Memorial Baptist Church, located in Waco, Texas, was established in 1943 May by a group consisting of Sunday School teachers, officers, deacons, and other Waco citizens. The name “Memorial Baptist Church” was chosen to commemorate the fallen soldiers of World War II and served as a memorial for fallen soldiers who had fought for the United States. Although the church did not initially have an official building, the Memorial Baptist Church congregation held their meetings and conducted their Sunday School classes and services in various church member's homes. The first pastor of Waco Memorial Baptist Church was Reverend A. Meyers and shortly after he was installed, the church purchased the building and grounds at 801 South 22nd Street, Waco, Texas. The members of the church donated money to fund part of the purchase. The first meeting at this site occurred on 1943 June 27, which was conducted under the tent tabernacle purchased by the church. Three months later under the supervision of D.B. Wiley, the construction of the auditorium commenced and completed later that year. At the end of the church’s first year of operation, the Sunday-School enrollment had grown from 63 to 308 participants.

Memorial Baptist Church celebrated its first anniversary on 1944 May 7 with 272 individuals present. In 1949 February, School teachers, officers, deacons, and other Waco citizens. The name “Memorial Baptist Church” was chosen to commemorate the fallen soldiers of World War II and served as a memorial for fallen soldiers who had fought for the United States. Although the church did not initially have an official building, the Memorial Baptist Church congregation held their meetings and conducted their Sunday School classes and services in various church member's homes. The first pastor of Waco Memorial Baptist Church was Reverend A. Meyers and shortly after he was installed, the church purchased the building and grounds at 801 South 22nd Street, Waco, Texas. The members of the church donated money to fund part of the purchase. The first meeting at this site occurred on 1943 June 27, which was conducted under the tent tabernacle purchased by the church. Three months later under the supervision of D.B. Wiley, the construction of the auditorium commenced and completed later that year. At the end of the church’s first year of operation, the Sunday-School enrollment had grown from 63 to 308 participants.

Memorial Baptist Church celebrated its first anniversary on 1944 May 7 with 272 individuals present. In 1949 February, J.M. Rickerson presented to the congregation a Hammond organ as a gift. Later on 1951 July 4, due to the increasing expanding membership of church, the building facing 22nd Street was later purchased as an addition and was converted into a Youth Building.

On 1962 December 31, Waco Memorial Baptist church closed due to dwindling membership, but the church still had sufficient funds to continue to operate. When Memorial Baptist Church purchased the land for their final site, the neighborhood was predominately a Caucasian neighborhood and slowly evolved into a predominately Hispanic neighborhood. The church failed to attract the newer area residents, resulting in gradually diminishing numbers. The church and grounds eventually were donated to the Waco Baptist Association of which the church was a participating member. The church and grounds were used to be called a church and now is Maranatha Church, a member of Waco Baptist Association. In the church’s 59 year history, the church was led by seven pastors, A. Meyers, Harry Brasher, B. Gene Grace, Joe Cranfill, Kenneth Dill, Derek Dodson and finally Jimmie Spann.

On 2002 December 31, Waco Memorial Baptist church closed due to dwindling membership, but the church still had sufficient funds to continue to operate. When Memorial Baptist Church purchased the land for their final site, the neighborhood was predominately a Caucasian neighborhood and slowly evolved into a predominately Hispanic neighborhood. The church failed to attract the newer area residents, resulting in gradually diminishing numbers. The church and grounds eventually were donated to the Waco Baptist Association of which the church was a participating member. The church and grounds were used to be called a church and now is Maranatha Church, a member of Waco Baptist Association. In the church’s 59 year history, the church was led by seven pastors, A. Meyers, Harry Brasher, B. Gene Grace, Joe Cranfill, Kenneth Dill, Derek Dodson and finally Jimmie Spann.

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Archival Arrangement
The Waco Memorial Baptist Church Collection was a gift acquired from Memorial Baptist Church via secretary Mary Golden, in 2003 January and May. Before the collection was processed, it was extremely well organized. The boxes were arranged with the minutes from each division of the church followed by Financial Reports and other documents concerning the church history and day to day activities. Lastly, the membership cards were organized in chronological order. The Waco Memorial Baptist Church Collection is now arranged in 6 series. Series I. Correspondence, Series II. Legal Documents, Series III. Financial Documents, Series IV. Literary Productions, Series V. Scrapbooks, Series VI. Photographic Materials. Series II. Legal Documents has 5 subseries, I. Minutes-Business, II. Minutes-Deacons, III. Minutes-Trailblazers, IV. Church Records, and V. Constitutions. Series III. Financial Documents has two subseries, I. Reports, II. Ledgers. Series IV. Literary Productions has 3 subseries, I. Special Events, II. Church Life, and III. Church Bulletins.

Series 1: Correspondence. 1944-2003

Administrative/Biographical History
This series contains the correspondence produced by the Waco Memorial Baptist Church. Included are the letters from the church to the Old Church Association which details general information about the church and correspondence that was written in 2003, when the church was closed and the grounds were donated. The materials are in good condition.

Item List
Box 1. Folder 1. Old Church Association Letters (1 of 2), 1944-1959
Box 1. Folder 2. Old Church Association Letters (2 of 2), 1944-1959
Box 1. Folder 3. Old Church Association Letters (1 of 2), 1960-1970
Box 1. Folder 4. Old Church Association Letters (2 of 2), 1960-1970
Box 1. Folder 5. Correspondence, 2003

Series 2: Legal. 1943-2002

Summary Information
Extent (quantity/size) 7 document boxes

Administrative/Biographical History
This series contains the legal documents of Waco Memorial Baptist Church. These documents include the minutes from the business meetings, minutes from the deacons meetings, minutes from the buildings and grounds meetings, minutes from the Youth Council meetings and finally the minutes from the "Trailblazers" Senior Citizens meetings. Also included are the constitutions for the Waco Memorial Baptist Church and Youth Council. The materials are in good condition.

Item List
Box 1. Folder 6. Minutes, Business: 1943 April 14-1954 August 11 (1 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 7. Minutes, Business: 1943 April 14-1954 August 11 (2 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 8. Minutes, Business: 1943 April 14-1954 August 11 (3 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 10. Minutes, Business: 1943 April 14-1954 August 11 (5 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 11. Minutes, Business: 1943 April 14-1954 August 11 (6 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 12. Minutes, Business: 1943 April 14-1954 August 11 (7 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 13. Minutes, Business: 1943 April 14-1954 August 11 (8 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 14. Minutes, Business: 1943 April 14-1954 August 11 (9 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 15. Minutes, Business: 1943 April 14-1954 August 11 (10 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 17. Minutes, Business: 1951 April 11-1957 December 4 (1 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 19. Minutes, Business: 1951 April 11-1957 December 4 (3 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 20. Minutes, Business: 1951 April 11-1957 December 4 (4 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 22. Minutes, Business: 1951 April 11-1957 December 4 (6 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 23. Minutes, Business: 1951 April 11-1957 December 4 (7 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 24. Minutes, Business: 1951 April 11-1957 December 4 (8 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 25. Minutes, Business: 1951 April 11-1957 December 4 (9 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 26. Minutes, Business: 1951 April 11-1957 December 4 (10 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 27. Minutes, Business: 1951 April 11-1957 December 4 (11 of 11)
Box 1. Folder 29. Minutes, Business: 1957 December 22-1961 August 9 (2 of 7)
Box 2. Folder 1. Minutes, Business: 1957 December 22-1961 August 9 (3 of 7)
Box 2. Folder 5. Minutes, Business: 1957 December 22-1961 August 9 (7 of 7)
Box 2. Folder 8. Minutes, Business: 1956 January 5-1963 September 4 (3 of 6)
Box 2. Folder 10. Minutes, Business: 1956 January 5-1963 September 4 (5 of 6)

Summary Information

Extent (quantity/size) 3 document boxes, 2 oversized boxes.

Administrative/Biographical History

This series contains the financial documents of the Waco Memorial Baptist Church. These financial documents include annual reports, budgets, financial reports, and the church’s ledgers from 1967-1991. The materials are in good condition.

Item List

Box 7. Folder 14. Financial Reports, 1953
Box 7. Folder 37. Financial Reports (1 of 6), 1985-1989
Box 7. Folder 38. Financial Reports (2 of 6), 1985-1989
Box 7. Folder 41. Financial Reports (5 of 6), 1985-1989
Box 7. Folder 42. Financial Reports (6 of 6), 1985-1989
Box 7. Folder 44. Financial Reports (2 of 5), 1990-1994
Box 7. Folder 55. Pastor’s Expenses, 1997
Box 7. Folder 56. Budgets (1 of 2), 1993-2002
Box 7. Folder 57. Budgets (2 of 2), 1993-2002
Series 4: Literary Productions. 1943-2002

Summary Information
- Extent (quantity/size): 3 document boxes, 3 oversized boxes.

Administrative/Biographical History
This series contains the literary productions of the Waco Memorial Baptist Church. Such literary productions include a history of the church, Waco Baptist Association letters and reports, invitations, church certificates, membership records, membership cards and church bulletins. The materials are in good condition.

Item List
- Box 9, Folder 7: Homecoming Materials, 1973
- Box 9, Folder 8: Homecoming Mailing List, 1983
- Box 9, Folder 9: 45th Anniversary, 1986 May 15
- Box 9, Folder 10: 50th Anniversary, Kenneth L. DILL Pastor, 1933 May 16
- Box 9, Folder 11: Anniversary (Homecoming), 1998
- Box 9, Folder 12: Job Descriptions and Procedures, undated
- Box 9, Folder 13: History (1 of 4), 1943-2002
- Box 9, Folder 14: History (2 of 4), 1943-2002
- Box 9, Folder 15: History (3 of 4), 1943-2002
- Box 9, Folder 16: History (4 of 4), 1943-2002
- Box 10, Folder 1: Waco Baptist Association Reports (1 of 3), 1974-1992
- Box 10, Folder 2: Waco Baptist Association Reports (2 of 3), 1974-1992
- Box 10, Folder 3: Waco Baptist Association Reports (3 of 3), 1974-1992
- Box 10, Folder 4: Church Profile (1 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 5: Church Profile (2 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 6: Church Profile (3 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 7: Certificates, 1943-2002
- Box 10, Folder 8: Membership: 2002 December 21 and Dropped from Rolls, 2002
- Box 10, Folder 9: Church Bulletins (1 of 2), 1981-1986
- Box 10, Folder 10: Church Bulletins (2 of 2), 1981-1986
- Box 10, Folder 11: Church Bulletins (1 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 12: Church Bulletins (2 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 13: Church Bulletins (3 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 14: Church Bulletins (4 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 15: Church Bulletins (5 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 16: Church Bulletins (6 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 17: Church Bulletins (7 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 18: Church Bulletins (8 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 19: Church Bulletins (9 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 20: Church Bulletins (10 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 21: Church Bulletins (11 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 22: Church Bulletins (12 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 23: Church Bulletins (13 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 10, Folder 24: Church Bulletins (14 of 3), 1990-2002
- Box 11, Folder 1: Church Bulletins (1 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 2: Church Bulletins (2 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 3: Church Bulletins (3 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 4: Church Bulletins (4 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 5: Church Bulletins (5 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 6: Church Bulletins (6 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 7: Church Bulletins (7 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 8: Church Bulletins (8 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 9: Church Bulletins (9 of 4), 1995-1998
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- Box 11, Folder 11: Church Bulletins (11 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 12: Church Bulletins (12 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 13: Church Bulletins (13 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 14: Church Bulletins (14 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 15: Church Bulletins (15 of 4), 1995-1998
- Box 11, Folder 16: Church Bulletins (16 of 4), 1995-1998

Series 5: Scrapbooks. 1954-1964

Summary Information
- Extent (quantity/size): 4 folders and 1 oversized box
- Media: Photographic print

Administrative/Biographical History
This series contains the scrapbook from the Memorial Baptist Church Youth Council group. It includes photographs of members and parties, bulletins, invitations and other short publications concerning the Youth Council. The materials are in good condition.

Item List
- Box 11, Folder 1: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 2: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 3: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 4: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 5: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 6: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 7: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 8: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 9: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 10: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 11: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 12: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 13: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 14: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 15: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964
- Box 11, Folder 16: Youth Council Scrapbooks, 1954-1964

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Series 6: Photographs. 1943-1973

Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extent (quantity/size)</th>
<th>8 folders</th>
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<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>Photographic print</td>
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Administrative/Biographical History

This series contains photographs pertaining to the internal church organization, the Youth Council, photographs of the church buildings and meeting places, and photographs from various church events. The material is in good condition.

Item List

Box 11. 19. Photographs (1 of 2), 1943-1995
Box 11. 20. Photographs (2 of 2), 1943-1995
Box 11. 21. Church Photographs (1 of 6), 1973, undated
Box 11. 22. Church Photographs (2 of 6), 1973, undated
Box 11. 23. Church Photographs (3 of 6), 1973, undated
Box 11. 24. Church Photographs (4 of 6), 1973, undated
Box 11. 25. Church Photographs (5 of 6), 1973, undated
Box 11. 26. Church Photographs (6 of 6), 1973, undated