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)

Entry 3: 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 125th 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