

# PITTS THEOLOGY LIBRARY

## Pitts Theology Library records, 1914-, undated.

Emory University  
Pitts Theology Library  
1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560  
Atlanta, GA 30322  
404-727-4166

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### Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** Pitts Theology Library  
**Title:** Pitts Theology Library records, 1914-, undated.  
**Call Number:** CSTA Series No. 008  
**Extent:** 8.5 cubic feet (17 boxes)  
**Abstract:** Records produced by Pitts Theology Library regarding its administration, collections, events, and outreach.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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### Administrative Information

#### Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

#### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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

#### Source

Transfer from Pitts Theology Library and in-house collecting.

#### Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Pitts Theology Library records, CSTA 005, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

#### Processing

Processed by Brandon Wason, April 2022.

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### Collection Description

#### Biographical Note

Pitts Theology Library is one of Emory University's six instructional libraries. Supporting the students and faculty of Candler School of Theology at Emory University and researchers

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from around the world, Pitts is home to collections in theology and related disciplines. Pitts Library is internationally renowned for its rare book and archival collections. Notable rare book holdings include the following: The Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection, the largest collection of Reformation-related materials in North America; manuscript collections of John and Charles Wesley, part of one of the foremost collections of Wesleyana in the world; the Pitts hymnody and psalmody collection, the largest holdings of hymnals in North America outside of the Library of Congress; and periodicals, monographs, and archives related to African Christianity. Pitts is also the institutional repository for many important ecclesial and scholarly organizations, including the North Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church, the American Academy of Religion, and the Society of Biblical Literature.

The library began as a collection of materials housed at Wesley Memorial Church in Atlanta, Candler's location when it was founded in 1914. The library's collections grew significantly in 1976 with Emory's purchase of over 200,000 volumes from Hartford Theological Seminary, which was at the time one of the most significant theology collections in America. The library building was significantly renovated in 1976 and was renamed Pitts Theology Library to honor Margaret A. Pitts and her father W. I. H. Pitts. The Pitts family, from Waverly Hall, GA, were longtime supporters of the Methodist Church and its educational institutions, and they were pivotal in supporting the Hartford acquisition and the renovation of the library building. In 2014, the library moved into a new, 60,000-square foot building, which includes open study space, group study rooms, and the Jeschke-Graham Special Collections Reading Room.

### **Scope and Content Note**

This collection contains records produced by Pitts Theology Library of Candler School of Theology. Within the collection are administrative reports and records, materials related to the collecting policies and collection development of the library, former exhibits, its Kessler Reformation Collection, and other departments in the library such as Archives and Manuscripts, Public Services, and Technical Services.

### **Arrangement Note**

Organized into ten series arranged alphabetically: (1) Administration, (2) Archives and Manuscripts, (3) Artifacts, (4) Collections, (5) Exhibits, (6) Kessler Reformation Collection, (7) Photographs, (8) Public Services, (9) Publicity and Outreach, and (10) Technical Services.

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## Container List

### Administration

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Acquisitions, 1954-1958
1	2	Administration, correspondence, and acquisitions (records from Dean Cannon's Office), 1961
1	3	Administration, correspondence, and acquisitions (records from Dean Cannon's Office), 1962
1	5	Administration, correspondence, and acquisitions (records from Dean Cannon's Office), 1964
1	4	Administration, correspondence, and acquisitions (records from Dean Cannon's Office), 1963-1964
1	6	Administration, correspondence, and acquisitions (records from Dean Cannon's Office), 1964-1965
1	7	Administration, correspondence, and acquisitions (records from Dean Cannon's Office), 1966-1967
2	1	Administration, correspondence, and acquisitions (records from Dean Cannon's Office), 1968-1969
2	2	Administration, correspondence, and acquisitions (records from Dean Laney's Office), 1969-1971
2	3	American Association of Theological Schools Library Development Program, 1961 Jun
2	4	American Theological Library Association Library Development Program, 1963-1964
2	5	American Theological Library Association report, 1985
2	6	Annual report, 1980
2	7	Annual report, 1964-1965
10	1	Annual Report, 1970-1971
10	2	Annual Report, 1971-1972
10	3	Annual Report, 1972-1973
10	4	Annual Report, 1973-1974
10	5	Annual Report, 1974-1975
10	6	Annual Report, 1975-1976
11	3	Annual Report, 1976-1977
11	4	Annual Report, 1977-1978
11	5	Annual Report, 1978-1979
11	6	Annual Report, 1979-1980
12	1	Annual Report, 1980-1981
12	2	Annual Report, 1981-1982

- 12 3 Annual Report, 1982-1983
- 12 4 Annual Report, 1983-1984
- 13 1 Annual Report, 1984-1985
- 2 8 Annual Report, 1984-1988
- 13 2 Annual Report, 1985-1986
- 13 3 Annual Report, 1986-1987 (1 of 2)
- 13 4 Annual Report, 1986-1987 (2 of 2)
- 14 1 Annual Report, 1987-1988 (1 of 2)
- 14 2 Annual Report, 1987-1988 (2 of 2)
- 14 3 Annual Report, 1988-1989 (1 of 2)
- 14 4 Annual Report, 1988-1989 (2 of 2)
- 14 5 Annual Report, 1989-1990 (1 of 2)
- 15 1 Annual Report, 1989-1990 (2 of 2)
- 15 2 Annual Report, 1990-1991 (1 of 2)
- 15 3 Annual Report, 1990-1991 (2 of 2)
- 15 4 Annual Report, 1991-1992 (1 of 2)
- 15 5 Annual Report, 1991-1992 (2 of 2)
- 16 1 Annual Report, 1992-1993 (1 of 2)
- 16 2 Annual Report, 1992-1993 (2 of 2)
- 16 3 Annual Report, 1993-1994 (1 of 2)
- 16 4 Annual Report, 1993-1994 (2 of 2)
- 2 9 Annual report, 2001, 2003, 2005
- 2 10 Climate control grant proposal, 1989
- 2 11 Correspondence, 1989
- 2 12 Emory Texts and Studies in Ecclesial Life series correspondence, 1989-1993
- 11 1 Harford Seminary Foundation, Case Memorial Library, 1973-1977
- 11 2 Harford Seminary: Transport documents, 1975-1976
- 2 13 Hartford Seminary Collection, 1972-1986, 2001
- 2 14 Interlibrary Loan and Reference annual reports, 1990-1993
- 2 15 Jeschke, Channing: Hartford Seminary Library acquisition proposal and Pitts  
Theology Library dedication files, 1972, 1976-1977, 2010
- 2 16 Jeschke, Channing: Inaugural lecture of the Margaret A. Pitts Professorship of  
Theological Bibliography, 1984
- 2 17 Library dedication, 1976
- 2 18 Library events, check dates
- 2 19 Library policies, 1981-1984
- 2 20 Library renovation, 1974-1977
- 2 21 Library, Research, and Publications Committee report, 1986 Apr 28
- 2 22 National religious societies repository correspondence, 1989 Apr 14
- 17 Old accession book: museum items, disciplines, and theses, 1914-1926

- 3 1 Periodicals annual report, 1980-1999
- 3 2 Periodicals monthly report, 1993-2000
- 3 3 Purchase of the Hartford Seminary Library by Emory University, 1975
- 3 4 Special Collections locations, 1988 Dec
- 3 5 Staff meeting minutes, 1977-1979
- 3 6 Staff meeting minutes, 1980-1982
- 3 7 Staff meeting minutes, 1983-1985
- 3 8 Staff meeting minutes, 1989-1990
- 3 9 Staff reports, 1984-1987
- 3 10 Statement of Policies Governing the Professional Library Staff, 1992
- 3 11 Visitors Register, 1931-1965

### **Archives and Manuscripts**

- 3 13 Archives and manuscripts correspondence, 1985
- 3 14 Archives and manuscripts correspondence, 1986
- 4 1 Archives and manuscripts correspondence, 1987
- 3 12 Archives and manuscripts correspondence, 1981-1984
- 4 2 Archives and manuscripts policies, 1982-1987

### **Artifacts**

- 9 Heart of Life Banner, 1993

### **Collections**

- 4 3 African Religious Periodicals: A Union List of the Holdings of the Pitts Theology Library and Contributing Institutions, First Draft, circa 1986
- 4 4 African Religious Periodicals: A Union List of the Holdings of the Pitts Theology Library and Contributing Institutions, Second Draft, 1987
- 4 5 African Serials Project correspondence and notes, 1978-1979
- 4 6 African Serials Project correspondence and notes, 1978-1983
- 4 7 African Serials Project correspondence and notes, 1978-1986
- 4 8 African Serials Project correspondence and notes, 1979-1981
- 5 1 African Serials Project correspondence and notes, 1981-1983
- 5 2 African Serials Project correspondence and notes, 1982-1985
- 5 3 African Serials Project correspondence and notes, 1984-1985
- 5 4 African Serials Project, American Theological Library Association paper by Channing Jeschke, 1986
- 5 5 Chinese and Japanes collections (North East Asian collections), 1977
- 5 6 Gordon Taylor Church Guides, 2016
- 5 7 Hymnody collection, 1997
- 5 8 Steve Skaggs, "A Guide to the Emory Collection of Fifteenth-Century Books", 1980 Jul 24

5 9 Wesleyana collection, 1995-1999, undated

### **Exhibits**

5 10 Exhibit catalogs, 1979, 1990, 1992, undated

5 11 Exhibit catalogs and artwork, 2014-2016

5 12 Journeys of Thomas Merton catalog (March 9 - May 15, 2015), 2015

### **Kessler Reformation Collection**

6 1 Acquisitions, 1996-2001

6 2 Acquisitions and budget, 1989-1990

6 3 Events, 1987, 1989

6 4 Publicity, 1988

6 5 Reformation Concert, 1995, 2006, 2007, 2010

6 6 Reformation Day 1994 (contains, "Elisabeth Creutziger, The Magdeburg Enchiridion and Reformation Theology" by Robin A. Leaver, 1995), 1994-1995

6 7 Reformation Day, 1999-2004

6 8 Reformation Day ("America's German Heritage: Twenty-first Annual Celebration of Reformation Day at Emory"), 2008

6 9 Reformation Day, 2015-2016

6 10 Reformation Notes, 1994-1999

6 11 Reformation Notes, 2000-2009

6 12 Reformation Notes, 2010-2019

6 13 Reformation Notes, 2020-

7 1 Reports, correspondence, and publications (compiled by Roy T. Wise), 1994

7 2 Reports, correspondence, and publications (compiled by Roy T. Wise), 1995

7 3 Reports, correspondence, and publications (compiled by Roy T. Wise), 1996

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7 10 Reports, correspondence, and publications (compiled by Roy T. Wise), 2003

7 11 Reports, correspondence, and publications (compiled by Roy T. Wise), 2004

7 12 Reports, correspondence, and publications (compiled by Roy T. Wise), 2005

7 13 Reports, correspondence, and publications (compiled by Roy T. Wise), 2006

7 14 Reports, correspondence, and publications (compiled by Roy T. Wise), 2007

### **Photographs**

8 1 500th Anniversary of the Birth of Luther, 1984

- 8 2 Celebration of the 450,000th volume added to the collection, 1993 Apr 15
- 8 3 Library building, 1994
- 8 4 Library dedication slides, 1976 Nov
- 8 5 Library renovation slides, 1976
- 8 6 Photographs, circa 1970s
- 8 7 Slides, circa 1970s and 1980s
- 8 8 Staff photographs, 1982, 1985, 1996

**Public Services**

- 8 9 Bibliographies, 1990-1991, undated
- 8 10 Meeting minutes and reports, 1988-1993
- 8 11 Preliminary list of library needs for graduate work in religion and society, circa 1960
- 8 12 Student Handbook, 1984, 1989-1999

**Publicity and Outreach**

- 8 13 Articles about Pitts Theology Library, 1976-2016
- 8 14 Brochures, circa 1980s - 2001
- 8 15 Christmas cards and postcards, 1984-1988, undated
- 8 16 Emory Libraries, 2007-2008
- 8 17 Pitts Theology Library: An Occasional Newsletter, 1984, 1987

**Technical Services**

- 8 18 Cataloging statistics, 1993-1996
  - 8 19 Cataloging statistics and gift books log, 1964-1993
  - 8 20 DOBIS Library System Brochure (Emory University), 1987
  - 8 21 Meeting minutes and reports, 1978-1994
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