

WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD COLLECTION
1920-2008

FINDING AID

The David Allan Hubbard Library



November 2024
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Administrative Information

Title:

Worldwide Church of God Collection, 1920-2008

Creator(s):

Denzler, Brenda

Worldwide Church of God

Collection Identifier:

CFT00110

Extent:

39 Boxes, 17.29 linear feet

Repository:

David Allan Hubbard Library

Fuller Theological Seminary

135 N Oakland Ave

Pasadena, CA 91182

Acquisition Information:

The gift of Brenda Denzler

Conditions Governing Access:

Scholarly use with parameters of copyright law.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

Copyright restrictions may apply.

Language:

English

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of Item], Worldwide Church of God Collection, Archives and Special Collections, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, California.

Name of Cataloger/Date Completed:

Collection cataloged and finding aid written by Adam Gossman. Finding aid revised by Andrew Wong, June 2018.

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Administrative History

The Worldwide Church of God (WCG), with headquarters in Pasadena, California, was officially begun in Oregon in 1934 by Herbert W. Armstrong (1892-1986). The WCG's original name was "The Radio Church of God" but changed its name to Worldwide Church of God in 1968. In 2009, WCG's name changed to Grace Communion International. The church is headquartered in Glendora, CA. and is a member of the National Association of Evangelicals.

In 1978, Garner Ted Armstrong, son of the founder, was "disfellowshipped" and moved to Tyler, Texas, where he founded a splinter group, the Church of God International. Just prior to H.W. Armstrong's death, Joseph W Tkach, Sr. assumed the title of "Pastor General" of the WCG. Tkach died in September 1995, at the age of 68 and was succeeded by his son, Joseph Tkach Jr.

From the late 1970s, WCG members raised multiple concerns regarding doctrinal issues. In the 1990s, some members sought pastoral training at Fuller Theological Seminary. Collection donor, Brenda Denzler, was a Worldwide Church of God member, who was among those who began to question the WCG's doctrine and leadership. The additional education and 1986 leadership change led to WCG's transition in doctrinal issues. Since 1986, observers of WCG affairs can list up to 40 changes in doctrine, as well as a withdrawal from circulation of a number of Armstrong's written works. One example was the issuance of a new statement of faith giving greater authority given to Biblical teachings than previously recognized.

Scope and Content

The collection includes materials related to Denzler and other Worldwide Church of God members who questioned the church's leadership and doctrine. Dates range from the late 1970s - 2008. Contents include financial records, written histories, church newsletters, audiovisual materials, and correspondence.

The collection does not include material related to the WCG's affiliated Ambassador College (1947-1997)'s administration, class materials, or yearbooks. The collection does include copies of the newsletter "The Ambassador Report."

Subjects

Armstrong, Garner Ted
Armstrong, Herbert W.
Christian life
Church controversies
Church management
Controversial literature
Cults
Religion
Sects
Theology – Doctrinal
Worldwide Church of God

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in its original order and folders. A list of the periodicals separated to Archived Periodicals of the David Allan Hubbard Library follows the Box Inventory. The collection is organized into 39 boxes consisting of 4 series as follows:

Series I: History (Boxes 1-4)

Series II: People and Events (Boxes 5-14)

Series III: "Ambassador Report" and "Pastor's Report" (Boxes 15-27)

Series IV: Miscellaneous, including letters and cassette tapes (Boxes 28-39)

Container List

Series I: History, 1920s-1991. Boxes 1-4.

Box 1: History

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	General WCG History- Detailed Statement of History of WCG	1957
2	General WCG History- Original Worldwide Church of God	
3	General WCG History- Basil Wolverton Letters	
4	General WCG History- Finances- Old WCG	
5	General WCG History- WCG Articles of Incorporation	
6	Finances - New WCG	

Box 2: History

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Co-Worker Letters	
2	<i>Worldwide News</i>	1973-1979
3	Legal Documents	
4	WCG Real Estate Data	1991
5	John's Personal	
6	Painful Truth	

Box 3: History

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Pre-1920	Pre-1920
2	1920s	1920s
3	1930s	1930s
4	1940s	1940s
5	1960s	1960s
6	1970s	1970s
7	1980s	1980s

Box 4: History

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	WCG Doctrinal Statements	
2	WCG Important Articles	
3	WCG Humor	
4	WCG Legal Papers	
5	WCG Ministers	
6	WCG News	
7	Wealth and Midnight Ministries	

Series II: People and Events. Boxes 5-14.

Box 5: People and Events

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	20 th Century Church of God	
2	ACD	
3	M. John Allen	
4	Ambassador Report	
5	AR 40	
6	AR Org (?)	
7	AR Taxes, etc.	
8	Brinsmead	
9	Buchner, J. L. F.	

Box 6: People and Events

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Carruzzo	
2	Church Light	
3	Raymond Cole	
4	Common Sense	
5	Coulter	
6	Dankenbring, William F	
7	Depo I- Lane	
8	File Later	

Box 7: People and Events

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Flurry	
2	Flurry 2	
3	GTA	
4	GTA and CRI	
5	Hank Hanegraaf Lawsuit (CRI)	
6	Helge	
7	Keith Hunt	
8	HWA Remembered	

Box 8: People and Events

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Jerusalem Sentinel	
2	Kerley, John	
3	Ray Lampley	
4	Midnight Ministries- Heap	
5	Miscellaneous	
6	New Life	
7	Newspaper Clippings	

8	Poconos File- PR 55	
9	Postponements	

Box 9: People and Events

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Proclaim Liberty	
2	John Purvins	
3	Rod's Global	
4	Rick Scott	
5	David Smith and Evan A	
6	Linda Stuhlman	
7	Splits Research	
8	The Total Truth	
9	Track Notes 1	

Box 10: People and Events

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Track Notes 2	
2	Trechak, John	
3	Trescott, John	

Box 11: People and Events

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	The Journal	
2	Andrews, Jill	
3	Antion, David	
4	Armstrong, Shirley	
5	Arvidson, Gary	
6	Black, Wiley & Suzanne	
7	Bogaard, Betty	
8	Bungalow News	
9	Corrozzo, Al	
10	Cartwright, Dixon	
11	Cole, C Wayne	
12	Covington, David	
13	Dankenbring, William	
14	Dart, Ron	
15	Dean, Aaron	
16	Dewey, Pam	
17	Doescher, Louise	
18	Fairchild, Bill	
19	Fisher, Bob	
20	Garner, Ted Armstrong	
21	Gotoh, Osamu	
22	HWA	

Box 12: People and Events

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Hart, Ellen	
2	Haynes, Dale	
3	Hill, David Jon	
4	Hohmann, Bill	
5	Kessler, Jack	
6	Kiesz, John (CoG 7 th Day)	
7	Kineston, Virginia	
8	Kuchta, Mary Ann	
9	Kuhn, Robert	
10	Lochner, Floyd	
11	Luker, Dennis	
12	McNair, Leona Ganshorn	
13	McNair, Marion	
14	Portune, Albert J Jr	
15	Rader	
16	Salyer, Larry	
17	Schroeder, John Daner I	
18	Scott, Gary, PhD	
19	Strickland, Ken	
20	Tkach, Joe Jr	
21	Trechack, Andrew	
22	Truit, Dan	
23	Tuit, John	
24	Urwiller, Ron	
25	Voth, Andrew	
26	Ward, Don	
27	Westby, Ken	

Box 13: People and Events

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Critical Reminiscences	
2	FBR / ASK	
3	Splinter Groups - Splinter Groups	
4	Splinter Groups - Global Church of God	
5	Splinter Groups - Living Church of God	
6	Splinter Groups - Independent Church of God- Bill Bratt	
7	Splinter Groups - Church of God (Christian?) Fellowship	
8	Splinter Groups - God's Church Worldwide	
9	Splinter Groups - Restored Church of God	
10	Splinter Groups - Church of the Eternal God	
11	Splinter Groups - Philadelphia Church of God (Gerald Flurry)	
12	Splinter Groups - United Church of God	

13	Splinter Groups - Stedfast Church of God	
14	Splinter Groups - Church of God, International	

Box 14: People and Events

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Christine Allen	
2	Tony Badillo	
3	John Bainger	
4	Bob Barrett	
5	Catherine Blumel	
6	Virginia Boykin	
7	Jane Jordan Browne	
8	Donald Buchanan	
9	Louise Burkley	
10	Anthony Buzzard	
11	Helen Calver	
12	Arbidene Casey	
13	Pat Cook	
14	Jim Coram	
15	Joe and Doris Coutcher	
16	Jerry Crowley	
17	Steven E. Dalton	
18	Roy A. Davis	
19	Tom Driver	
20	Robert E. Erickson	
21	Former Friends	
22	Jerry Fry	
23	Arliss Gamble	
24	Naria Fusiarska	
25	Des Griffin	
26	Morris Hahn	
27	Larry Heuerley	
28	Emmett Hctor	
29	Jerry Horton	
30	Robert Houston	
31	Mary Hudson	
32	Elizabeth Jackson	
33	Robert James	
34	Mrs. Jack W. Johnson	
35	Mac Kachere	
36	Karen Karimi	
37	Audrey Koerner	
38	Donna Koerner	
39	Robert MacDonald	
40	Alma Nelson	

41	Betty Otto	
42	Anita Packwood	
43	Charles and Glada Perry	
44	Mrs. D. Richards	
45	Alfred E Sauer	
46	Pearl Shultz	
47	Vera Scroggins	
48	Rene Spicher	
49	Dave Strickland	
50	Pam Unruh-Roger	
51	John W. Trescott	
52	The Two Crazies	
53	Pat Van Buskirk	
54	L. J. Wagner	
55	Mrs. Ralph Williams	
56	Bob Volkmar	
57	Diane Wheeler	
58	Malcolm R. Young	

Series III: “Ambassador Report” and Pastor’s Report.” Boxes 15-27.

Box 15: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	AR 35:0	
2	AR 36: Ambassador Paper	
3	AR 37: Groups	
4	AR 38	
5	AR 40: R. Scott Book	
6	AR 41: Minn’s... Story	
7	AR 42: Materials	

Box 16: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	AR 43: Letters, etc.	
2	AR 44	
3	AR 45	
4	AR 46: Jan 91	
5	AR 46: Jonathan Parker	

Box 17: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	AR 47: “Research”	
2	AR 48: May 91- Research	
3	AR 49: Track VI- Homosexuality	
4	AR 49: Letters	

5	AR 49: Divorce, Remarriage, etc.	
6	AR 49: Divorce Fellowships, etc.	

Box 18: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	AR 50	
2	AR 51: Research	
3	AR 52 General Items	
4	AR 52: GTA	
5	AR 52: Meredith	
6	AR 52: Koresh	

Box 19: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	AR 54: Letters	
2	AR 54: Research	
3	AR 55: General	
4	AR 56	
5	AR 57: Letters, etc.	
6	AR 57: Demons/Demonology	
7	AR 57: Waco	

Box 20: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	AR 58	
2	AR 58: Bible Research	
3	AR 58: Letters...	
4	AR 58: Who’s Left?	
5	AR 59	
6	AR 60	
7	AR 61 & 62: GTA & DART	
8	AR 62: Rick Ross	
9	AR 62	
10	AR 63	
11	AR 65	
12	AR 66	

Box 21: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	AR 68	
2	AR 69	
3	AR 70	
4	AR 71	
5	AR 72	
6	Closing Issue Ideas	

7	Fathers and Sons	
8-9	Miscellaneous	

Box 22: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Daughter of Babylon- Painful Truth	
2	HWA Library	
3	AR Folks Interviews	
4	Tim Nugent	
5	Ambassador Review Startup	
6	Ambassador Report Startup	
7	Correspondence	
8	Reaction to AR Publication- Miscellaneous	
9	Reaction to AR Publication- Member/Co-Worker Letter	
10	Reaction to AR Publication- Tithing Checks	
11	Reaction to AR Publication- Pastor’s Report	
12	Reaction to AR Publication- Changes to Student Mailboxes	
13	Reaction to AR Publication- Newspaper and Magazine Articles	
14	Reaction to AR Publication- Security Memos RE: Personae Non Grata	
15	Reaction to AR Publication- Media File	
16	Reaction to AR Publication- “Pontifical Trail” of WCG by UUs	
17	Reaction to AR Publication	
18	Reaction to AR Publication	

Box 23: “Pastor’s Report”

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Pastor’s Communication	Through 1977
2	Pastor’s Report, Vol 2	1978
3	Pastor’s Report, Vol 3/1	1979
4	Pastor’s Report, Vol 2	1980
5	Pastor’s Report, Vol 3	1981

Box 24: “Ambassador Report” Prints**Box 25: “Very Early AR Stuff”**

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Index of Ambassador College Lit Part II	
2	RIICF- Quest, etc.	
3	Miscellaneous Documents	
4	WCG Legal Documents	
5	GTA	
6	Lawsuits	
7	Larry Gilbert Johnson	
8	Letters from HWA	

9	Letters to Keep- From Legal / Acct. / Adv.	
10	Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests	

Box 26: "Very Early AR Stuff"

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Nugent	
2	Healing	
3	AR- Accounts Work Sheet Pad	February 1976-
4	AR- Bagley Authorization	
5	Fictitious Name	
6	Tax Information	
7	Library of Congress Correspondence	1985
8	Fischer Notes	
9	Bank Statements	
10	Photos of Ambassador College, Pasadena. Black and white	
11	Ambassador College, Big Sandy postcards	
12	Ambassador College Letterhead- Herbert W Armstrong	
13	Am Review- Early History	

Box 27: "Very Early AR Stuff"

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Hinson	
2	Christian Merchandising	
3	Manuscripts	
4	Christianity in Transition	
5	Evolution	
6	World Devotionals	
7	U K Devotionals	
8	U S Devotionals	
9	Identity and Nazi Groups	
10	Catholics and the Pope	
11	Jesuit Conspiracy	

Series IV: Miscellaneous, including letters and cassette tapes. Boxes 28-39.

Box 28: Miscellaneous

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	CRI / Hannnegraf	
2	Endings and Assets Sale	
3	Exit and Support Network	
4	Articles John Saved	
5	Drafts / Unused AR Materials	
6	All-2-True	
7	ALT Religion W-W-Church God	
8	Yahoo WCG Chat Group	

9	Manpower Papers	
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Box 29: Miscellaneous

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Ambassador Watch	
2	Outsiders' Inside Update	
3	Letters of Contention with John T.	

Box 30: Miscellaneous

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Healing Chapter—Not Many Wise Men	Brenda Denzler
2	Book about Worldwide- Letters	
3	WCG Newspaper Clippings and Articles	1979-1982
4	WCG Letters and Reprints	
5	WCG	
6	Old Articles that HWA Wrote	
7	Miscellaneous Church Related Letters	
8	FOCUS / S N A C Material	
9	The Focus Journal- By, For, and About Ex-Cultists	
10	Ankerberg, John (The ... Show)	
11	Gerry's Letters	

Box 31: Miscellaneous

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Research	
2	Research 2	
3	Miscellaneous	
4	Typewriter Information and Papers	
5	Jerry Farwell Visit to WSU Campus	November 1984
6	Writing- Articles About...	
7	Learning Disabilities	
8	NEH Younger Scholars	1986
9	The Forum Newspaper (Jobs, Assignments, Etc.)	
10	Miscellaneous	

Box 32: Miscellaneous

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Letters, Etc.	
2	Miscellaneous	
3	Brown Folder Regarding Article Against Garner Ted Armstrong	1978
4	Film Industry Workshop Folder	

Box 33: Letters

Folder	Item	Date/Note
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1	Miscellaneous Letters	
2	Crazy Letters	
3	Recent Letters	

Box 34: Letters

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Conspiracy Theories	
2	Flat Earth	
3	Articles	
4	Letter from Grabbe	

Box 35: Letters

Folder	Item	Date/Note
1	Good Letters- Not used 1	1990-1993
2	Good Letters- Not used 2	
3	Good Letters- Not used 3	
4	Good Letters- Not used 4	

Boxes 36-39

Box	Description	Date/Note
36	Cassette Tapes and Timeline	1968-1999, 25ft x 11in, annotated
37	Ambassador College publication binder	
38	Correspondence course binder	
39	Oversize	

Periodicals separated from World Wide Church of God Collection to Archived Periodicals of the David Allan Hubbard Library:
Ambassador Report:

(June 30, 1980) (Sept. 21, 1980) (Dec. 1, 1980) (Mar. 31, 1981) (July 15, 1981) (Oct. 22, 1981) (Dec. 31, 1981) (Mar. 31, 1982) (June 30, 1982) (Sept. 30, 1982) (Dec. 15, 1982) (Jan. 1983) (Apr. 1983) (July 1983) (Oct. 1983) (Apr. 1984) (July 1984) (Dec. 1984) (Mar. 1985) (June 1985) (Oct. 1985) (Jan. 1986) (Apr. 1986) (Aug. 1986) (Jan. 1987) (Apr. 1987) (Sept. 1987) (Mar. 1988) (Mar. 1989) (Sept. 1989) (Dec. 1989) (June 1990) (Sept. 1990) (Jan. 1990) (May 1991) (Nov. 1991) (Oct. 1992) (Dec. 1992) (June 1993) (Sept. 1993) (Feb. 1994) (May 1994) (Oct. 1994) (April 1995) (June 1995) (Mar. 1996) (July 1996) (Sept. 1996) (May 1997) (Sept. 1997) (Dec. 1997) (Apr. 1998) (July 1998) (Oct. 1998) (Feb. 1999) (Apr. 1999)

Bible Review:

(Winter 1985)

The Foundation Commentator: A Publication of the Foundation for Biblical Research:

(Sept. /Oct. 1983) (Sept. 1985) (Oct. 1985) (Nov. /Dec. 1985) (Jan. 1986)

Global Church News: News of the Word, the Work, and the World

(March 1993) (May 1993)

The Journal: News of the Churches of God:

(Mar. 31, 2006) (April 30, 2006) (May 31, 2006) (June 30, 2006) (July 31, 2006) (Aug. 31, 2006) (Sept. 30, 2006) (Oct. 31, 2006) (Nov./Dec. 2006) (Jan./Feb. 2007) (Mar./Apr. 2007) (May 31, 2007) (June/July 2007) (Aug. 2007) (Sept./Oct. 2007) (Nov./Dec. 2007) (Jan. 31, 2008) (Feb. 29, 2008) (Mar. 31, 2008) (Apr. 30, 2008) (May 31, 2008) (June 30, 2008) (July 31, 2008) (Aug. 31, 2008)

Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion:

(June 2005)

Journal of the American Academy of Religion:

(Spring 1998)

The Los Angeles University Cathedral Pulpit:

(Vol. 3, No. 1- 1992) (Vol. 3, No. 3- 1994)

Ministerial Bulletin of the Worldwide Church of God:

(June 5, 1970) (Sept. 14, 1970) (Dec. 15, 1970) (July 11, 1972) (July 25, 1972) (Oct. 31, 1972) (Feb 12, 1974) (Apr. 2, 1974) (Apr. 23, 1974) (June 21, 1974) (July 17, 1974) (Aug 14, 1974) (Sept. 23, 1974) (Oct. 23, 1974) (Nov. 6, 1974) (Dec. 17, 1974) (Dec. 2, 1975) (Winter 1976) (Jan. 13, 1976) (Feb. 10, 1976) (May 4, 1976) (Aug. 24, 1976) (Nov. 2, 1976) (Dec. 29, 1976) (Feb. 4, 1977) (Apr. 20, 1977) (May 18, 1977) (July 14, 1977) (Aug. 12, 1977)

Nova Religio: The Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions:

(Oct. 1997) (Apr. 1998) (Oct. 1999) (Apr. 2000) (Oct. 2000)

The Philadelphia Trumpet:

(Mar. 1991- Aug. 1998, sporadic)

The Plain Truth: A Magazine of Understanding:

(Apr. 1978) (Jan. 1986) (Feb. 1986) (Apr. 1986) (Jan. 1990) (Mar. 1990) (Nov./Dec. 1990) (Jan. 1991) (Feb. 1991) (Mar. 1991) (May/June 1991) (Nov./Dec. 1994) (Oct. 1994) (May/June 1994) (Mar./Apr. 1996)

Prophecy Flash! A Newsletter of insight and understanding of Biblical prophecy for our time:

(Nov. 1991) (Jan./Feb. 1992) (Apr. 1992) (May/June 1992) (July 1992) (Aug. 1992) (Sept. 1992) (Oct./Nov. 1992) (Dec. 1992) (Jan. 1993) (Feb. 1993) (Mar./Apr. 1993) (May 1993) (June 1993) (July/Aug. 1993) (Sept./Oct. 1993) (Nov. 1993) (Dec. 1993/Jan. 1994) (Jan. 1995)

The Truth About... The Church in the City:

(Vol. 7, No. 1)