

Finding Aid Report

12/08/2016

Plains Mennonite Church Collection

Records of the Plains Mennonite congregation, Hatfield Township, Montgomery County, 1812-current.

Finding aid: [Click Here](http://mhcp.org/files/inventories/ArchPlainsinventory.pdf)

Container List

Location	Container	Folder	Title
Plains MC Collection			Plains pulpit Bible, 1763 Saur edition (in safe)
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 01	Photo copy of oldest deed, 1765 relating to establishment of earliest Plains meetinghouse
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 02	Deeds of John Kindig to "Trustees of the Mennonite Society," 1851, 1867, 1873 <i>For later deeds, see folder 1-17, and box 7 ("Movie Lots")</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 03	"Subscription for the Meetinghouse in Hatfield Township, 1812, A True Transcript" <i>Inside title page is in German script. Folder also contains, "A free translation of German Script Portion of, 'Subscription for the Meetinghouse in Hatfield Township--a true transcript'"</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 04	"Plains Congregation, Account book April 1894 to July 1901" <i>Contains handwritten notation that this came from J. C. Clemens manuscript collection</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 05	"Statement of the Building Committee of the Plain Mennonite Church January 22, 1923" <i>Handwriting appears to be that of J. C. Clemens</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 06	Account Book (hardbound) kept by deacon David M. Cassel, 1902-1942 <i>Gift of Arthur Hackman, deacon, March 8, 1992</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 07	Membership record book kept by J.C. Clemens, 1936
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 08	Small Record Books, 1887-1948 <i>Seven record books</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 09	Lansdale Gospel Mission, Minutes of Workers' Meetings, 1936-1940; and 25th Anniversary Program
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 10	Record of the Attendants of the Plain Mennonite Sunday School in Order of Birth (1942-1969) <i>"A Record of the Attendants of the Plain Mennonite Sunday School in Order of Birth – Begun in 1942" (full title). A hardbound record begun by Jonas L. Mininger and kept by a succession of SS superintendents through 1969. Also contains records of the Home Department, Bible School Committee, Disaster Service Committee, Church Bulletin Editors, MYF Sponsors, The Sunday School Library and Librarians, and Young Peoples Bible Meetings</i>

Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 11	John and Susanna Evers property deeded to Plain Mennonite Church
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 12	“History of the Plain Mennonite Church,” undated <i>Two typewritten pages, “History of the Plain Mennonite Church,” undated, no writer given, though it has some J.C. Clemens’ handwritten notes. Also, one copy of John E. Lapp’s, “History of the Plains Mennonite Church,” prepared initially for Bonekemper’s History of Hatfield in 1976</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 01 (Early Records)	Folder 13	Special meetings and programs <i>A variety of conference meetings and congregational events. Earliest 1932 to 1960s</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 02 (Membership)	Folder 01	Congregational Membership Lists <i>Membership lists for 1951 and 1963. Handwritten, ministerial records of evangelistic meetings, confessions of faith and baptisms, 1937-1963, including the list of baptismal candidates who were the last to be baptized by Bishop Jonas Mininger, April 18, 1937. Mininger died the next day. The handwriting seems to be that of Bishop John E.. Lapp</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 02 (Membership)	Folder 02-03	Stories of members (arranged alphabetically) <i>Included are stories by or about Martha Hendricks Alderfer, Warren H. Alderfer, Ernest R. Clemens, Hanna R Clemens, Jacob C. Clemens, Lois Gunden Clemens, Mildred Landes Clemens, Priscilla Delp (see also Priscilla Delp Collection, MHC), Nelson K. Derstein, Matthew Garber, Eva Godshall Greaser, Susie Nice Freed Heebner, Heebner Family history, Ella Mae Clemens Henning, Torrie Hoover, Jim King, Wayne N. Kratz, John Kurtz Kauffman, David K. Krupp, Sam and Lorraine Kulp, Kevin Landis, Samuel J. Lapp, Aaron and Mamie Metz, Harold W. Miller, Curtis and Martha Mininger, Paul M. Nyce, Joseph Nyce, Erin Odgers and Jacob Chew, Steve and Janet Panning, Abe and Ruth Rittenhouse, Alice Clemmer Rittenhouse, Rittenhouse genealogical chart, Alpheus L. Ruth, Henry Suzuki, Hubert Schwartzentruber, Abe Wambold</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 02 (Membership)	Folder 04	Stories of members, Raymond A. Frankenfield <i>Included are stories by and about Raymond A. Frankenfield</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 02 (Membership)	Folder 05	Stories of members, Walton N. Hackman <i>Stories by and about Walton N. Hackman, including original notes and letters of Walton Hackman, a student at Eastern Mennonite College, relating to his involvement with the Mississippi Summer Project 1969 in the civil rights movement</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 02 (Membership)	Folder 06	Stories of members - student essays <i>Christopher Dock student research papers about Plains members, including Raymond A. Frankenfield, John and Susanna Evers, "History of Plains Mennonite Church" by Debra Rittenhouse, and "The Future of Music in the Mennonite Church," by Beverly Lapp, Goshen College student</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 02 (Membership)	Folder 07	Cemetery <i>Blueprint of burial plots. Record of burials by D. K. Allebach and J. C. Clemens</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 02 (Membership)	Folder 08	Burial permits, 1907-1934
Plains MC Collection	Box 02 (Membership)	Folder 09-11	Obituaries, funeral programs, biographies, 1999-current
Plains MC Collection	Box 02 (Membership)	Folder 12	Historical press clippings
Plains MC Collection	Box 02 (Membership)	Folder 13	Blueprints for 1960 meetinghouse addition and renovations

Plains MC Collection	Box 03 (Photos/Anniversaries)	Folder 01	Photographs <i>Primarily of meetinghouses, including on-going construction of 1988-1989 addition. Also, John E. Lapp interview by Richard J. Lichty, circa 1988</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 03 (Photos/Anniversaries)	Folder 02	200th Anniversary, 1965 <i>Also, notes of John E. Lapp for display for, and interpretation of American Bicentennial, 1976</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 03 (Photos/Anniversaries)	Folder 03	225th Anniversary, 1988-1990 and meetinghouse renovation, 1987-1989 <i>Includes anniversary committee notes and planning for 225th anniversary and dedication of new addition to meetinghouse; includes VHS recording</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 03 (Photos/Anniversaries)	Folder 04-06	250th Anniversary, 2015 <i>Includes anniversary committee minutes and planning for 250th anniversary; questionnaires and interviews with members; recordings of interviews with older members and interim pastor, Paul M. Lederach; printed programs and recordings and transcripts of the June 19-21, 2015 events</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 04 (Directories)		Directories
Plains MC Collection	Box 05 (Congregational mtgs)	Folder 01	Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws
Plains MC Collection	Box 05 (Congregational mtgs)	Folder 02	Congregational Covenant and Vision Statement
Plains MC Collection	Box 05 (Congregational mtgs)	Folder 03	Historical Record of Congregational Meetings, 1812-1998
Plains MC Collection	Box 05 (Congregational mtgs)	Folder 04	Annual Business Meetings, 1942-1967 <i>Missing 1968-1970</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 05 (Congregational mtgs)	Folder 05-07	Congregational Meetings, 1971-2011 <i>Missing for years, 1968-1970, 1973, 1974, 1996</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 05 (Congregational mtgs)	Folder 08	Franconia Conference Delegate Reports <i>1991, 2002, 2004, 2006-07, 2011-2012</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 06 (Trustees)	Folder 01	Financial Notebook –Trustees’ Treasury Account, 1936-1941
Plains MC Collection	Box 06 (Trustees)	Folder 02	Trustees Minutes, 1960-1986
Plains MC Collection	Box 06 (Trustees)	Folder 03-04	Property Committee Minutes, 1986-2011
Plains MC Collection	Box 06 (Trustees)	Folder 05-06	Estates and Trusts, 1925 - 1997
Plains MC Collection	Box 06 (Trustees)	Folder 07	Wallace and Emma Derstein House, 1980-1984 <i>Record of the purchase and sale of the Derstein house across from the meetinghouse; Trustee records of Derstein house rentals</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 06 (Trustees)	Folder 08	Derstein House Utilization Committee, 1980-1981 <i>Process on how to use the Derstein house for congregational programs</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 07 (Movie lots)		Deeds of Movie Lots <i>The story of the so-called "movie lots" adjacent to the Plains property and the deeds of purchase by Plains trustees of these lots; includes blueprint of the property and lots</i>

Plains MC Collection	Box 08-10 (Church Council)		Church Council Minutes, 1960-2014 <i>Missing: January, February, April 14, June 10, and July, 1971; July 8, 1981; December 12, 1989</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 11-13 (Elders)		Elders Minutes, 1982-current (RESTRICTED) <i>Missing: entire year, 1997; January through April, 1998. Box 11, Folder 1 includes processing of request for a team of elders from 1980 to 1982 when Elders were first elected</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 01	Congregational leaders, 1774-2006 <i>A time-line prepared for writing of the congregational history, 2015</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 02	Ministerial Planning Committee, January 1966 to June 1972 <i>Minutes of ministerial search committee leading to the call extended to Gerald Studer. Original committee began in 1966, minutes of meetings 1-2, and 3-12 are missing. Folder includes minutes of interim pastoral team in 1971, with John E Lapp, Ross Bender, Arthur Hackman, Richard Lichty, Lee Yoder</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 03	Pastoral Services Committee, 1984-1985 <i>Minutes of ministerial search committee leading to the call of Richard Lichty as an associate pastor serving with Gerald Studer. Includes notes on Joyce Hedrick as pastoral intern</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 04	Leadership Needs Committee, 1984-1985 <i>Minutes of ministerial search committee leading to the call of Richard Lichty as an associate pastor; Includes notes on Joyce Hedrick as pastoral intern</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 05	Search Committee, 1996-1997 <i>Covers ministerial leadership changes from the call of Richard Lichty as lead pastor (1988), of Michael Meneses as co-pastor (1992), and Lorene Derstine as Director Christian Education</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 05A	Search Committee, Alban Institute Consultation, 1996
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 06	Pastoral and staff transitions, 1998-
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 07	Pastoral Sabbatical Leave Policy and Experiences, 1982-2014
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 08	John E. Lapp pastoral materials <i>Transcript of 1982 interview by Dwight Roth</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 09	Henry Paul Yoder pastoral materials
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 10	Eric (Rick) Alderfer pastoral materials <i>Youth pastor, 1987-1989</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 14 (Ministers)	Folder 11	Pastoral letters and reports
Plains MC Collection	Box 14A (Ministers)	Folder 01	Gerald C Studer pastoral materials
Plains MC Collection	Box 14A (Ministers)	Folder 02	Richard J. Lichty pastoral materials
Plains MC Collection	Box 14A (Ministers)	Folder 03	Michael A. Meneses pastoral materials

Plains MC Collection	Box 14A (Ministers)	Folder 04	Pastoral materials: Paul M. Lederach, interim <i>Includes Physis consultation assessments--Hubert Schwartzentruber; Maribeth Longacre.</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 14A (Ministers)	Folder 05	Pastoral Reviews (RESTRICTED)
Plains MC Collection	Box 15 (Financial)	Folder 01	Ministerial Aid Fund, 1954-1965
Plains MC Collection	Box 15 (Financial)	Folder 02-06	Finance Committee and Reports, 1974-2011 <i>Missing reports 1994-2001</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 15 (Financial)	Folder 07	Mennonite Education Plan <i>Originally "Brotherhood Plan", for children in local Christian schools</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 15 (Financial)	Folder 08	Mennonite Scholarship Fund <i>For students attending Anabaptist-related colleges</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 15 (Financial)	Folder 09	Building Fund and Construction Records, 1959-1960
Plains MC Collection	Box 15 (Financial)	Folder 10	Building Fund, 1989-1992
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)		Set of 28 Class Record Books for 1942 (not in a folder)
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)		Young Peoples Bible Meeting Record Book, 1946-1959 (not in a folder)
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 01	Plains Sunday School History by Ernest R. Clemens
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 02	Sunday School Library, 1941
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 03	Plains Literary Society, 1940s
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 04	Minute Book of the SS Workers Meetings, 1941-1958
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 05	SS Workers Meetings, 1968-1970
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 06	Annual Sunday School Reports, 1941-1986 (incomplete) <i>Missing: 1946-1947, 1950-1951, 1969-1977</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 07	Examples of Sunday School Superintendents Record, 1943 and 1963
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 08	Sunday School Class Lists, 1961-1970
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 09	Young Peoples Bible Meeting, By Laws and Financial Records, 1946
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 10	Young Peoples Bible Meeting Records Of Leaders, 1960-1966
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 11	Young Peoples Bible Meeting Correspondence, 1963-1965
Plains MC Collection	Box 16 (Sunday School/Youth)	Folder 12	MYF (Mennonite Youth Fellowship) <i>Scattered records from 1962-1989</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 17 (Christian Ed Cabinet)	Folder 01-05	Christian Education Cabinet Minutes, 1969-2007 <i>Scattered records after 1993</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 17 (Christian Ed Cabinet)	Folder 06	Junior Church 1978-1980 <i>Scattered records after 1993</i>

Plains MC Collection	Box 17 (Christian Ed Cabinet)	Folder 07	Study Guide, "The People of God in Community," 1979 <i>Leaders guide written by Plains members</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 17 (Christian Ed Cabinet)	Folder 08	"Future Models of Education," 1988-1989 <i>Plains was one of 15 congregations churchwide to participate in creating and testing new models of education</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 17 (Christian Ed Cabinet)	Folder 09	Wholistic Health Committee, 1992-1993
Plains MC Collection	Box 17 (Christian Ed Cabinet)	Folder 10	Child Protection Policy, 2007
Plains MC Collection	Box 17 (Christian Ed Cabinet)	Folder 11	Sunday School Programming Brochures, 2011--2015
Plains MC Collection	Box 18 (WMSA, etc.)		WMSA (Women's Mission and Service Association) Minutes and Programs, 1963-2003 <i>Six notebooks, loose in box</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 18 (WMSA, etc.)	Folder 01	WMSA Cooking Recipes, 1964, 1967, 2003
Plains MC Collection	Box 18 (WMSA, etc.)	Folder 02	GMSA (Girls' Mission and Service Association), 1977-1978
Plains MC Collection	Box 18 (WMSA, etc.)	Folder 03	Music Committee, 1968, 1981-1992
Plains MC Collection	Box 18 (WMSA, etc.)	Folder 04	Worship Committee, 1998, 2002-2011
Plains MC Collection	Box 18 (WMSA, etc.)	Folder 05	Hospitality/Fellowship Committee, 2002-current
Plains MC Collection	Box 19 (Outreach/Mission)	Folder 01-02	Outreach Team Minutes, 1991-1994; 2002-2011
Plains MC Collection	Box 19 (Outreach/Mission)	Folder 03	Summer Bible School (scattered records)
Plains MC Collection	Box 19 (Outreach/Mission)	Folder 04	Plains in Mission, A Variety of Outreach
Plains MC Collection	Box 19 (Outreach/Mission)	Folder 05	Vietnamese Fellowship, 1990s
Plains MC Collection	Box 19 (Outreach/Mission)	Folder 06	Plains Park, 2004-current
Plains MC Collection	Box 19 (Outreach/Mission)	Folder 07	Peace Proclamation Ministry in India, 2012-current
Plains MC Collection	Box 19 (Outreach/Mission)	Folder 08	Jubilee Fund, 2010-current
Plains MC Collection	Box 19 (Outreach/Mission)	Folder 09	Brochures -- Anniversaries and Special Programs
Plains MC Collection	Box 19 (Outreach/Mission)	Folder 10	Posters and Flyers, 2010-current
Plains MC Collection	Box 19A (Outreach/Mission)		Childcare, "Latchkey" and KenCrest Programs, 1970-2003
Plains MC Collection	Box 20 (Outreach/Mission)		Hatfield-Lansdale Religious Survey, 1960
Plains MC Collection	Box 21 (Bulletins)		Church Bulletins, 1995-current
Plains MC Collection	Box 21 (Bulletins)		Church bulletins, 1952-1994 (bound volumes, loose on shelf)
Plains MC Collection	Box 22 (Audio)		Audio Recordings <i>Selected cassette tapes of worship services; also a few reel tapes from 1960s</i>
Plains MC Collection	Box 23 (Oversize)		Oversize Items <i>LP record of Christmas program, 1968; selected church birthday calendars, 1964, 1973, 1980, 1994; four guest books, 1967-1985</i>

