

**Record Group 29**  
**First Baptist Church**  
1887-1955  
1 manuscript box

Plymouth Historical Museum, Plymouth, MI  
Finding Aid Written by Lena Packer, 14 September 2005  
Updated by Jennifer Meekhof, 28 Sept 2011

**Creator:**

**Acquisition:** The First Baptist Church records were deposited in the archives in 2001.

**Language:** Materials in English

**Access:** Records are open for research

**Use:** Refer to Archives Reading Room Guidelines

**Notes:** Citation Style: "First Baptists Church Collection," Record Group 29, Archives, Plymouth Historical Museum

**Abstract**

The First Baptist Church in the home of one of the founding members of the Baptist Society, S. Sly, and was recognized as a church four months later. The Society built a church at Stutt's Corners. Materials from this church were later used to build a new church, the First Baptist Church, which was dedicated in 1856. Through the years, the church was remodeled and added additions to the building. In 1992, the Praise Chapel Church of God, which owned the church, put the building up for sale after the congregation outgrew the site.

**Scope and Content**

The First Baptists Church record group consists of records, such as meeting minutes, produced by the church and articles written about the church and/or its activities. Other meeting minutes come from the Ladies' Aid Society. The collection includes visual records, including postcards and photographs as well.

**Entries**

[Entry 1:](#) Baptist Young People's Union

[Entry 2:](#) Ladies' Aid Society Meeting Minutes

[Entry 3:](#) Programs, Postcards, and Photos

[Entry 4:](#) Newspaper Clippings

**Important Subjects**

First Baptists Church—Plymouth, MI

Historic Buildings—Plymouth, MI

Ladies' Aid Society

Local History—Plymouth, MI

Young People's Union, First Baptist Church

**Entry 1: Baptist Young People's Union**

*Box 1, Shelf 70*

Minutes of meetings of Baptist Young Peoples' Union from Jan.26, 1892 to Dec. 6, 1898.  
Membership list is also included. (Acc. #2001.087.44)

**Entry 2: Ladies' Aid Society Meeting Minutes from 1903-1944**

*Box 1 Shelf 70*

Meeting minutes from Dec. 2, 1903-July, 1915. Also includes membership in 1911 (Acc. #  
2001.087.45)

Meeting minutes from June 9, 1920-Dec. 9, 1937. Also includes membership list in 1920 (Acc.  
# 2001.087.046)

Minutes from meetings from June 11, 1942 to Nov. 9, 1944. Membership list included. (Acc. #  
2001.087.047)

**Entry3: Programs, postcards, and photos**

*Box 1, Shelf 70*

*Folder 1*

Souvenir program from Dec. 30, 1900 (3 copies) (Acc. # 78.72.26L, 78.72.103L)

Program for 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary and dedication service, Dec. 4, 1955 (2 copies) (Acc. # 78.72.1L)

Copy of program cover of play, "The Prisoner at the Bar," Feb. 23, 1936

Program for Young People's Union meetings for last half of 1887 (2 pieces)

Christmas greeting card from Rev. and Mrs. Loya Sutherland (Acc. # 2002.101.16)

Postcard of church

Postcard of church (Acc. #76.264.1)

Postcard of church mailed on Jan.18, 1910 (Acc. #80.42.4L)

**Entry 4: Newspaper clippings**

*Box 1, Shelf 70*

*Folder 1*

"Scope of local pastor's visit to India may change," *The Observer & Eccentric*, 12/30/04

"Growing congregation leaving church behind," *The Observer & Eccentric*, 5/7/92

"Church has roots in Plymouth, but grows strong in Canton," *The Observer & Eccentric*, 6/27/04

Obituary of Rev. Palmer Hartsough, 1932

"Plymouth boys are building large church in Florida"

"Letter tells of early history," *The Plymouth Mail*, 11/30/34

"A brief historical statement," 1955

A short history of the church's progress over the years