

# **Ebenezer A.M.E Church Records**

## **5252012.EAMECR.DW**

**Finding aid prepared by Dustin Witsman**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Shorefront Legacy Center

May 25, 2012

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Shorefront Legacy Center
<b>Title</b>	Ebenezer A.M.E Church Records
<b>Date [bulk]</b>	Bulk, 1942-1987
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1909-2007
<b>Extent</b>	4.63 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>The Ebenezer A.M.E. Church was the first African American church established in Evanston, Illinois. The collection includes meeting minutes, publications, newspapers clippings, reports, ledgers, photographs, and audio-visual recordings. Although not complete, the collection is especially strong in holdings documenting the Ebenezer A.M.E. Church Gospel Choir.</p>

## Historical Note

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The Ebenezer A.M.E. Church was the first African American church established in Evanston, Illinois. Formed in 1882, it grew out of a prayer meeting at the home of Richard Day and developed into a full religious program, including a number of choirs (Senior, Gospel, Youth, and Children's) as well as strong community involvement. Still functioning, the Ebenezer A.M.E Church's history, from its founding to its recent history, is chronicled in this collection.

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## Scope and Contents note

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The Ebenezer A.M.E. Church records are organized into five series: "Church Records," "Ebenezer Gospel Choir," "Sheet Music," "Recordings," and "Artifacts." The collection spans from 1909 to 2007, but the bulk of material dates between 1942 and 1987. The collection includes meeting minutes, publications, newspapers clippings, reports, ledgers, photographs, and audio-visual recordings. Although not complete, the collection is especially strong in holdings documenting the Ebenezer A.M.E. Church Gospel Choir.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Shorefront Legacy Center May 25, 2012

### Processing Information note

Processed by CLIR funded Black Metropolis Research Consortium "Color Curtain Processing Project."

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## Related Materials

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### Related Archival Materials note

Anna Belle Frazier papers, Shorefront Legacy Center; Berniece Ball Perry papers, Shorefront Legacy Center; Evanston Obituary collection, Shorefront Legacy Center.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Subject(s)

- African American churches.
  - African American-Evanston-Illinois
  - African Americans--Illinois--Evanston.
  - African Americans--Religion--Illinois--Chicago.
  - Ebenezer A.M.E. Church (Evanston, IL)
  - Sheet music.
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## Cited Sources

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History of Ebenezer A. M. E. Church. 1965. 40p.

## Series I. Church Records,

## Collection Inventory

### Series I. Church Records, 1909-2007

#### Scope and Contents note

“Church Records” is comprised of material relating to the historical and organizational aspects of Evanston, Illinois' Ebenezer A.M.E. Church. It includes correspondence, publications, newspaper clippings, ledgers, reports, and bulletins.

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
History of Ebenezer A.M.E. Church, 1909-1965	1	1
Correspondence, 1918-2007	1	2
Stationery, undated	1	3
Meetings, Reports, Notes, 1944-1982	1	4
Planning Conferences, 1963-1971	1	5
The Trumpet, 1960-1977	1	6
Holmes-Moore-Jackson Family Reunion Club, 1984-1990	1	7
The Jackson Report, 1975	1	8

**Series II. Ebenezer A.M.E. Gospel Choir,**

Economy Sewing Club, 1970-1985	1	9
Play Scripts, 1979, undated	1	10
Event Publications, 1942-2007	1	11-19
Certificates, 1913-1984	1	20
Newspaper Clippings, 1918-2004	1	21
Ebenezer A.M.E. photographs, undated	1	22-23
<b>Series II. Ebenezer A.M.E. Gospel Choir, 1930-1987</b>		
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>		
This series contains material relating to the Ebenezer A.M.E. Gospel Choir, its members, and its history.		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Reports, Events, Schedules, Announcements, 1930-1987	2	24
Membership, 1990, undated	2	25
Anniversary Programs, 1954-1961	2	26-27
Ebenezer A.M.E. Gospel Choir Photographs, 1945-1982	2	28
Ebenezer A.M.E. Gospel Choir Ledgers, 1946-1981	2	29-33

**Series III. Sheet Music,****Box**

Slides, undated

2

Audio Cassette Recordings, 1984, undated

2

**Series III. Sheet Music, circa 1930-1955****Scope and Contents note**

This series contains sheet music and piano lesson books used by Ebenezer A.M.E. Church.

**Box**

Sheet Music and Booklets, 1937-1955

3

Piano Lesson Books, Oversized Sheet Music, circa 1930-1950

4

**Series IV. Recordings, 1942, undated****Scope and Contents note**

This series contains 78 rpm recordings made by Ebenezer A.M.E Church as well as a few commercially available records.

**Box**

78 rpm records, 1942, undated

5

**Series V. Artifacts, circa 1909-2007****Scope and Contents note**

**Series VI. Scrapbook,**

This series contains various physical artifacts from or related to Ebenezer A.M.E Church.

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Napkins, Pins, 2007, undated	2	34
		<b>Box</b>
2 New Testament Volumes, circa 1909, circa 1933		2
Woolen Bag of Wooden Masks, undated		2
<b>Series VI. Scrapbook, 1952-1991</b>		
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>		
This series is comprised of loose, laminated pages of a scrapbook containing newspaper clippings concerning Ebenezer A.M.E. Church.		
		<b>Box</b>
Scrapbook: "Ebenezer A.M.E In the News," 1952-1991		6