

MORAVIAN ARCHIVES

**Inventory
of the records
of the**

**Moravian Church of Harmony, Iowa
1868-1909**

**Kelly Moore
2007**

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Introduction

1. Diaries and Minutes
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Records of the Moravian Church of Harmony, Iowa, 1868-1909. 4 boxes.

History:

The Moravian Church of Harmony in Iowa began in 1868 and dedicated its church building in 1869. The records date from the beginning of the congregation up to 1909. Harmony is located in Poweshiek County in the southwest of Iowa. The church closed in 1909 and is no longer active.

Archival History:

The collection was sent to the Moravian Archives after the closing of the church. The records were originally arranged alphabetically. They were then rearranged systematically by Kelly Moore, student at Moravian College, in 2007.

Scope and Content:

The content of the materials ranges from 1857 to 1909. The records show information about the organization of the church and information about its members. The records include baptismal records of infants, children and adults. New member records and marriage records are seen throughout the collection. The collection consists of books and ledgers, which contain personal papers, financial records and committee minutes.

System of Arrangement:

The papers are arranged into different categories. They are divided into financial records, diaries and minutes, membership records and miscellaneous. Financial records and membership records are the two larger groups.

Condition Governing Access:

The condition is fair despite some signs of water and mold damage. Some of the bindings of the larger books are also weak. All of the records are contained well with the exception of some loose leaf documents.

Language:

English

Related units of description

The church register of the Harmony Moravian Church is in the collection of church registers: ChReg 161.

1. Diaries and Minutes

- 1 **Church Diary.** (1869-1877)
Water Damage, 1 Book
- 2 **Church Diary II.** (1883-1889)
Mold Damage, 1 Book
- 3 **Church Diary III.** (1889-1896)
Mold Damage, 1 Book
- 4 **Church Diary IV.** (1896-1908)
1 Book
- 5 **Minutes.** (1869-1899)
Contents-
 - i. Minutes of Committee Meetings and Council Meetings
 - ii. Contains the “Constitution of the Moravian Church” inside.
Water and Mold Damage, 1 Book

2. Financial Records

- 1 **Treasurer’s Book.** (1870-1898)
Contents-
 - i. Financial accounts- expenditures
 - ii. Member donations and contributions
Water/Mold Damages, 1 Book
- 2 **Account Book.** (1890-1908)
Contents-
 - i. Ledger – presented by Rev. C. T. Oelner
 - ii. First entry- Jan 2 1890
 - iii. Financial accounts of individual people and church related groups.
1 Book
- 3 **Annual Statistic Reports.** (1876-1908)
Contents-
 - i. Informational reports showing financial data.
1 folder
- 4 **Financial Notes** (1880s-1900)
Contents-
 - i. Receipts
 - ii. Bills

- iii. Handwritten accounts
- 1 folder
- 5 **Bond for \$600 for Nicholas Gruther John Fry, certified by the Board of Elders.**
- 6 **Financial Assessments and Account Abstracts (1900)**
 - Contents-
 - i. The Synodal Expense Assessment for 1900
 - ii. Abstract- Account of the Sustentation Fund and of the Provincial Revenue 1900

3. Membership Records

- 1 **Catalog/Register of members by choir.** (1868-1896)
 - Harmony, Iowa
 - Contents-
 - i. Organization of Church Members into groups, or choirs. (Married Couples, Children, Widowers etc....)
 - ii. Communicants and Non-Communicants
 - Water Damage
 - 1 Book
- 2 **Catalog.** (1896-1907)
 - Contents-
 - i. First Section of Book: Alphabetical Index of Members
 - ii. Second Section: Organized by choir.
 - Water Damage
 - 1 Book
- 3 **Marriage Records.** (1869-1907)
 - Content-
 - i. Approximately 55 Marriage Licenses
 - ii. Licensed by the state of Iowa and by Poweshiek County
- 4 **Marriage Records (Returns)** (1869-1907)
 - Contents-
 - i. Ledger- "Iowa State Board of Health Return of a Marriage to Country Clerk"
 - a. Carter and Hussey, Blank Book Manufacturers, Printers and Stationers. 319 Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa.
 - ii. Background informational document filled out by couples prior to their marriages.
 - iii. Contains blank forms.
 - 1 Book- Containing all of the forms

4. Miscellaneous

1 Letters

Content-

- i. Undated. Letter to C. D. Brenniman, from N. H. Crider.
- ii. January 31, 1896. Letter to the Elders and Trustees, from E. A. Oerter

Language- English

2 Church Memorabilia

Content-

- i. Handwritten- Reports and history of the church
- ii. Scattered years- one from 1900, 1902, other undated.

3 Constitution of Harmony Sabbath School

Contents-

- i. Date unknown
- ii. Rules and Regulations- numbered I-XI

Fragile

Language- English