Oakland City United Methodist Church records, 1910-1973

Emory University
Pitts Theology Library
1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Oakland City United Methodist Church (Atlanta, Ga.).
Title: Oakland City United Methodist Church records, 1910-1973
Call Number: Record Group No. 021
Extent: 0.6 cubic ft. (2 boxes)
Abstract: Contains conference reports, financial records, church bulletins, and other items related to the Oakland City United Methodist Church in Atlanta, Georgia.
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.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Oakland City United Methodist Church Records, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

Processing

Collection Description

Biographical Note
The Oakland City United Methodist Church had its beginnings as the first Methodist Sunday School for Oakland City in southwest Atlanta. The first meeting of the Sunday School took

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place on September 4, 1910. According to early accounts, the church was organized at some
time during that same year. Records indicate, however, that the first quarterly conference for
Oakland City Methodist Episcopal Church, South did not take place until February 12, 1912. The
congregation met in a succession of temporary locations until the early 1920s when a permanent
facility was built at 1093 Arlington Avenue in southwest Atlanta.

The church experienced two periods of rapid growth, the first in the early 1920s when the
surrounding residential area was first developed, and again in the post-World War II years of
the 1940s. During the mid-to-late 1960s, however, the congregation declined as a result of
extensive cultural and racial changes in the community. In 1972 the membership of the Oakland
City United Methodist Church voted to relinquish the church holdings to the North Georgia
Conference of the United Methodist Church, effective July 1, 1973.

Scope and Content Note
This collection consists primarily of Quarterly Conference reports dating from 1923 through
the first two quarters of 1932 and 1940 through 1953. Other items included are a church
history covering the years 1910-1951, church directories for the years 1967-1973, Woman’s
Missionary Society (W.M.S.) financial records for 1920-1935, Woman’s Society of Christian
Service (formerly W.M.S.) financial records for 1936-1951, and four photographs, ca. 1954,
of ground breaking ceremonies for a new church school building. Also included are church
bulletins from February through May of 1935 and April, May, and June of 1973, financial
campaign brochures ca. 1954, and resolutions passed by the Board of Stewards, ca. 1940-1972.
Miscellaneous items include lists of names of new church members, one dated February 26, 1946
and another undated, a newspaper clipping dated October 10, 1936, and an insurance certificate
date July 26, 1952. The collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material and, thereunder,
chronologically.

These records provide information about the history and administrative functions of the Oakland
City United Methodist Church, beginning with the creation of the Oakland City Methodist
Sunday School in 1910 and continuing through the closing of the church in 1973. The church
history includes names of pastors who served the church through 1951 and a history of the
Sunday School written on the occasion of its sixtieth anniversary celebration in September of
1970. Quarterly Conference reports contain summaries of church activities and accomplishments
as well as membership statistics and financial statements. Financial records for the two women’s
organizations reflect their activities and contain membership rolls for some years.
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