Inventory of the
Ruth Miller Papers, 1981 - 2003
Table of Contents

Descriptive Summary................................................................................................................ 3
Biographical and Historical Note............................................................................................... 3
Collection Overview................................................................................................................... 4
Restrictions................................................................................................................................ 4
Subject Headings...................................................................................................................... 4
Administrative Information......................................................................................................... 5
Detailed Description of the Collection....................................................................................... 6
  1. Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 1989-2003................................. 6
Descriptive Summary

Title: Ruth Miller Papers,

Dates: 1981 - 2003

Creator: Miller, Ruth, 1943-.

Abstract: Ruth M. Miller (born 1943) was an active member of the predominantly African American Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Charleston, South Carolina. She also served on Plymouth's Board of Trustees. Plymouth Congregational Church was established in 1867 and became Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in 1957.

The collection consists of personal papers of Ruth Miller and materials relating to the operation of the Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Charleston, South Carolina from 1989 to 2003. Materials chiefly include Sunday service bulletins; meeting minutes and reports for quarterly, annual, and Board of Trustee meetings; brief financial records; and programs and bulletins from other Charleston-area churches in South Carolina.

Extent: 1.75 linear feet (4 archival boxes)

Repository: Avery Research Center at the College of Charleston

Call Number: AMN 1107

Language of Material: Material in English

Biographical and Historical Note

Ruth Miller

Ruth M. Miller, born in 1943, was an active member of the predominantly African American Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Charleston, South Carolina and served on Plymouth's Board of Trustees.

Miller graduated from Duke University with a Bachelor of Arts. She taught high school until 1979, when she became a licensed city guide for Charleston, South Carolina. She then co-founded Charleston Strolls, a business that offers walking tours of the city. As of 2005, Miller was the sole owner of this company.


Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ of Charleston, South Carolina

Plymouth Congregational Church was established in 1867 and originally consisted of former African American members of the Circular Congregational Church in Charleston, South Carolina. The congregation's first structure, dedicated in 1872, was located at 32 Bull Street. Plymouth Congregational Church had close ties to the Avery Normal Institute: many of its ministers were principals of Avery, and sometimes services were conducted in Avery's chapel when the regular church building was unavailable.

In 1957, when the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Congregational Christian Churches of the United States merged to form the United Church of Christ, Plymouth's name changed to Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ. In 1958, under the direction of Reverend John Thomas Enwright, a new structure was erected at 124 Spring Street, where, as of 2011, the congregation continues to meet.

Collection Overview

The collection consists of personal papers of Ruth Miller and materials relating to the operation Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Charleston, South Carolina from 1989 to 2003. The largest portion of this collection consists of Sunday service bulletins for Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ. In addition to these materials, meeting minutes and reports for quarterly, annual, and Board of Trustee meetings are also included, as well as financial records. A portion of the collection contains programs and bulletins from other Charleston-area churches, primarily for Christian holiday services and special events. Other materials include personal correspondence, newspaper and magazine clippings, and publications collected by Ruth Miller.

Collection Arrangement


Restrictions

Access Restrictions

No restrictions.

Copyright Notice

The nature of the Avery Research Center's archival holdings means that copyright or other information about restrictions may be difficult or even impossible to determine despite reasonable efforts. The Avery Research Center claims only physical ownership of most archival materials.

The materials from our collections are made available for use in research, teaching, and private study, pursuant to U.S. copyright law. The user must assume full responsibility for any use of the materials, including but not limited to, infringement of copyright and publication rights of reproduced materials. Any materials used for academic research or otherwise should be fully credited with the source.

Subject Headings

African American churches -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Church bulletins -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Miller, Ruth, 1943-.

Plymouth Congregational Church (Charleston, S.C.).

Plymouth Congregational Church (Charleston, S.C.). Board of Trustees.

United Church of Christ -- South Carolina -- Charleston.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Ruth Miller Papers, Avery Research Center, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC, USA.

Processing Information

Processed by Jessica Farrell, October 2010

Encoded by Jessica Farrell, February 2011

Edited by Amanda Ross, March 2011

Funding from the Council on Library and Information Resources supported the collection processing and encoding of this finding aid.
Detailed Description of the Collection


   This series includes materials collected by Ruth Miller during her tenure as a Board of Trustee member of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ.

   Box 1 Folder 1  Board of Trustees, 1995-2001
   Includes meeting minutes, correspondence, financial reports, committee reports, documents relating to facilities management and program development, and other materials relating to the Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ's Board of Trustees.

   Box 1 Folder 2  By-laws, 1993 and undated

   Box 1 Folder 3  Grant Mortgage Recovery Program, 1996

   Box 1 Folder 4  Harvest Festival Tea, 1991-2001

   Box 1 Folder 5  Invitations and Special Events, 1994-2001

   Box 1 Folder 6  Lenten Services, 1992-2002

   Box 1 Folder 7  Meetings: Annual

   Box 1 Folder 8  Meetings: Quarterly

   Box 1 Folder 9  Minute Book, 1989-1996
   Contains minutes from quarterly, annual, Trustee, and special committee meetings, written by various members of the congregation.

   Box 1 Folder 10  Monthly Calendars, 2000-2001

   Box 1 Folder 10a  Publications

   Box 2-3 Folder 11-20 Service Bulletins, 1990-2003


   This series contains materials collected by Ruth Miller that do not pertain to Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ. The bulk of the materials relate to other religious institutions in Charleston, South Carolina.

   Box 3 Folder 21  Church Bulletins: Christian Holiday Services, 1981-2000 and undated

   Box 4 Folder 22  Church Bulletins: Sunday Services, 1996-2001 and undated

   Box 4 Folder 23  Correspondence, 1992-2001
   Includes solicitations from Charleston-area churches, flyers to church-related events, letters to the editor of the Post and Courier newspaper in Charleston, South Carolina, and other singular pieces of correspondence.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 4 Folder 24</th>
<th>Event Programs, 1988-2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes programs from choral and sacred music events taking place at various Charleston-area religious institutions, many sponsored by Spoleto Festival USA, as well as a calendar specifying times and locations to view the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima in October 1988.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes newspaper clippings on religious issues and South Carolina churches as well as a magazine article on attracting winter birds.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 4 Folder 26</th>
<th>Publications, 1991-1997 and undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes Unitarian Universalist publications, religious pamphlets, brochures to tourist attractions, and other materials.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>