

# **Gladwyne United Methodist Church records**

27

**Finding aid prepared by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories using data provided by the Historical Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church.**

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Last updated on February 03, 2015.

Historical Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Historical Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church
<b>Creator</b>	Gladwyne United Methodist Church (Gladwyne, Pa.)
<b>Title</b>	Gladwyne United Methodist Church records
<b>Call number</b>	27
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1854-2011
<b>Extent</b>	1.75 linear feet
<b>General Physical Description note</b>	5 boxes
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>Gladwyne United Methodist Church in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania traces its roots to a church school in Fritz's School House, a private school, organized around the year 1830. Formerly known as Merion Square Methodist Episcopal Church and Lower Merion Methodist Episcopal Church, Gladwyne United Methodist Church was discontinued around 2011. The Gladwyne United Methodist Church records, 1854-2011, consist primarily of membership and vital records, as well as Board, Quarterly Conference, and Charge Conference minutes. Also included are small amounts of event programs, worship bulletins, historical materials, financial records, and photographs.</p>

## Biography/History

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Methodism is a protestant Christian faith based in the teachings of John Wesley (1703-1791), who preached "practical divinity," emphasis on Christian living, and putting faith and love into action. The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1784 in Baltimore, Maryland with Francis Asbury and Thomas Coke as its first bishops and held its first general conference in 1792. In May of 1939, the Methodist Episcopal Church; the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; and the Methodist Protestant Church united to form the Methodist Church (U.S.). In 1946 the Church of the United Brethren in Christ (New constitution) and the Evangelical Church united to form the Evangelical United Brethren Church. In 1968 the Methodist Church (U.S.) and the Evangelical United Brethren Church united, forming the United Methodist Church (U.S.).

Gladwyne United Methodist Church in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania traces its roots to a church school in Fritz's School House, a private school, organized around the year 1830. The church, then named Merion Square Methodist Episcopal Church, was constructed around 1840. The church was part of the Radnor Circuit from 1840 until 1854, when it was constituted as a separate charge with its first pastor, Rev. Louis B. Pettit. Later, the church became known as the Lower Merion Methodist Episcopal Church, and then Gladwyne United Methodist Church. It was discontinued around 2011.

### **Bibliography:**

"A Short History of the Gladwyne United Methodist Church." Undated. Document found in collection.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection, dating from 1854 to 2011, consists primarily of membership and vital records (baptisms, marriages, deaths, members and probationers), as well as Board, Quarterly Conference, and Charge Conference minutes. Also included are small amounts of event programs, worship bulletins, historical materials, financial records, and photographs. A folder-level inventory for the collection is available.

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## Administrative Information

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Historical Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church

Finding aid prepared by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories using data provided by the Historical Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church.

### **Sponsor**

This preliminary finding aid was created as part of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories. The HCI-PSAR project was made possible by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

### **Access Restrictions**

Contact Historical Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church for information about accessing this collection.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition Note**

The Historical Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church is the repository for records of member churches when they close.

### **Processing Information Note**

Summary descriptive information on this collection was compiled in 2012-2014 as part of a project conducted by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania to make better known and more accessible the largely hidden collections of small, primarily volunteer run repositories in the Philadelphia area. The Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories (HCI-PSAR) was funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

This is a preliminary finding aid. No physical processing, rehousing, reorganizing, or folder listing was accomplished during the HCI-PSAR project.

In some cases, more detailed inventories or finding aids may be available on-site at the repository where this collection is held; please contact Historical Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church directly for more information.

### **Existence and Location of Copies**

Some church records at the Historical Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church, particularly membership and vital records, are available in digital form through Ancestry.com or on microfilm at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and/or the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania.

## Related Materials

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### Related Archival Materials Note

Historical Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church: United Methodist Church of Narberth records, 1840-2011.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Corporate Name(s)

- Gladwyne United Methodist Church (Gladwyne, Pa.)
- United Methodist Church (U.S.)

### Geographic Name(s)

- Gladwyne (Pa.)
- Montgomery County (Pa.)

### Subject(s)

- Methodism
- Methodists

## Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
Membership Record Book: Baptisms, 1857-1874; Marriages, 1857-1868; Probationers, 1854-1877; Members, 1860-1876; Class Records, 1857-1865.	1	1
Record of Pastors, 1912-1993; Record of Members, 1898-1938; Record of Marriages, 1914-1935; Record of Baptisms, 1912-1935.	2	1
Record of Pastors, 1933-1998; Record of Official Members, 1935-1943; Statistical Record, 1934-1952; Record of Baptisms, 1933-1998; Record of Marriages, 1935-1992; Record of Deaths, 1933-1957.	2	2
Record of Baptised Children, 1933-1956; Record of Preparatory Membership, 1934-1954; Record of Full Membership, 1898-1958.	2	3
Membership Record Book: Baptisms, 1959-1992; Full Membership, 1959-1992; Marriages, 1985-1992; Deaths, 1975-1992.	3	1
Certificate Book, Cemetery of Lower Merion M. E. Church, 1946-1980.	4	1
Official Board Minutes, 1921-1933.	4	2

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Official Board Minutes, 1943-1947.	4	3
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Official Board Minutes, 1948-1962.	4	4
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Administrative Board Minutes, 1991-1995.	4	5
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Administrative Board Records, 1997-1998.	4	6
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Trustees of the Merion Square M. E. Church, Minutes, 4 Feb 1887.	5	1
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Trustees of the Lower Merion M. E. Church, Minutes, 1909-1916.	5	2
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Quarterly Conference Minutes, 1859-1879.	5	3
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Quarterly Conference Minutes, 1899-1902.	5	4
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Quarterly Conference Minutes, 1954-1960.	5	5
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Quarterly Conference Minutes, 1961-1963.	5	6
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Quarterly Conference Minutes, 1964-1970.	5	7
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Membership Directories, n.d., 1989, 1985, 2006.	6	1
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Newletters, April 1997, January 2000, September 2010.	6	2
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Music in the Afternoon Programs, 2009-2010.	6	3
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Worship Bulletins, selected, 1983-2011.	6	4
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Historical Materials, c. 1950-2011.	6	5
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Photographs, 1990s.	6	6
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Anniversary Book, Merion Square, 1911.	6	7
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Charge Conference, 1994.	7	1
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Budgets, 1997, 2001.	7	2
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Charge Conference, 1997.	7	3
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Charge Conference, 1998.	7	4
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Charge Conference, 1999.	7	5
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Charge Conference, 2001.	7	6
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Charge Conference, 2002.	7	7
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Charge Conference, 2003.	7	8
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Charge Conference, 2004.	7	9
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Charge Conference, 2005.	7	10
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Charge Conference, 2006.	7	11
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Congregational Meeting, 9/3/2006.	7	12
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Charge Conference, 2007.	7	13
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Charge Conference, 2008.	7	14
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Charge Conference, 2009.	7	15
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Charge Conference, 2010.	7	16
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