Organizations, 1903-1991**

Physical Description: 18 Folders

#### **Scope and Contents**

This series includes the minutes, reports and correspondence of the Women's Association, Prudential Committee, Get-Together Club, Brotherhood and Sunday school. Other groups include the Couples Club, Pilgrims Club, Youth Fellowship and Stewardship Committees.

## Women's Association, 1924-1975

Physical Description: 8 Folders

#### **Scope and Contents**

This sub-series contains ledgers and pamphlets related to the Women's Association.

Title/Description	Instances		
Women's Association Pamphlets, 1924-1939	box 1	folder 44	
Women's Association Ledger, 1925-1931, 1943	box 2	folder 8	
Papers of the Women's Association, 1927, 1958, undated	box 1	folder 45	
Women's Association Pamphlets, 1941-1988	box 1	folder 46	
Women's Association Ledger, 1944-1949	box 2	folder 9	
Women's Association Ledger, 1956-1962	box 3	volume 6	
Women's Association Ledger, 1959-1982	box 2	folder 10	
Women's Association Ledger, 1962-1975	box 2	folder 11	

## **Prudential Committee, 1925-1991**

Physical Description: 4 Folders

#### **Scope and Contents**

This sub-series contains papers and meeting minutes for the Prudential Committee.

Title/Description	Instances	
Prudential Committee Minutes, 1925-1931	box 1	folder 47
Prudential Committee Minutes, 1931-1936	box 1	folder 48
Prudential Committee Minutes, 1937-1940	box 2	folder 12
Prudential Committee Papers, 1984-1991	box 1	folder 49

## Get-Together Club, 1942-1986

Physical Description: 3 Folders

#### **Scope and Contents**

This sub-series contains annual reports, pamphlets and treasurer's reports for the Get-Together Club.

Title/Description	Instances
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Get-Together Club Treasurer's Report, 1942-1963	box 2	folder 13	
Get-Together Club Pamphlets, 1979-1986	box 1	folder 50	
Get-Together Club Annual Reports, 1993, 1996	box 1	folder 51	
Brotherhood Journal and Correspondence, 1903-1904, undated	box 1	folder 52	
Couples Club, Pilgrim Youth Fellowship and Stewardship Committee, 1959-1960, undated	box 2	folder 14	
Sunday School records, 1961-1965	box 1	folder 53	

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# Church Vital Statistics, 1934-2008

Physical Description: 11 Items (10 folders, 1 volume)

## **Scope and Contents**

This series includes membership lists, baptism, transfer and dismission records, in addition to church directories. Also included is a Book of Remembrances.

Title/Description	Instances	
Mailing List and Directory, 1934-1978, undated	box 1	folder 54
Baptism Certificate Stubs, 1943-1957	box 1	folder 55
Baptism Certificate Stubs, 1957-1969	box 3	folder 6
Dismission Records, 1957-1988	box 1	folder 56
Transfer Records, 1959-2005, undated	box 1	folder 57
Membership Lists, 1962-1968	box 1	folder 58
Book of Remembrance, 1966-2008	box 3	volume 7
Baptism Papers, 1967, 1982	box 1	folder 59
Transfer Records Certificate Book, 1969-1993	box 3	folder 7
Deceased Papers, 1970-1992	box 1	folder 60
Membership Lists, undated	box 3	folder 8

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