Guide to the Metropolitan Community Church Long Beach Collection

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Guide to the Metropolitan Community Church Long Beach Collection

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Processed by:
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Encoded by:
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Metropolitan Community Church Long Beach collection
Dates: 1984-2002
Collection number: Coll2008-039
Creator: Metropolitan Community Church Long Beach
Collection Size: 4 archive cartons. 1.8 linear feet.
Repository: ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives.
Los Angeles, California 90007

Abstract: Video and audio tapes and CD-ROMs of conference proceedings of the Universal Fellowship of the Metropolitan Community Church (UFMCC) and its congregation in Long Beach (MCCLB), along with recordings of events, lectures, sermons, and services related to religion and homosexuality, 1984-2002.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access
The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
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Acquisition Information
Acquired from the Metropolitan Community Church Long Beach, March 21, 2007.

Processing Information
Collection processed by Michael C. Oliveira, June 20, 2008.
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**Administrative History**

Church Long Beach. The first called pastor was Reverend Jon Bullock. Reverend Bullock, who served for a year and a half. The church then called Reverend Bob Cunningham who served until 1979. During this time the church purchased property on Raymond Street, and when they outgrew that property they sold it and purchased property at 785 Junipero Street in Long Beach. When Reverend Bob resigned, the church placed then "Exhorter" (MCC’s term for a minister in training) Michael Cole in charge of the church until it could call a pastor. In 1980, the church called Reverend Dusty Pruitt to the Pastorate. She served until 1995. During that time the church sold its property on Junipero Street and bought property downtown, at 1231 Locust Avenue, an abandoned Oddfellows hall. During this time the church grew to a membership of over 300. In 1995, under the leadership of Reverend Pruitt, the church sold the building at 1231 Locust Avenue and did not buy another one. The church had incurred a large construction debt to earthquake proof the property which became difficult to service. After the property was sold, several disgruntled members in the church led the church to call a vote of confidence for Reverend Pruitt, which in August of 1995 she failed by a vote of 53% to 47%. After a short interim period when Reverend Ken was the interim pastor, the church called Reverend Sandra Turnbull, who had been a Student Clergy and protégée of Reverend Pruitt. After several years as clergy in MCC, Reverend Turnbull resigned her credentials and led the church to disaffiliate with MCC. The congregation that was MCC Long Beach continues as Glory Tabernacle Community Church in Long Beach and functions as an Independent Pentecostal GLBT congregation. The church still does not have a permanent building.

Reverend Dusty Pruitt

**Scope and Content of Collection**

The collection consists of video and audio tapes and CD-ROMs of conference proceedings of the Universal Fellowship of the Metropolitan Community Church (UFCMCC) and its congregation in Long Beach (MCCLB), along with recordings of events, lectures, sermons, along with services related to religion and homosexuality, 1984-2002. The collection is arranged by format in three series: (1) VHS Videotapes, (2) Compact Audiotape Cassettes, and (3) CD-ROMs.

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

- AIDS (Disease)--Patients, Counseling of
- Audiotapes
- Church and social problems--Long Beach, Calif.
- Church work with gays--Long Beach, Calif.
- Gays--Religious life--Long Beach, Calif.
- Homosexuality--Religious aspects
- Metropolitan Community Church--Long Beach, Calif.
- Video tapes

**Box 1 : 1-14 ; 2 : 1-13 ; 3 : 1-3**

**Series 1: VHS Videotapes circa 1984-2002**

**Physical Description:** 19 VHS videotapes + 1 folder.

**Series Scope and Content Summary**

The series consists of VHS videotapes of services and choral and orchestra performances of the Metropolitan Community Church Long Beach (MCCLB), as well as videotapes of events, lectures, and services related to religion and homosexuality. 1984-2002. The tapes are arranged numerically according to the numbers on the spines of the tape boxes; two unnumbered VHS videotapes are placed at the end of the series.

**Box 1 : 1**

**#38 - Celebrate Your Pride ... at Christmas 3, Handel's Young Messiah, MCC Long Beach December 19, 1992**

**Physical Description:** Master tape.

**Box 1 : 2**

**#39 - Easter Sunday resurrection cantata, We Worship the Risen Christ! MCC Long Beach April 11, 1993**

**Physical Description:** Master tape.
Box 1 : 3  #53 - Shown at 20th anniversary dinner, MCC Long Beach April 24, 1992  
Physical Description: Master tape.

Box 1 : 4  #55 - Service in the park, MCC Long Beach May 19, 1991  
Physical Description: Master tape.

Box 1 : 5  #57 - Celebrate Your Pride ... at Christmas 2, MCC Long Beach December 21, 1991  
Physical Description: Master tape.

Box 1 : 6-7  #58/59 - Celebrate Your Pride ... at Christmas, MCC Long Beach December 23, 1990  
Physical Description: Master tapes #1-2.

Box 1 : 8  #60 - Celebrate Your Pride ... at Christmas, MCC Long Beach December 23, 1990  
Box 1 : 9  #61 - The Witness, performed Easter Sunday by the MCC Long Beach choir and orchestra, MCC Long Beach April 19, 1992  
Physical Description: Master tape.

Box 1 : 10  #62 - The Day He Wore My Crown, performed Easter Sunday by MCC Long Beach choir and orchestra March 31, 1991  
Physical Description: Master tape.

Box 1 : 11  #63 - Saturday Night Live 2, MCC Long Beach May 11, 1991  
Box 1 : 12  #66 - Calvary's Love, performed Easter Sunday by MCC Long Beach choir and orchestra. April 3, 1994  
Physical Description: Master tape.

Box 1 : 13  #69 - 20th anniversary, MCC Long Beach April 24, 1992  
Physical Description: Master tape.

Box 1 : 14  #71 - Chadash Ministries, Leaving the 99, Eric Butler circa 1990  
Physical Description: Master tape.

Box 2 : 1  #75 - John Boswell, 1500 Years of the Church Blessing Lesbian and Gay Relationships: It's Nothing New 1988  
Note  
Produced by Integrity, Inc.

Box 2 : 2  #76 - Parents Come Out circa 1990
Box 2 : 3  #78 - Jack W. Hayford, Majesty: An Experience in Worship May 1988  
Note  
Produced by Living Way Ministries, Van Nuys, California.

Note  
Produced by Metro Comm Christian Video.

Box 2 : 5  #87 - Forward Together, Christopher Street West (CSW) presents the 1986 gay pride celebration June 21-22, 1986
Box 2 : 6  #89 - March on Sacramento for Lesbian and Gay Rights: Bring the Message Home May 7, 1988  
Note  
Produced by Lifestyle Update Productions.
Box 2 : 7  #90 - A Building a Church Doesn't Make circa 1990
Box 2 : 8  #93 - 20th anniversary, MCC Long Beach April 24, 1992
Box 2 : 9  #94 - From Heaven’s Throne, Christmas, MCC Long Beach 1993
  Physical Description: Master tape.

Box 2 : 10  #100 - Calvary’s Love, performed Easter Sunday by MCC Long Beach choir and orchestra April 3, 1994
Box 2 : 11  #103 - Spring creativity retreat, multi-media “extravaganza,” MCC Long Beach April 22-24, 1994
  Physical Description: Master tape.

Box 2 : 12  #104 - Spring creativity retreat highlights, MCC Long Beach April 22-24, 1994
  Physical Description: Master tape.

Box 2 : 13  #105 - After Goodbye: An AIDS Story, featuring the Turtle Creek Chorale 1993
Box 3 : 1  Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, God, Gays and the Gospel: This is Our Story 1984
Box 3 : 2  The First Annual Choir Share 2002
Box 3 : 3  Original and copies of VHS video tape boxes circa 1984-1988
Box 3 : 4-7 ; 4 : Series 2: Compact Audiotape Cassettes 1985-circa 1990
  1-3  Physical Description: 7 items.
  Series Scope and Content Summary
  The series consists of compact audiotape cassettes of conference proceedings, events, lectures, sermons, and services of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and its Long Beach congregation.

Box 3 : 4-5  Metropolitan Community Church Long Beach (MCCLB) 1988-1989
  Physical Description: 12 audiotape cassettes.

Box 3 : 4  Homosexuality and the Bible June 5-26, 1988
  Physical Description: 4 audiotape cassettes.
  Scope and Content Note
  1. What the Bible Does and Doesn't Say, Bjorn Marcussen. June 5, 1988

Box 3 : 5  Charismatic Conference 3 February 3-5, 1989
  Physical Description: 8 audiotape cassettes.
  Scope and Content Note
  1. Opening worship service, Martha Siegel. February 3, 1989
  3. Workshop, Compassionate Presence - Healing the Child Within, Sister Maria Louisa. circa February 4, 1989
  5. Key Note Address, "By the Fruits You Shall Know Them". The Fruit of the Holy Spirit in Daily Living, Thomas Bigelow. circa February 4, 1989
  6. Workshop, Dealing with the Devil, Thomas Bigelow. circa February 4, 1989
Box 4 : 1-3

Universal Fellowship of metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC). General Conferences 1985-1989

Physical Description: 44 audiotape cassettes.

Box 4 : 1

**General Conference 12, Sacramento, California June 30-July 7, 1985**

Physical Description: 12 audiotape cassettes.

Scope and Content Note


Box 4 : 2

**General Conference 13, Miami Beach, Florida July 19-26, 1987**

Physical Description: 16 audiotape cassettes.

Scope and Content Note

Box 4 : 3  General Conference 14, Minneapolis, Minnesota July 16-23, 1989

Physical Description: 16 audiotape cassettes.

Scope and Content Note

Box 3 : 6-7  Miscellaneous circa 1985-1990

Physical Description: 2 audiotape cassettes.

Box 3 : 6  Don Eastman, Not a Sin Not a Sickness: The Bible and Homosexuality circa 1990

Physical Description: 4 audiotape cassettes.

Scope and Content Note
1. The Truth Shall Set You Free
2. Genesis 19 - Sodom Revisited
3. Leviticus 18 - What's an Abomination?
4. Romans 1, First Corinthians 6 - When in Rome ...

Box 3 : 7  Elder Freda Smith, The Best of Freda circa 1985

Physical Description: 2 audiotape cassettes.

Scope and Content Note
1a. Purple Grass
1b. Fig Tree
2a. Jonah
2b. Once I Was Blind

Box 3 : 8  Series 3: CD-ROMs April 24, 1992

Physical Description: 2 CD-ROMs.

Series Scope and Content Summary
This series contains the third and fourth CD-ROMs created for the twentieth anniversary of the Long Beach congregation of the Metropolitan Community Church.
Box 3 : 8  | Metropolitan Community Church, Long Beach, 20 Year Documentary April 24, 1992

Physical Description: CDs #3 and 4.

Note

Note: CD #4 unplayable (June 20, 2008).