

Church Women United
Elmhurst, Villa Park, Lombard
Records, 1940-2009, n.d.

Creator: Church Women United Peoria

Extent: 2.5 linear ft.

Processor: J. Curtis Main, May 2011

Administration Information

Access Restrictions: None.

Usage Restrictions: The copyright for materials created by the Church Women United Elmhurst, Villa Park, Lombard is retained by the organization.

Preferred Citation: Loyola University Chicago. Women and Leadership Archives. Church Women United of Elmhurst, Villa Park, Lombard. Box #, Folder #.

Provenance: The materials were donated to the Women and Leadership Archives on August 24, 2009 by Gloria Sparrow. WLA2009.36.

Separations: Less than 1.0 linear feet of duplicate and extraneous material was removed and discarded.

See Also: Other chapters of Church Women United, such as Church Women United Wilmette Records and Church Women United Peoria Records, or the larger state chapter Church Women United in Illinois Records at the Women and Leadership Archives.

Biographical History

Church Women United is a US women's movement founded in 1941 representing Christians of Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant, and other Christian faiths. They identify as "a racially, culturally, theologically inclusive Christian women's movement, celebrating unity in diversity and working for a world of peace and justice." Church Women United is organized into over 1,200 local and state units in the US and Puerto Rico as of 2011, and as a whole, has worked with the United Nations on many occasions.

One of these units is Church Women United of Elmhurst, Villa Park, Lombard (EVPL), in Illinois, which began in 1940. Since their local unit's inception, they have held monthly meetings and a variety of annual events which bring together women of many local Peoria Christian churches, often having drawn between 25 and several hundred people. Many of their events and efforts focused on celebrating diversity culturally, racially, and socially, all through worship and prayer. This is exemplified by some of their events which bring in people who share similar Christian faiths to CWU EVPL but come from various backgrounds and experiences.

Scope and Content

The CWU EVPL Records span from 1940 to 2009. Most of the collection consists of notes and minutes from their monthly meetings, and also their three central annual events, *May Fellowship Day* (May), *World Day of Prayer* (March), and *World Community Day* (November). The collection

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has been structured first through type, then chronology, of the records where possible. Other materials in the collection include scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, photos, and official booklets and materials. The condition of the records upon donation was well-organized and in-order, thus, much of the original provenance has been maintained. Please note that some of the scrapbooks are in fragile condition, with many parts aged, torn, and becoming detached; handle with care and caution. Also note that the minutes and treasurer notes have been organized and collated first through month/meeting, then by year, and finally by decade (per folder; negating the first minutes folder and first financial statements, both of which also include other years).

Series 1: Administration, 1940-2009, n.d.

Contains materials concerning a wide array of CWU EVPL's administrative and social actions and influences. Most of this series consists of typed (and some handwritten) notes of records such as budget, attendance, meeting minutes, board votes, event recaps, finances, and IRS information.

Series 2: Audiovisual, 1989-2007, n.d.

Contains four items that document events, such as *World Day of Prayer*. Three are audio and one is visual. Also contains 40 photographs from various events/years.

Series 3: Oversized, 1940- 2009, n.d.

Contains five scrapbooks that span the duration of CWU EVPL. The scrapbooks mostly contain newspaper clippings, with various other materials like programs and hymn booklets.

Subjects:

Church Women United
May Festival
World Prayer Day
World Community Day

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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Series 1: Administration, 1940-2009, n.d.			
1	1	Constitution, Brief History, Anniversary Packets	1956, 1981, 1986, n.d.
	2	Disbandment	2009
	3	Handbooks (1 of 2)	1975-1990
	4	Handbooks (2 of 2)	1991-2009
	5	Miscellaneous	1961, 1974, 1998, n.d.
	6	Newsletters	1979-1989
	7	Newspaper Clippings	1978-2003, n.d.
	8	Reports: Meeting Minutes	1958-1970
	9	Reports: Meeting Minutes	1970-1979
2	1	Reports: Meeting Minutes	1980-1989
	2	Reports: Meeting Minutes	1990-1999
	3	Reports: Meeting Minutes	2000-2009
	4	Reports: Monthly/Annual Budget Reports	1956-1980
	5	Reports: Monthly/Annual Budget Reports	1979-1989
	6	Reports: Monthly/Annual Budget Reports	1990-2000
	7	Reports: Monthly/Annual Budget Reports	2000-2009
	8	Reports: Monthly Home Delivered Meal Statements	1980-1997
	9	Statements: IRS and Taxes	1996-2003, n.d.
Series 2: Audiovisual, 1989-2007, n.d.			
Photographs			
10	Miscellaneous		1975, 1976, 1988-1990, 1998-1999, 2000, 2006, n.d.
11	Valiant Woman Award Recipients		2000-2004, n.d.
Audiocassettes			
3		Second Annual Global Education Conference	1989
		CWU World Day of Prayer "Talitha Kumi: Young Woman Stand Up!"	2000
CD			
		World Day of Prayer "Hymns and Traditional Music from Paraguay"	2007
VHS			
		World Day of Prayer "Informed Prayer, Prayerful Action"	2001

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Series 3: Oversized, 1940-2009, n.d.

	Scrapbook 1	1940-1959
	Scrapbook 2	1960-1973
	Scrapbook 3	1973-1978
4	Scrapbook 4	1979-1987
5	Scrapbook 5	1988-2009