

GRACE, DADDY, 1882?-1960.

Daddy Grace collection, 1953-2000

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Grace, Daddy, 1882?-1960.
Title: Daddy Grace collection, 1953-2000
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 968
Extent: .5 linear ft. (1 box), 3 oversized papers (OP)
Abstract: Materials relating to African American evangelist Daddy Grace and the United House of Prayer from 1953-2000.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source

Purchase, 2001 with subsequent additions.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Daddy Grace collection, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Elizabeth Russey, June 18, 2005.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

Charles "Sweet Daddy" Grace (1881-1960), evangelist and founder of the United House of Prayer for all People, was born Marcelino Manoel de Graca in Brava, Cape Verde Islands,

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January 25, 1881. His family moved to New Bedford, Massachusetts in the early 1900s. Grace worked on a railroad line as a short-order cook, salesman, and grocer. He married Jennie J. Combard on February 2, 1909, divorcing her in 1920. A year later he opened a Pentecostal Church, the United House of Prayer for All People in Wareham, Massachusetts.

Grace opened new Houses of Prayer in Egypt, Charlotte, North Carolina, and Washington, D.C. from 1923-1926. Other United House of Prayer congregations are scattered along the East Coast from New York to Florida. House of Prayer converts came from a variety of other sects and the general population, but the majority of Grace's followers came from economically depressed black ghettos. They perceived "Sweet Daddy" Grace as a healer, miracle worker, and, to some even God Incarnate, the second Christ. He was known to have baptized the faithful with a fire hose. Services were ecstatic experiences, beginning with congregational singing and progressing to stomping, speaking in tongues, and other emotional expressions.

"Sweet Daddy" Grace quickly became wealthy from the contributions of his followers as his church grew. He also earned a substantial income from the products he created including Daddy Grace soap, toothpaste, face powder, and cookies, and a number of emblems, badges, buttons, banners and other items for the faithful. Grace's empire did not last, however, and the IRS seized much of his estate for back taxes after his death on January 12, 1960.

Scope and Content Note

The collection contains material related Daddy Grace and the United House of Prayer from 1953-2000. Although many items include photographs and references to Daddy Grace, the bulk of the collection was printed after his death and concerns his successor Bishop Walter McCullough. The collection includes printed programs, periodicals, a songbook, postcards, letterhead, church fans, and other items produced by the United House of Prayer.

Arrangement Note

Arranged by record type.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
-	-	Audiovisual, Daddy Grace, final sermon, "The Last Sermon on the Mount," December 31, 1959 [Reading Room access only: id b7sjd][Reading Room access only: id b7skj]
1	1	Ephemera: buttons, badges and ribbons
1	2	Fans: United House of Prayer, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1	3	Letterhead: House of Prayer for All People
1	4	Photographs [1 of 2] [19]
1	5	Photographs [2 of 2] [17]
OP1		Photograph
OP2		Photograph
1	6	Photographs: Negatives [84]
1	7	Postcards
OP3		Print: Daddy Grace
1	8	Printed material: Appreciation Service in Honor of Eder Giradie Mercer, Sr.
1	9	Printed material: Dedication of the New Mausoleum, Bishop W. McCollough, Suitland, Maryland, May 23, 1992
1	10	Printed material: <i>Grace Magazine</i> , April 1950
1	11	Printed material: <i>Grace Youth Gazette</i> (vol. 1, no. 1), Washington, D.C., April 1953
1	12	Printed material: Grace's C[offee?], Good to the Last Drop
1	13	Printed material: <i>House of Prayer Quarterly</i> (vol. 2, no. 3) [cover only]
1	14	Printed material: Honoring the Life, Dream and Vision of Bishop Walter McCollough, Fort Lincoln Community Mausoleum, Brentwood, Maryland, March 27, 1999 [2 copies]
1	15	Printed material: <i>Living Gospel Songs and Choruses</i> [photograph of C.M. Grace [September 1926] on title page]
1	16	Printed material: [<i>McCollough Magazine?</i>] [cover missing]
1	17	Printed material: <i>McCollough Sunday School Lesson Book</i> (vol. 3), July- December 1977
1	18	Printed material: Memorial Service Commemorating the Life of Bishop Walter McCollough, Fort Lincoln Community Mausoleum, Brentwood, Maryland, March 21, 1998
1	19	Printed material: Memorial Service Commemorating the Life of Bishop Walter McCollough, Fort Lincoln Community Mausoleum, Brentwood, Maryland, March 25, 2000
1	20	Printed material: Sheet music, "Three Cheers for Daddy Grace"

- 1 21 Printed material: Testimonial Service in Honor of Apostle C.L. McCollough and Saint Marjorie McCollough for Nineteen Years of Dedicated Service, Bertie Backus Middle School, Washington, D.C., December 4, 1993
- 1 22 Printed material: The 29th Annual Holy Convocation of the United House of Prayer for All People, August 7-14, 1955
- 1 23 Printed material: Unusual Photo Taken in Sky Over Korea
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