



RG 06: Churches

Finding aid and container list

Enfield's churches have been an integral part of town life since the first settlers arrived here in the early 1680s from Massachusetts. With the Puritan settlers came what would become the Congregational Church; the first meeting house was constructed in 1684. The Congregational Church was an "established" church until 1818, meaning that it was supported by taxpayers. Other Christian denominations appeared in the 1800s; Scottish weavers brought Presbyterianism, for instance, while successive waves of Irish, Italian, and Polish immigrants brought the Catholic Church. Churches were often the focal point of immigrant communities, and many have remained so for their descendants today.

The churches collection contains programs, histories, ledgers, newspaper articles, photos, and more from Enfield churches, many of which either no longer exist or have merged with other churches. This collection is a window into the rich religious and social life of Enfield's past.

Box 1: Enfield (First) Congregational Church

Folder 1: Programs

- Installation service of the Rev. John P. Garfield as pastor, October 8, 1903 [1983.3.210a-c]
- 200th anniversary program, June 3-4, 1899
- Program for "Rally Day," year unknown
- Program for rededication of First Congregational Church, Sunday, July 13, 1919
- Programs: 266th, 279th and 283rd years (1965, 1978, 1982?)
- Program, 1911
- 200th anniversary program, June 3 & 4, 1899
- Program: A service of Bicentennial celebration, April 20, 1975
- Program: Connecticut Christmas 1938

Folder 2: Publications

- "Drum-Beats" monthly magazine, 1960s
- Booklet, "First Congregational Church, 1683-1915, a brief history, with reports for 1914"
- Booklet: "A Garden of Quilts quilt show"
- Booklet on planned addition, "Building on our heritage" date unknown
- Booklet: "To Welcome You"

Folder 3: Photos

- Alter photo, no date
- View of Enfield from across the river in Suffield, taken about 1983
- 8x10 b&w, Thomas Abbey statue
- Small photo, Abbey statue dedication, 1916 [2022.3.70]
- Envelope of 4x6 photos of exterior, undated
- Color photos reprinted from slides, 1959-60 [82.13.1-3]
- Undated small photo, people on steps, pre-Abbey statue [2004.6.9]
- 1938 hurricane damage to steeple, fallen tree [1993.3.54]
- Two 3x5 color photos of columns and spire
- B&W photo from below Abbey statue, in front of spire
- Two 8x10 photos of Abbey monument seating area during rummage sale
- B&W 8x10 of lit up steeple, full moon in background, 1994
- "Easter greetings" postcard, year unknown

Folder 4: Histories

- Article from Thompsonville Press, June 8, 1899, about the 200th anniversary of the First Congregational Church
- "Some ministers of the First Congregational Church of Enfield, Conn., by Rev. Oliver W. Means, D.D.," Nov. 9, 1926
- "The Rev. Elam Potter" by F. Russell Meyer [2020.11.10]

Folder 5: Manuals

- 1845 manual with history, covenant, confession of faith, and catalogue of members since 1783
- 1879 manual, belonged to Emily Morrison
- 1894 manual and catalogue of members
- 1915 manual, with history and reports for 1914
- 1932 manual [1983.36.20]

Folder 6: Misc. documents

- Booklet: "What it means to be a member of a Congregational Church"
- The constitution and by-laws of the United Church of Christ, annotated
- Letter from Philip E. Tatoian, attorney-at-law, to Mr. Edward Chapin, dated Dec. 4, 1962, with attached copies and metal badge of security officer, concerning various controversies
- Strawberry festival given by Y.P.S.C.E., advertisement
- Christmas card with color photo on front, explaining history of communion table purchased in 2006
- Booklet: "The Meeting House at Enfield," photo on cover
- Brochure [2009.15.26]
- Three copies of the "Congregational Church in Enfield" section of *Some Old Time Meeting Houses of the Connecticut Valley* by Charles Albert Wright, 1911
- 300th anniversary celebration pamphlets, 1983
- Pamphlet calendar, the Benevolent Society, the Brotherhood of the First Congregational Church, 1935

- Program: Connecticut tercentenary event commemorating the “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” sermon, Oct. 6, 1935
- Program: annual meeting of the Enfield Christian Endeavour Union, Nov. 9, 1906
- Program: Heritage Day Fair, Sep. 27, 1980 [2020.12.2]

Folder 7: Additional Histories [1996.13.47]

- Rev. George Winch at the Congregational Church
- Abbey memorial
- Address of Atty. J. Warren Johnson at rededication of Congregational Church after serious fire

Folder 8: Newspaper clippings

- Newspaper photo of church pews, taken from pulpit, Sep. 26, 1975
- Article: “The Enfield Church and its builders” Thompsonville Press, July 21, 1910
- Newspaper photo: “The Stately Enfield Congregational Church remains an impressive link to Enfield’s past...” April 7, 1966.
- Misc. clippings

Folder 9: Church business/reports

- Notice of meeting of the members to choose officers and sell seats, March 3, 1902
- Handwritten notes of meetings of church organization
- Booklet, steeple repair fund benefit auction, 1983
- Constitution and by-laws, 1962 [82.9.1]
- Annual meeting booklet, 1963
- Board of Ushers: letter March 13, 1963 listing duties of ushers and people scheduled for Feb. through Dec. 1963 and Jan. 1964
- Letter, Feb. 1, 1963, to Mr. Prior from Dave Blackall, chairman of Board of Ushers

Not in folder:

- “A History of God’s Standing Order Church in Enfield 1680-1973” by F. Russell Meyer, church historian
- Pocket New Testament and Psalms Bible sent by First Congregational Church to Pvt. N.H. Prior, Sept. 1942

Box 2: First Presbyterian Church

Folder 1: 1939 centennial: clippings, programs

- Springfield newspaper, “Church Fetes Centennial” [1997.13.3A]
- News article: “Thompsonville Presbyterians prepare to celebrate their 100th anniversary”
- Programs for centennial services
- Booklets with program and history
- Article, “Dr. Alfred Barr, former pastor, to be speaker”

Folder 2: 1939 centennial: play materials

- Reminder card to show up to full pageant rehearsal
- Script for Episode I-III
- Draft of Episode IV, with letter from Doris Halsworth asking if changes are needed
- Playbill for play, titled "The Loom of Faith"

Folder 3: 1939 centennial: invitations, guest book

- Guest book [1996.13.198]
- Invitations to 100th anniversary celebration, July 15 & 16, 1939
- Letters to Harvey C. Brainard accepting or declining invitation to celebration from: Mrs. Percy Spicer, Mrs. Mary B. Simmons, Mrs. Jesse McCrone Bright-Gebble, Mrs. Darling, Isabel Hunter Gordy, Richard Nesbitt, Mrs. J.B. Honator, Elizabeth R. Voorhies, Bertha A. Weising, Miss Lillian Mitchell, Edward L. Prickett, Arthur E. Tarhill, R.R.A. Alexander, William H. Bissland, AND Doris Halsworth.
- Additional letter from Eleanor B. Brainard thanking aunt and uncle for gift of silverware, was included with the church-related letters.

Folder 4: 1939 centennial: Photos

- Envelope of 15 photographs of the ceremonies [1986.13.386.1-15]

Folder 5: General news clippings (unprocessed)

Folder 6: Misc. materials (unprocessed)

Box 3: First Presbyterian Church, Hazardville Methodist, Calvary Presbyterian Church

Folder 1:

- First Presbyterian Church – reports and programs, 1905-1949

Folder 2:

- First Presbyterian Church – reports and programs, 1950-1959

Folder 3:

- First Presbyterian Church – reports and programs, 1960-1969

Folder 4: Hazardville Methodist Church, photos

- Boy Scouts in parade [2024.9.25]
- Photo of church [1988.3.13]
- Series of 20 color photos, exterior of church and stained glass windows
- Stereo view of church and parsonage, also a second stereo view of unidentified house
- Postcards from Women's Foreign Missionary School of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1909, 1911
- Color photo of church and fellowship hall, 1978
- Color photo of church 1971

- “Possibly Lady’s Committee” with names listed

Folder 5: Hazardville Methodist Church, histories/centennials

- “History of the Hazardville Methodist Church” by Ruth Bridge, 1972 [2024.9.26]
- “A Story of Methodism in Hazardville” [2024.9.23]
- “1872-1972 100th Anniversary of Our Sanctuary” [2024.9.23]

Folder 6: Hazardville Methodist Church, directories and member lists

- Directories: 1968, 1978, 1984, 1985
- Directory with history, date unknown, 1920s?
- Membership list, 1986

Folder 7: Hazardville Methodist Church, church business documents

- Annual reports, 1984, 1986, 1987
- Certificate of the trustees appointment, Sept. 1865

Folder 8: Hazardville Methodist Church, miscellaneous documents

- Charge Conference, 1986
- “For Your Information” flyer [2024.9.21]
- Program “Ye Olde Tyme Revue” given by the Men’s Brotherhood, 1949 [82.26.2]
- Cookbook
- Program, concert, 1952

Folder 9: Calvary Presbyterian Church

- 1972-1982, “Ten Years in Christ” booklet
- American Bicentennial observance, July 4, 1976
- Photo: United Presbyterian Church [2005.18.3]
- “Sabbath Worship: 150th Anniversary Celebration of the Lord’s Supper, Nov. 5, 1989”

Box 4: St. Patrick’s Church

Folder 1: Photos

- Photo of church, negative 33a
- Altar photo
- Photos, original interior before fire [2009.6.35-36]
- Photo of unknown priest
- Photos, [2007.19.35], [1983.22.1]
- Photo of Rev. Terr Dunn, died 2/28/1914 [1982.50.1]
- Front of church

Folder 2: Publications

- Brochures: “The Church of St. Patrick” [2025.2.1]

- 1991 brochure
- "Clear the Debt" drive with list of donors, Oct. 5, 1920
- Contributors to restoration fund, 1949
- St. Patrick's Church dedication, Nov. 20, 1904 [1981.15.2]
- Communion breakfast brochure, May 3, 1953 [1998.15.2]
- St. Patrick's parish cookbook, 1975
- Brochure: "Forward in Faith: the Restoration of St. Patrick's"
- Brochure, dedication of St. Patrick's Church, 1889-1904 [2003.12.7], [2005.2.3]

Folder 3: News clippings

- Articles on death and funeral of Rev. Daniel J. O'Connor [2024.24.11]
- Article on fundraiser, Springfield delegation, Nov. 25, 1956
- Article from Catholic Transcript, "Parish Spotlight" on St. Patrick's, Feb. 2003
- Article on Rev. William P. Kilcoyne, Dec. 15, 1938
- Newspaper photo of church
- Springfield Sunday Republican, Nov. 25, 1956, honoring Francis D. Charette
- Newspaper article, Thompsonville Press, Aug. 15, 1889, sketch of new Catholic church (with bell tower!)
- Newspaper clipping, interior of church during funeral, 1937
- St. Patrick's rededication, Grand Prize from festival, Aug. 26, 1937

Folder 4: Documents, miscellaneous

- Rules and regulations of St. Patrick's Cemetery
- Receipts from Thompsonville Monumental Works, 1912, 1916, 1926
- Pieces of St. Patrick's original altar from 1949 fire

Not in folder:

- Scrapbook of photos and news clippings from the 1949 fire, includes booklet of contributors

See also fires/disasters box for more on St. Patrick's fire

Box 5: St. Adelbert Church

Folder 1: Photos

- Photos of church and scaffolding inside church, men painting ceiling
- Photos of work in cemetery, 1993
- Large photo with negative spool slides, wall inside church, 1996?

Folder 2: Newspaper clippings

- "Memorial Crucifixion Group"
- "New Convent at St. Adelbert"
- "St. Adelbert School Dedication"
- "Thompsonville parade is colorful event though marred somewhat by rain"
- Polish language newspaper, Rev. Federkiewicz jubilee
- Polish language newspaper, Polish army veterans

- Newspaper clippings on death of Rev. Federkiewicz
- "A Blessing at St. Adelbert's Convent"
- "Pictures Sought for History of St. Adelbert's Church"

Folder 3: Histories

- Book: "A Place of Their Own: A History of St. Adelbert Church" by Rev. John P. Gwozdz [1990.19.4]
- 1930 "Memorial Book" (Polish language), includes program for testimonial ball honoring Rev. Bartlewski, 1969; a ticket to banquet and dance, 1963; and a ticket to the harvest ball, 1976.
- Listing of priests who have served in St. Adelbert Church

Folder 4: Rev. Paul J. Bartlewski

- 1963 booklet honoring the 25th year of Rev. Bartlewski
- 1949 booklet honoring Rev. Bartlewski's silver anniversary in the priesthood
- Prayer card from 1963 jubilee
- 1939 article, Rev. Bartlewski, Polish language
- Newspaper article: "Fr. Bartlewski's 35th Jubilee"
- Typed page, possibly speech, honoring Rev. Bartlewski
- 1939 Polish language newspaper article
- Program for Rev. Bartlewski's testimonial ball upon his retirement, Oct. 28, 1972

Folder 5: Miscellaneous documents

- Program: "Celebrating Our 75th Year 1915-1990"
- Program, "Blessing of the altar and the sacrament of confirmation" March 22, 1998
- Materials about Rev. Stanislaus Federkiewicz, including death and funeral
- Miscellaneous papers: baptisms, lists of priests, transcripts of newspaper articles, etc.
- Organ Dance Fund program, April 18, 1936
- "Inside Picture of Polish Veterans" 1938, Polish language

Folder 6: Marble altar pieces from St. Patrick's Church, 1949

Box 6: United Presbyterian Church [2006.15]

Folder 1:

- Treasurer's reports, 1845-1945 [2006.15.6]

Folder 2:

- Dedication, rededication, and anniversaries material

Folder 3:

- Misc photos

Folder 4: Photos 2

- Misc. photos

Folder 5:

- Clippings, bulletins, budgets, and miscellaneous documents

Folder 6:

- A copy of Milton's "Paradise Lost," copied out in script, dated 1790 [2006.15.3]

Box 7: Churches, Misc.

Folder 1: St. Andrews Protestant Episcopal Church

- Scrapbook by Dorothy Gaskell
- Program: "Faith in Action"
- Night photo of St. Andrews Church [1983.19.2]
- Photo of property [1983.19.3]
- Brochure, 75th anniversary
- Photos, negatives of church
- Typed brochure of annual meeting, 1962
- Brochure, centennial activities 1860-1960
- Brochure, 75th anniversary 1860-1935
- Newsletter
- Church memorabilia [2012.3.41D]

Folder 2: St. Bernard's Catholic Church, photos

- Photos, Monsignor Edward Joseph Reardon
- Letter from Diane Ingraham Roberts written Nov. 30, 2017, includes two photos of procession on North Maple St. and Main St. (Hazard Ave.), 1955.
- Photos of procession to dedicate church: Bishop Cheverus Hall, Msgr. John T. Hynes, statue of St. Bernard, dedication rite with reverend and archbishop.
- Photos of dedication mass, 1955, and new building
- Photo, view looking east on Main St. (Hazard Ave.) to church [1988.3.16]

Folder 3: St. Bernard's Catholic Church

- Program, "Tribute to Father Fitz"
- Book: "St. Bernard's Church," 1980, 2 copies [1990.19.5]

Folder 4: Thompsonville Methodist Church

- Photo of front of church [1993.35.1]
- Photo, children in church school [1993.35.2]
- Photo, church kitchen [1993.35.4]
- Photo, table and chairs in church school [1993.35.3]
- Photo of altar [1993.35.5]
- Photo of tag sale, Sep. '93

- Recipe book
- Annual rally, Oct. 10, 1909
- Old photo of church
- News clippings from 1964 closure of church, takeover by AmVets

Folder 5: Catholic Apostolic Church

- Newspaper clippings, Mar. 28, 1929 [1983.3.31]
- Negatives of church [1983.3.32]

Folder 6: Holy Cross (Polish National) Catholic Church

- Newspaper article, restoration of old organ, Nov. 20, 1976
- Newspaper article, Nov. 4, 1976
- Photos of church
- Album: 60th anniversary, 1897-1957

Folder 7: St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church

- Newspaper clippings, including article about 1978 fire
- SEE box 10, blueprints for St. Nicholas church

Folder 8: Holy Family Catholic Church

- Newspaper article: "Holy Family Parish Begin Drive" Apr. 23, 1966

Folder 9: St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Hazardville

- Centennial anniversary, 1864-1964
- St. Mary's treasure of personal recipes, 1952

Folder 10: Felician Sisters

- Felician Sisters favorite recipes, undated

Folder 11: Misc. materials

- Bible Visitors statistical report of Enfield
- List of church records in the CT State Library
- Typed article by Mrs. F. A. Stuart, "The Organization and Early History of the Church in Enfield, Connecticut," March 31, 1923
- Photocopies from "Histories of Enfield Churches: Thompsonville, Hazardville" by Charles Comparetto.
- Church directory for the town of Enfield
- Newspaper clipping, Feb. 26, 1970, about Faith Baptist Church opening

Box 8: Oversize

- 11x14 B&W photo of Enfield Congregational Church with Abbey statue
- St. Adelbert Golden Jubilee 1915-1965 commemorative plate

- Large photo, St. Bernard's Church
- St. Andrews Church: "Now We Thank Our God: Every Member Canvass" large booklet, 1959? Dorothy Gaskell
- Matted drawing of Hazardville Methodist Church [2024.9.24]
- Book: "Hallowed Hymns New and Old, Methodist Episcopal Church, Hazardville Conn."
- Rolled item: First Presbyterian Sabbath School certificate, promoting Bessie Graham from the Primary Dept. to the Junior Dept. Oct. 6, 1901. [2005.5.1]
- Rolled item: Certificate of recognition awarded to Eleanor Davis for church Sunday School Bible Study, at the First Presbyterian Church, dated June 12, 1932 [2005.5.2]
- Ivanhoe from Universalist [Church] Sabbath School Library

Box 9: Thompson Bibles

- Bibles donated to the First and United Presbyterian Churches by Orrin Thompson, 1860s

Box 10: St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Blueprints [2023.19]

- Blueprints, undated
- "Specifications for a Frame Church Situated in Thompsonville, Conn., St. Nicholas Congregation, Owners."
- Miscellaneous newspaper clippings on St. Patrick's fire

Presbyterian Churches Archive [2023.2]

Four record center boxes given by the Calvary Presbyterian Church in 2023, documents from First and United Presbyterian Churches.

Presbyterian Churches Archive Box 1:

- Pulpit bible given to First Presbyterian Church by Orrin Thompson in July 1867
- Lectures on Sacred History by Dr. Joseph Harvey, DD. Vol 1, 1840
- Four Sunday school ledgers or journals; earliest starts 1939, latest starts 1958
- Young People's Missionary Association (YPMA) information compiled 1945
- Secretary's Book Young People's Missionary Association United Presbyterian Church 1888-1893
- Secretary's Book Young People's Missionary Association United Presbyterian Church 1925
- Young People's Missionary Association United Presbyterian Church records 1933-1941
- Missionary Society "book 3" 1896-1901
- Women's Missionary Society 1926-1929
- Associate Reformed Church information compiled in 1945
- Friendly Circle minutes 1942-1948
- First Presbyterian Finance Committee minutes 1928-1943
- 1846 American Bible Society bible
- Photo of the organ at the United Presbyterian Church

- Booklet from 100th anniversary of the United Presbyterian Church (1945) (two different versions or printings)
- Dedication program of the new United Presbyterian Church (Pearl Street) 1902
- Church directory, United Presbyterian Church, 1971
- Gospel Hymns and Sacred Songs by Bliss & Sankey
- Gospel Hymns No. 2, compiled in 1875-76 by Bliss & Sankey
- Psalms and Hymns of the Presbyterian Church 1843
- Year Book Directory of the United Presbyterian Church High Street 1924
- Hymns for the use of the Churches Thomas Bosworth 1884 fifth edition
- Ladies Aid Society United Presbyterian Church 9/12/1935 to 12/15/1947
- United Presbyterian Athletic Club Thompsonville 1922 to 1924

Presbyterian Churches Archive Box 2:

- Record of organization of the First Presbyterian Church Sunday School 12/27/1834
- Sunday School membership records 1910-1914
- 1960s Financial Records
- 1960s Receipts for materials and work constructing new church Calvary Presbyterian Church on King Street
- 1960s Insurance papers
- The Duties of the Ruling Elder presented to Elder Georgia Brainard by the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Thompsonville, Conn. Ordained and installed February 1st 1959
- Re-Dedication program of the 105th Anniversary Memorial Repair and Improvement Program of 1944, First Presbyterian Church
- Pictorial Bible, circa 1876, given to the Sunday School of the First Presbyterian Church by Mrs. Claus Abrahamson June 21, 1959

Presbyterian Churches Archive Box 3:

- Secretary's books Ladies Missionary Society, 1878-1946 (changed to Women's Missionary Society)
- Women's Missionary Society records, 1929-1934
- Women's Missionary Society records, 1935-1945
- Women's Missionary Society records of the United Presbyterian Church, 1929-1951
- Treasurer's Books Women's Missionary Society
- Women's Society records 1948-1953
- Women's Society records 1954-1960
- Ladies Aid Society records 1923-1931
- Ladies Aid Society records of the United Presbyterian Church, 1948
- Treasurer's and Secretary's Books Ladies Aid Society, 1889-1941
- Young Women's Missionary Group (Society) records 1957-1971 (later Women's Association after groups merged)
- Women's Guild records, 1961-1973
- Assorted papers related to the various Women's groups
- Constitution and By-Laws of the Young People's Association of Christian Endeavors organized October 1884
- Pansy Mission Band organized February 29, 1888

Presbyterian Churches Archive Box 4:

- Assorted programs and paper ephemera
- Timeline chart for the various Presbyterian Churches
- Photo of High Street Church taken 1902
- Photo of Miss (Georgia) Brainard's Light Bearers Group (children) with names, undated

See also: **MS 01: Anthony Secondo Collection** and **MS 06: Episcopal Churches Collection** for additional material on Enfield churches.

SJB 7/25/2026