Joel Duncan McDavid papers, 1908-2002, undated

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

Descriptive Summary

Title: Joel Duncan McDavid papers, 1908-2002, undated
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 240
Extent: 19.00 cubic ft. (48 boxes)
Abstract: Contains correspondence and official papers related to the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church from 1980-1984, as well as the personal and professional papers of Bishop McDavid.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Special restrictions apply: material in Box 34 is restricted in accordance with Emory University Archives access policy which stipulates that records of the Board of Trustees are closed for a period of 25 years from the date of creation.
Stored off-site. Forty-eight hours advance notice required.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source
Series 1 was transferred to Pitts Theology Library from Woodruff Special Collections at Emory in 2002. Series 2 was donated to Pitts Theology Library in 2009.

Custodial History
Formerly MSS683, Special Collections, Robert W. Woodruff Library, Emory University.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Joel Duncan McDavid Papers, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

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Processing
Processed by Special Collections Archivist, 1986; Clayton McGahee, 2015.

Collection Description

Biographical Note
Born in Georgetown, Alabama in 1916, Joel Duncan McDavid was ordained deacon in the Alabama-West Florida Conference in 1944 and admitted to full connection in 1946. He served as pastor of the Dauphin Way Church in Mobile, Alabama, and from 1968 to 1972 was secretary of the Committee on Restructure of Boards and Agencies for the Alabama-West Florida Conference. He was elected Bishop of the United Methodist Church by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in 1972, and was appointed to the Florida area where he was active in church extension and establishment of Spanish-speaking churches to fill the needs of South Florida's Hispanic population. In 1980, McDavid moved to Atlanta where he served as bishop of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church from 1980-1984; he also served on the Board of Trustees at Emory University and was the Churchman in Residence at the Candler School of Theology from 1984-1992. Following his time at Emory, in 1992 McDavid retired to Mobile, Alabama where he served as the Bishop in Residence at the Dauphin Way United Methodist Church.

Joel Duncan McDavid died on January 8, 2003.

Scope and Content Note
Series 1 consists of correspondence and official papers relating to the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church from 1980-1984. The correspondence found in subseries 1 is between the Bishop, District Superintendents, and Pastors within the districts of the conference. The folders are arranged alphabetically by district and the letters chronologically within the folders. Subseries 2 contains subject files from McDavid's office.

Comprising most of the collection, Series 2 contains correspondence, writings, visual materials, research notes, course materials, conference and subject files, memorabilia, and audiovisual materials spanning McDavid's life and career as a Methodist minister and educator. An extensive collection of McDavid's writings including eulogies and sermons is included, as well as research notes compiled by McDavid which he used to compose his sermons and lectures. A wide range of memorabilia is also present, including certificates, diplomas, various objects, and textiles including his hoods and stolls.

Arrangement Note
Organized by accession and then alphabetically by title. Series 2 files are in original order from when they were acquired.
Description of Series

Series 1: United Methodist Church: North Georgia Conference Files, 1980-1984, undated
  Subseries 1.1: District Correspondence, 1981-1984
  Subseries 1.2: Subject Files, 1980-1984, undated

Series 2: 2009 Accession, 1908-2002, undated
  Subseries 2.1: Correspondence, 1972-2002, undated
  Subseries 2.2: Writings, 1941-2002, undated
  Subseries 2.4: Research Notes, 1959-1998, undated
  Subseries 2.5: Course Material, 1943-1992, undated
  Subseries 2.6: Conference Files, 1962-1999, undated
  Subseries 2.7: Subject Files, 1908-2002, undated
  Subseries 2.8: Memorabilia, 1940-1997, undated
Series 1
United Methodist Church: North Georgia Conference Files, 1980-1984, undated
Boxes 1-6

Scope and Content Note
Consists of correspondence and official papers relating to the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church from 1980-1984. The papers are divided into two series. Series 1 contains the correspondence between the Bishop, District Superintendents, and Pastors within the districts of the conference. The folders are arranged alphabetically by district and the letters chronologically within the folders. Series 2 contains subject files from the office of Bishop McDavid.

Arrangement Note
Organized into 2 subseries: (1.1) District Correspondence, and (1.2) Subject Files.
Subseries 1.1  
District Correspondence, 1981-1984  
Boxes 1-2

Arrangement Note
Arranged alphabetically by title.

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**Subseries 1.2**  
*Subject Files, 1980-1984, undated*  
**Boxes 3-6**

**N. G. C. Annual Conference, 1981-83**

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**Simpsonwood Retreat and Conference Center**

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**Committees, 1980-1984**

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**Finance**

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<td>Insurance Program, 1981 September 19-November 17, 1982 November 24</td>
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**Invitations and Speaking Engagements, 1980-1981**

| 5  | 1  | Engagements fulfilled, 1980 July 20-August 21 |
| 5  | 2  | Engagements fulfilled, 1980 September 8-26 |
| 5  | 3  | Engagements fulfilled, 1980 October 10-December |
| 5  | 4  | Engagements refused, 1980, 1981 July 25-September 26 |
| 5  | 5  | Engagements refused, 1980 October 6-December 21, 1981 February 5 |
| 5  | 6  | Engagements fulfilled, 1981 January 6-June 29 |
| 5  | 7  | Engagements fulfilled, 1981 July 7-December 30, undated |

**Miscellaneous Subject Files, 1980-1984**

| 6  | 1  | Asian-American Churches, 1981 May 21-1984 February 14 |
| 6  | 2  | Emmaus Walk and Cursillo Movement, 1983 April 7-October 18 |
| 6  | 3  | Ethel Harpst Home, 1982 July 26-1983 December 8 |
| 6  | 4  | Ethnic Minorities, 1981 February 18-1982 March 4 |
| 6  | 5  | Gerontology center, 1981 April 10-1983 September 9 |
| 6  | 6  | Help the Children Project, 1981 |
| 6  | 7  | Miscellaneous congregations, 1982-1983 |
| 6  | 8  | North Georgia Conference: controversy, 1980 October 2-1982 December 20 |
| 6  | 9  | North Georgia Conference: controversy, 1983 June 15-1984 March 27 |
| 6  | 10 | North Georgia Conference: general, 1982 January 25-December 14 |
| 6  | 12 | 250 Years of founding of state of Georgia, 1982 November 3 |
| 6  | 13 | Wesley Homes, 1980 October 2-1981 December 11 |
| 6  | 14 | Wesley Homes, 1982 January 18-1984 February 17 |
Series 2
2009 Accession, 1908-2002, undated
Boxes 7-47

Scope and Content Note
Contains correspondence, writings including sermons and eulogies, visual material, research notes, course materials, conference and subject files, memorabilia, and audiovisual material.
Subseries 2.1
Correspondence, 1972-2002, undated
Box 7

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Subseries 2.2  
**Writings, 1941-2002, undated**  
**Boxes 8-18**

**Arrangement Note**  
Arranged alphabetically by title.

### Articles

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### Eulogies

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### Papers

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<td>&quot;Conception of Wisdom in &quot;The Wisdom of Solomon,&quot; 1943 November 13</td>
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<td>&quot;Development of Jewish Messiahism Between the Babylonian Exile and the Birth of Christ,&quot; 1942 March 14</td>
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<td>&quot;God in the Teachings of Jesus,&quot; 1943 February 20</td>
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<td>&quot;Integrity of the Book of Job,&quot; 1943 October 26</td>
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"John Wesley and the American Revolution," 1942 August 25
"Knowledge and Vital Piety in Academia," undated
"Logos," 1944 February 29
"Marxist and Spengler's Philosophies of History, A Comparison," 1943 December 14
"Mystery Religions," 1942 July 17
"Nine Great Men," undated
"Paul as a Letter Writer," 1942 May 5
"Pentecost," 1943 October 26
"Philip the Evangelist," 1943 December 2
"Proverbs," undated
"Salvation in John's Gospel," 1944 March 15
"Sanctions of Conduct in Proverbs," 1943 October 9
"Suffering in the Psalms," 1943 April 22
"Teachings of Jesus" (1 of 2), 1939-1940
"Teachings of Jesus" (2 of 2), 1939-1940
"The Christian View of Man," 1944 March 14
"The Christian View of the Physical World," 1942 May 16
"The Environment of the Seminary," 1989 November 6
"The Extra-Canonical Writings of New Testament Times," undated
"The Messianic Hope of Paul," 1942 June 24
"The Origin of the Hebrew People, A Term Paper," 1941 November 9
"The Psalms at Liturgies," 1942 January 31
"The Rise of Hebrew Apocalyptic-ism," 1941 December 9
"The Theme and Purpose of Hebrews," 1942 May 29

Sermons
"Abundant Life, Bible Study: Why, What, How?" undated
"Abundant Life, labor," 1959-1960, undated
"Beliefs, faith," 1962, undated
"Bible, absolutes," 1960, undated
"Bible, beauty," 1961-1962, undated
"Bible, biography" (1 of 2), 1965, undated
"Bible, biography" (2 of 2), 1965, undated
"Bible, church," undated
"Bible, courage," 1962-1963, undated
"Bible, course of study," undated
"Bible, decisions," 1963, undated
"Bible, ecology," 2002, undated
"Bible, external life," 1963-1965, undated
"Bible, fruits," undated
"Bible, grace," 1960, undated
"Bible, home" (1 of 2), 1962-1966, undated
"Bible, home" (2 of 2), 1962-1966, undated
"Bible, humor and laughter," 1963, undated
"Bible, joy," undated
"Bible, missions," undated
"Bible, nature of God" (1 of 2), 1942-1964, undated
"Bible, nature of God" (2 of 2), 1942-1964, undated
"Bible, obedience and sin," 1960-1965, undated
"Bible, parables," 1959, 1963, undated
"Bible, parables and freedom," 1961-1965, undated
"Bible, purpose," 1961, undated
"Bible, resurrection," undated
"Bible, righteousness," 1961, 1964, undated
"Bible, tears and troubles," 1960-1965, undated
"Bible, transformation," 1965-1966, undated
"Bible, values" (1 of 2), 1960-1965, undated
"Bible, values" (2 of 2), 1960-1965, undated
"Bible, work," 1962-1965, undated
"Bible, worry," undated
Bicentennial, 1976
"Called," 1962 May 20
"Christian Graces, change," undated
"Christian Graces, growth," 1965, undated
"Christian Graces, guidance," 1962, undated
"Christian Graces, peace and community," 1979, undated
"Christian Graces, radiance," undated
"Christian life and growth: discipleship" (1 of 2), 1965-1979, undated
"Christian life and growth: discipleship" (2 of 2), 1965-1979, undated
"Common meditation" (1 of 2), undated
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19 6 Sermon notes: Acts, 1953, undated
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19 12 Sermon notes: Methodism, 1974, undated
19 13 Sermon notes: "Pastor's school," 1978, undated
19 14 Sermon notes: "Questions on the Bible," 1943, undated
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### Photographs

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### Scrapbooks

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### Slides

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"Meaning and nature of polity," 1991, undated
"Methodism in America," undated
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"Models for Leadership and Management," 1989
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"Pastoral life," undated
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"Polity, organization tools for ministry," undated
"Preaching I," 1986, undated
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"Small membership church," 1989
"Stewardship, funding," undated
"The Beatitudes," 1961, undated
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"The Church in the World and Local Community," 1989, undated
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<td>University Chaplain binder regarding same-sex marriage, 1997</td>
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<td>&quot;1961 Tour of Bible Lands and Europe,&quot; 1961</td>
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<td>Unsorted material, 1976-1979, undated</td>
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# Subseries 2.8

**Memorabilia, 1940-1997, undated**

**Box 30-31, 38-46.**

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged by material type and then size.

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<td>Certificates, unframed, 1940-1997</td>
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<td>Certificates of resolution honoring Bishop McDavid, 1984 February 20</td>
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<td>Appreciation certificate from the General Board of Discipleship and Chairperson of the Division of Education, United Methodist Church, 1979 October 25</td>
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<td>Badge, Conference of the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas, undated</td>
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<td>Medal, Emory Board of Trustees, 1980</td>
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<td>Pin, Lalbagh Girls Inter College Centenary, undated</td>
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<td>Glass pail, &quot;Emory, 1836-1986,&quot; 1986</td>
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<td>Glass, commemorative, &quot;13th World Methodist Conference, Dublin,&quot; 1976</td>
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<td>Scrapbook and ceremonial scissors for the Lizzie Johnson Memorial Church in India, circa 1975</td>
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<td>Trowel, commemorative, &quot;Cornerstone of the Lizzie Johnson Memorial Church...,&quot; 1975 January 25</td>
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<td>Ceremonial pewter plate, Emory University, undated</td>
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<td>Paperweight titled &quot;Simpsonwood Groundbreaking,&quot; 1983 December 17</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>Trivet, United Methodist Church Council of Bishops, undated</td>
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<td>Plaque, Distinguished Service Award, Candler School of Theology, 1987</td>
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<td>Plaque, from the Candler General Hospital Board of Trustees, circa 1983</td>
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<td>Tiffany and Co. ceremonial plate in box, Emory University, undated</td>
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<td>47</td>
<td>Silver ceremonial plate given to Bishop McDavid by the Emory University President and the Board of Trustees, circa 1986</td>
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<td>Tray commemorating the exchange between St. Andrews University in Scotland and Emory University, undated</td>
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**Textiles**

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**Yearbooks**

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Subseries 2.9  
Boxes 37-38

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<td>&quot;Chapel Homily,&quot; 1989 February 14</td>
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<td>&quot;Chapel Homily, 'From Comfort to Challenge,'&quot; 1986 November</td>
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<td>&quot;Chapelwood UMC...,&quot; 1995 February</td>
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<td>&quot;Church is Renewed Through Grace,&quot; 1984 July 29</td>
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<td>&quot;Episcopal address,&quot; annual conference, 1978 June 2</td>
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Betacam

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VHS

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