Papers of David Du Plessis

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Papers of David Du Plessis

Dates: 1900-1987

Collection Number: CFT00001

Creator/Collector: Du Plessis, David

Extent: 129 Boxes, 66 linear feet

Repository: Fuller Theological Seminary-David Allan Hubbard Library Archives

Pasadena, California 91182

Abstract: David du Plessis (February 7, 1905- February 2, 1987), known as “Mr. Pentecost,” was a South African Pentecostal minister and one of the primary founders of the 20th century charismatic movement. The collection include correspondence with global religious leaders and local ministers, sermon notes and outlines, drafts of ecumenical documents and minutes (including those related to the International Roman Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue), and scores of ephemeral materials from various charismatic “ministries.” The collection principally reflects the integration of Pentecostal and mainline Christian denominations, including Catholicism, Episcopalism, Lutheranism, Methodism, and Presbyterianism.

Language of Material: English

Access

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Preferred Citation

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Acquisition Information

Gift of David and Anna du Plessis, 1985

Biography/Administrative History

David du Plessis (February 7, 1905- February 2, 1987), known as “Mr. Pentecost,” was a South African Pentecostal minister and one of the primary founders of the 20th century charismatic movement. He converted to Christianity in 1916, and received the Pentecostal baptism of the Holy Spirit in 1923. Du Plessis received ordination from the Apostolic Faith Mission of South Africa (AFM) in 1928, and became the general secretary in 1935. Du Plessis helped organize the first Pentecostal World Conference (PWC), held in 1947.

Scope and Content of Collection

The Papers of David Du Plessis, 1900-1987 include his correspondence with global religious leaders and local ministers, sermon notes and outlines, drafts of ecumenical documents and minutes (including those related to the International Roman Catholic-Pentecostal Dialogue), letters to his wife, and scores of ephemeral materials from various charismatic “ministries.” Meritorious awards, photographs, newspaper clippings, church bulletins, and cassette tapes of talks given by David du Plessis are also within the collection. Material dates throughout the 1900's with the bulk of the collection ranging from 1947-1986. The collection principally reflects the integration of Pentecostal and mainline Christian denominations, including Catholicism, Episcopalism, Lutheranism, Methodism, and Presbyterianism. Formats include diaries, correspondence, newsletters, manuscripts, photographs, and ephemera. Ephemera include conferences and organizational materials, geographic and topical files, promotional material, and printed material. The printed material contains articles by Du Plessis, interviews with and articles about Du Plessis, and religious tracts and pamphlets collected by the Du Plessis.

Indexing Terms

Pentecostalism
Pentecostal churches
Ecumenical movement
Pentecostal Roman Catholic Dialogue
Assemblies of God
South Africa

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