Bellevue United Methodist Church

7501 Old Harding Road

Nashville, TN 37221

March, 2022

Name: Bellevue United Methodist Church Archives

History and background

The church began in 1803 when Bishop Francis Asbury appointed Levin Edney to the Nashville Circuit near Pasquo, Tennessee. Levin Edney’s brother, Newton, deeded land to the tiny congregation to build “Edney’s Meeting House”, (currently the site of Pasquo Church of Christ). In 1813, the building burned but was replaced the same year at a nearby location as Edney’s Chapel where the congregation remained for 97 years. The congregation relocated to 7544 Old Harding Pike in 1910 as the Belleview Methodist Episcopal Church South and again in 1969 to 7501 Old Harding Pike where it remains today as the Bellevue United Methodist Church. Since Levin Edney, the church has been led by 126 pastors, including the Rev. Brian Marcoulier, the current pastor.

Mission

* To be an advocate for the archives and history of the church.
* To locate and identify the records in various formats.
* To protect and preserve the records.
* To make the records easily accessible for reference and research.
* To enable the practice of records management for the future.

Date span 1830 – 2022

Size: 60 linear feet (120 boxes, 2 flat boxes, 1 architecture plan case)

Digital photographs and documents

Format: Paper, digital, audiocassette, DVD

Language: English

Restrictions: None

Scope and content

The Archives serves as the depository of Bellevue UMC’s 2013 year old history including membership records, Charge Conference minutes, committee minutes, directories, church bulletins, newsletters, oral histories digitized photographs and video tapes, DVDs of church events, oral histories of members and architectural drawings. The scope of the archives encompasses all aspects and levels of church life. Its major focus is to care for the historical records (as defined in The Book of Discipline, 2000, paragraph 246.5.a) that give evidence of what God has done through the life and witness of the congregation.

**Organization of the BUMC Archives by Subjects**

**January, 2019**

**Administration**

*Records*: Minutes and reports of charge conference, administrative board, and church council.

*Dates:* 1924 - present

*Box #s:* 18 - 32

**Buildings**

*Records*: Architectural plans, specifications, land deeds, insurance policies, mortgage records, minutes of building committee, and photographs.

*Dates*: 1799 - 1999

*Where to find:* Box #s: 10 - 15 and architectural plan case

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**Christian education**

*Records:*  Minutes of children, youth, and adult councils; Sunday School & VBS classes; roll/attendance books, photographs, DVDs of all age levels.

*Dates:*  1956 - 2019

*Where to find:* Box # s: 48 - 55, 85, 101, 104

DVD Collection

BUMC Digital Archives

**Committees**

*Records:* Minutes and programs of archives, evangelism, member care, outreach, stewardship and worship committees

*Dates:*  1980 - 2019

*Where to find:* Box # s: 6, 45, 48, 69-90

**Communications/publications**

*Records:* Newsletter, bulletins, yearbooks, directories, and booklets for special events.

*Dates:*  1969 to present

*Where to find:* Box # s: 65 – 71, 86

**Finance**

*Records:* Minutes of meetings, audits, ledgers, end-of-year reports, bonds and securities, loans.

*Dates:*  1953 - present

*Where to find*: Box # s: 39 - 44 Also see: Administration--Charge Conference reports

**History of congregation**

*Records:* Charter, photographs and drawings of church, writings on history by

church members, DVDs, homecoming records, list of ministers.

*Dates:*  1830 to present

*Where to find:* Box # s: 1-3, 10, 86

**Membership**

*Records:* Baptism, confirmation, marriage, and death; reception into membership, oral histories, veterans, memorials, photographs, scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, DVDs.

*Dates:* 1831 - present

*Where to find:*  Box # s: 1 - 4, 8-9, 26, 54, 80-84, 92, 94

DVD Collection

BUMC Digital Archives

**Organizations**

*Records:* Women’s Society of Christian Service, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, Boy Scouts of America

*Dates:* 1929 to present

*Box # s:* 57 - 64, 106

*Where to find:* DVD Collection

BUMC Digital Archives

**Special events**

*Records:* Bicentennial celebration of the church (2009)

Nashville flood (2010)

Mortgage burning celebration (2018)

*Dates:*  2009 – 2010, 2018

*Where to find:* Box #s: 86 – 88, 102, 113

DVD Collection

BUMC Digital Archives

**Staff Parish**

*Records*: List of pastors and dates served; affiliated pastors, job descriptions, obituaries, photographs, oral histories

*Dates:*  1802 - 2018

*Where to find*  Box # s: 9, 16, 103

DVD Collection

BUMC Digital Archives

**Trustees**

*Records:* Minutes of meetings, contracts, insurance policies, litigation, survey, etc.

*Dates:* 1965 - present

*Where to find:* Box #s: 33 - 38

**Worship**

*Records:* Bulletins, recordings of services, music ministry, purchase records of organ and piano

*Dates:* 1920 - 2014

*Where to find:*  Box #s: 46 – 47, 72 – 79, 96

DVD Collection

BUMC Digital Archives

Records management guideline:

The General Commission on Archives and History of the United Methodist Church.

See: [*http://www.gcah.org/resources/managing-records-of-the-annual-conference-and-local-church*](http://www.gcah.org/resources/managing-records-of-the-annual-conference-and-local-church)

Request access to the physical materials described in this inventory through the Church web site at [*www.bumc.com*](http://www.bumc.com). Click on “Ministries” then the History and Archives link.