



Olivet Presbyterian Church Records (Photocopies), 1892-2007

PA 37

Overview

Creator:	Olivet Presbyterian Church
Title:	Olivet Presbyterian Church Records
Collection Number:	PA 37
Collection Dates:	1892-2007
Size:	3 boxes
Accession #:	2006.8
Repository:	Hanover College Archives Duggan Library 121 Scenic Drive Hanover, Indiana 47243-0287 Phone: (812) 866-7181 archives@hanover.edu

Collection Information:

Scope and Content Note

Records (photocopies) of the Olivet Presbyterian Church in Evansville, Vanderburgh County, Indiana, dated 1892-2007. Documents include session minutes, church registers, and annual congregational meeting minutes. Topics include church history, building construction, membership lists, financial reports, Anti-Saloon league, Endeavor Society, Ladies aid Society, Sunday school, committee meetings, anniversaries, officer lists, anniversaries, World War II, flooding, African Americans, and dissolution of the relationship with the Presbyterian Church. Records also include vital statistics information including baptisms, marriages, and deaths.

Historical Information

In 1892, a group of missionaries began teaching Sunday school classes inside the Jefferson Ave. C.P. Church and later the Free Methodist Church. This group built a church in 1896 and, after a few years of short-term pastors, was officially named the Olivet Presbyterian Church by Reverend T.A. Wigginton and Reverend W. F. Padgett. Reverend Padgett became the church's first full-time pastor. After years of membership in the Presbyterian Church (USA), in 2006 the church applied for dismissal from the PC(USA) and subsequently joined the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Administrative Information:

Related Items:

Related materials may be found by searching the [Hanover College online catalog](#).

Acquisition:

Donated by Alex Merwin, 2006.

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Preferred Citation: [identification of item], Olivet Presbyterian Church Records, PA 37, Hanover College

Finding Aid Updated: 4/18/2019

Container List

Box	Folder	Folder Title	Date	Notes
1	1	Session Book	1892-1938	Photo-copy of the early history and founding of the church on Olivet Street in Evansville as sponsored by First Presbyterian church in that city.
1	2	Session Book	1900-1938	The Presbyter accepts the request to establish the mission of supporting the new church and local merchants help.
1	3	Session Book	1900-1938	Church chooses Trustees, building at Oliver and Morris streets is the location, and church raises money.
1	4	Session Book	1900-1938	Church adds members and begins weekly collection of funds.
1	5	Session Book	1900-1938	First roll of members.
1	6	Session Book	1900-1938	Subscription fund launched. Choir established.
1	7	Session Book	1900-1938	Financial report, more names appear, church joins Anti-Saloon League.
1	8	Session Book	1906	List of officers and establishment of Endeavor Society.
1	9	Session Book	1907	Purchase of educational materials and work of Ladies Aid Society.
1	10	Session Book	1908	Church statistics and financial accounting many names appear.
1	11	Session Book	1913	List of Sunday School teachers and many changes in membership recorded.
1	12	Session Book	1914	Many names appear as officers and new members
1	13	Session Book	1915	Organization of building fund and solicitations begin. Various committees established.

Box	Folder	Folder Title	Date	Notes
1	14	Session Book	1916	Many names appear in membership changes and on reserve roll.
1	15	Session Book	1917	Reference to a military man's baptism prior to his posting. Purchases of additional property. Much mission work undertaken.
1	16	Session Book	1918	Large baptism list page 203. Choir established.
1	17	Session Book	1919	"New Era Movement" method of serving the membership adopted and female assistants to pastor sought, found and hired. Women to work with Junior Endeavor League. Sunday School lists.
1	18	Session Book	1920	"New Era Movement" activity continues.
1	19	Session Book	1921	\$2000 request from "New Era Movement" for this church. Athletic activities added. Officer's list with addresses and phone numbers. Partial membership list of members.
1	20	Session Book	1922	"New Era Movement" commitment renewed and member canvass to raise \$2000. Sunday School roster appears. \$10000 needed to pay off debt.
1	21	Session Book	1932	Church debt grows. Financial reports.
1	22	Session Book	1933	Officer's list. Anti-saloon League activity.
1	23	Session Book	1934	More canvassing of members. List of committees.
1	24	Session Book	1935	Plans for 35 th Anniversary.
1	25	Session Book	1936	Changes in membership, financial records.
1	26	Session Book	1937	Committee lists, finances
1	27	Session Book	1938	Lists of new members.
2	1	Session Book	1939	The focus remains on finances, plans to increase attendance. New member lists remain large, but old member drops do also. Plans for future needs explored.
2	2	Session Book	1940	Committee reports. Building needs addressed. New member lists.
2	3	Session Book	1941	Gym repairs cited. Other church repairs are significant.
2	4	Session Book	1942	Another full member canvass proposed. Several membership changes. Recognition of church's men and boys serving in the armed forces in World War II.
2	5	Session Book	1943	Discussion of moving a vault from the manse to the church to store documents in. Membership instability continues. A petition to recall Dr. Percy from Indianapolis to Evansville to return as pastor in Olivet Church in Evansville. Hanover College mentioned page 20.
2	6	Session Book	1944	Pledge card for all members mailed. Long list of new members appears on page 43 with addresses. Extensive financial reports appear.

Box	Folder	Folder Title	Date	Notes
2	7	Session Book	1945	A major flood occurs in Evansville affecting the church. Changes in officers. The anti-saloon League remains active.
2	8	Session Book	1946	Programs for returning service men, financial reports, and major building renovations.
2	9	Session Book	1947	Annual meeting notes, lists of officers and teachers with focus this year on Sunday School. Reports from all church agencies. Long lists of new members.
2	10	Session Book	1948	Reports from all church agencies and committees. New member lists are long. Church extension plans include other sites in the city for outreach.
2	11	Session Book	1949	Elections of Deacons, Elders, Men's and women's ministry reports, reports from Sunday School, and formation of new committees.
2	12	Session Book	1950	Attendance report and plans for anniversary plans and extensive financial and committee reports.
2	13	Session Book	1951	Membership and financial reports, church gym burns. An extensive account of insurance claims relating to loss of gym and damage to church building and a home nearby. Lists of officers appear as do reports from church agencies. New Christian Education building planned.
2	14	Session Book	1952	Annual report appears along with financial accountings and lists of officers. Church joins Evansville Council of Churches. Recommendations of building committee appears. Annual Report of statistics ends these notes.
2	15	Session Book	1953	Annual Meeting account. Membership changes appear as do financial reports and accounts of church plans and business. Church agencies provide their reports. Church evening services discontinued and replaced by youth meetings.
2	16	Session Book	1954	Membership report and financial records appear along with membership changes.
2	17	Session Book	1955	List of all committees provided including names of all members. Financial records of Trustees, Sunday School and the church appear as do membership changes. Changes in the building are discussed.

Box	Folder	Folder Title	Date	Notes
2	18	Session Book	1956	Membership changes, financial reports and reports from committees appear in these notes as do discussions and decisions regarding church business. A long treatise by the pastor regarding the churches' relationship with local African Americans.
2	19	Session Book	1957	Complete lists of committees, summer programs, annual report, Sunday School staff appear as do financial records.
2	20	Session Book	1958	Membership changes, financial records, accounts of plans and church business appear here. Notes present names and addresses of officials of the church here. Church sends pastor to inner city workshop in Chicago. Choirs are listed as are baptisms.
3	1	Register of Deacons	1900-1909	Names of deacons for this period.
3	2	Register of Elders	1900-1909	Names of Elders
3	3	Register of Communicants	1910-1911	Membership List in ABC order with dates, how received, and notes.
3	4	Register of Infants	1900-1911	List of babies with full names, parent names, date of baptism with officiant name.
3	5	Register of Baptisms	1900-1951	Names listed by date of administration with parent names for minors.
3	6	Register of Marriages	1901-1957	Names listed by date with cities of residence and dates.
3	7	Register of Deaths	1901-1958	Names listed by dates, addresses, and places of burial.
3	8	Register of Children	1900-1958	Roll of Infant baptisms with full names arranged by date of rite and full parent names.
3	9	Register of Trustees	1900-1956	Names of Trustees arranged by dates of service.
3	10	Roll of Deacons	1900-1951	Names of deacons arranged by dates of service.
3	11	Roll of Elders	1900-1958	Names of Elders arranged by dates of service.
3	12	Roll of Pastors	1926-1952	Names of Pastors arranged by dates of service.
3	13	Annual Report to Presbyter	1900-1908	Summaries of data for the period.
3	14	Annual Report	1946	Report of session to the congregation on state of the church.
3	15	Annual Report	1947	Report of session to the church
3	16	Annual Report	1948	Report of session to the church.
3	17	Annual report	1949	Report of session to the church.
3	18	Annual Report	1950	Report of session to the church
3	19	Annual Report	1951	Report of session to the church.

Box	Folder	Folder Title	Date	Notes
3	20	Annual Congregational Meeting	1952	Notes of Meeting
3	21	Annual Congregational; Meeting	1953	Notes of Meeting
3	22	Annual Congregational Meeting	1954	Notes of Meeting.
3	23	Annual Meeting of Congregation	1955	Notes of Meeting
3	24	Annual Meeting of Congregation	1956	Notes of Meeting
3	25	Annual Meeting of Congregation	1957	Notes of Meeting.
3	26	Annual Meeting of Congregation	1958	Notes of Meeting
3	27	Miscellaneous Documents	1957	Reports to Presbyter et. al.
3	28	Presbyter Report to Synod regarding Churches' Change	2007	Church dissolves union with Presbyterians