
Wayne R. Rood Collection

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Wayne R. Rood Collection

Collection number: GTU 92-7-02

Graduate Theological Union Archives
Graduate Theological Union
Berkeley, California

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Wayne R. Rood collection

Dates: 1946-2002

Bulk Dates: 1963-1992

Collection number: GTU 92-7-02

Creator: Rood, Wayne R.

Collection Size: 2 linear feet (2 record boxes)

Repository: The Graduate Theological Union. Library.
Berkeley, CA 94709

Abstract: Wayne R. Rood (1915 - 2000) taught for 44 years at the Pacific School of Religion. He wrote, directed and acted in religious plays, taught courses on theater and theology, and supervised many theses and dissertations on the subject. Rood was raised and ordained in the Seventh Day Baptist tradition. He received his AB and BS from Salem College; BD, Alfred University; MRE, Hartford Seminary Foundation; and ThD, Pacific School of Religion.

Physical location: 4/D/6

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

Collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation

Wayne R. Rood collection, GTU 92-7-02. Graduate Theological Union Archives, Berkeley, CA.

Acquisition Information

The Collection came to the Graduate Theological Union Archives as a direct donation by Wayne Rood in July 1992.

Biography / Administrative History

Wayne Ray Rood was born in Neillsville, Wisconsin, on June 24, 1915, and raised in the Seventh Day Baptist tradition. His family moved to Riverside, California, where he attended public schools from the second grade through Junior College. He completed undergraduate work at Pacific Union College in California and Salem College in West Virginia before enrolling in The School of Theology of Alfred University in New York where he graduated with a Bachelor of Divinity in 1940. Rood was ordained in the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Riverside where he served as pastor. He attended the Hartford Seminary Foundation in Connecticut where he earned a Master of Religious Education in 1943. In 1949, he achieved a Doctor of Theology degree, graduating magna cum laude from Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California.

Rood was trained in the U.S. Military Chaplain School and served as Army Chaplain from May 1944 until September 1946. He was stationed variously in New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Okinawa and Japan during the war years. These experiences were later privately published 2002 in *You Okay, Chappy? Memories of Infantry Field Chaplain WWII*, and his *Wife on the Home Front*. Upon discharge as a Major in 1945, he taught Historical and Systematic Theology at Alfred University. 1952-1981, he was Professor of Religious Education at Pacific School of Religion, continuing as Adjunct Professor of Theater and Theology until his retirement in 1996.

Rood developed an early interest in theater arts. He participated in the development of the Religion and the Arts program at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. He was founder and artistic director of BARDS (Bay Area Religious Drama Service). Using liturgical readings and performances to teach Christian education, he served as lecturer, director and/or actor. He staged dramatic productions on Christian themes and figures in churches throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. In addition to his teaching career, Rood also held Baptist pastorates in Rhode Island and New York, and served as interim pastor for Swedenborgian and Baptist churches in El Cerrito and Berkeley, California. He taught at The College of Theology at Silliman University in the Philippines, served as Acting Dean of the Chapel at Stanford University in Palo Alto, and acted as Resident Theologian at the University of Colorado and the Lilly Visiting Professor at Berea College in Kentucky. He was also a Student of the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom for two sabbatical years.

Rood authored three books published by Abingdon Press, *The Art of Teaching Christianity* (1968), *Understanding Christian Education* (1970), and *On Nurturing Christians* (1972). He created numerous lectures, addresses, articles, sermons, theater scripts and autobiographical ruminations.

Rood met Anna Loofbourrow while he was a seminarian in New York, and they married in 1940. They had two children. He died on May 20, 2000, in Berkeley, California.

Scope and Content of Collection

The Collection consists of materials for lectures and seminars for teaching purposes; dramatic readings and dramatizations adapted from liturgical sources; service materials and sermons; articles, criticisms, essays; books and autobiographies, published and unpublished. All materials in the Collection are mimeographed, Xeroxed, or laser-printed copies. Dr. Rood did not include personal papers in the Collection.

Arrangement

The Collection is divided into five series: Series 1) Academic: Lectures, Seminars, Addresses, Curricular materials. Series 2) Theater: Readings, Performances, Dramatizations. Series 3) Worship: Services, Sermons, Convocations. Series 4) Articles: Articles, Essays, Criticisms, Other Writings. Series 5) Books: Books, Autobiographies.

Rood often adapted liturgical sources for readings and theatrical productions. He included a brief preface for many of these materials in the Collection that helps to place their origin and purpose. Materials that he reworked over time will show the original dates and the reworked dates in the Container Listing.

Indexing Terms

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

Subjects

Rood, Wayne R. (1915-2000)
McPherson, Aimee Semple, (1890-1944)
Pacific School of Religion (Berkeley, Calif.)--Faculty.
United States. Army--Chaplains.
Theology--Study and teaching--California--Berkeley.
Christian education--Teaching methods.
Christian education--Outlines, syllabi, etc.
Theater--Religious aspects--Seventh Day Baptists.
Drama in Christian education.
Seventh Day Baptists--Clergy--Biography.
World War, 1939-1945--Personal narratives, American.
Seventh-Day Baptists--Missions--Nigeria.
World War, 1939-1945--Chaplains.

Related Material

See [Remembering Theological Education in the Sixties](#) for Wayne Rood's oral history on the beginnings of GTU and his experiences teaching.

Series 1 **Academic 1951-1989**

Physical Description: 24 folders

Scope and Content Note

Lectures, seminars, addresses, curricular materials.

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| box-folder 1 / 1 | Theological Trends in the 20th Century 1951 |
| box-folder 1 / 2 | Christian Education - Lectures 1952-1992 |
| box-folder 1 / 3 | Dramatists and Plays 1958 |
| box-folder 1 / 4 | Job - Four lectures 1959 |
| box-folder 1 / 5 | Academic Experiment - BARDS Lectures 1964 |
| box-folder 1 / 6 | The People and the Story of the Old Testament 1964, 1992 |
| box-folder 1 / 7 | The Teacher and the Message of the New Testament 1964, 1992 |
| box-folder 1 / 8 | The Church and Its Faith Through the Centuries 1964, 1992 |
| box-folder 1 / 9 | The Message and the Mission of the Christian Faith 1964, 1992 |
| box-folder 1 / 10 | Words and the Word 1966 |
| box-folder 1 / 11 | Readings for Worship and the Arts 1969 |
| box-folder 1 / 12 | A Time for Learning 1969-1970 |
| box-folder 1 / | Pastoral Conference and Earl Lectures 1969-1983 |
| 13-15 | |
| box-folder 1 / 16 | The Experience and Doctrine of Creativity 1974 |
| box-folder 1 / 17 | Ceremony and Survival 1976 |
| box-folder 1 / 18 | I John - A Lecture 1980 |
| box-folder 1 / 19 | Archetypes and Prototypes 1981 |
| box-folder 1 / 20 | Evolution of a Lecture into a Sermon 1982-1989 |
| box-folder 1 / 21 | Materials for the Bridge 1982 |
| box-folder 1 / 22 | Hearing the Voice 1982 |
| box-folder 1 / 23 | The Arts of Storytelling 1983 |
| box-folder 1 / 24 | The Bible on Stage undated |

Series 2 **Theater 1946-1996**

Physical Description: 19 folders

Scope and Content Note

Readings, performances, dramatizations.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| box-folder 1 / 25 | The Sign of Jonah; an adaptation of The Sign of Jonah by Guenther Rutenborn, 1946 1946, 1985 |
| box-folder 1 / 26 | Festival of Faith 1957 |
| box-folder 1 / 27 | Chapel of the Great Commission 1960 |
| box-folder 1 / 28 | The Gospel of Mark 1960, 1990 |
| box-folder 1 / 29 | Revolution and Response 1963 |
| box-folder 1 / 30 | Paths to a Mountain 1973 |
| box-folder 1 / 31 | omegAlpha - The Revelation to John 1977 |
| box-folder 1 / 32 | The Making of Meaning in a Play 1982, 1992 |
| box-folder 1 / 33 | Star Eternal 1972, 1984 |
| box-folder 1 / 34 | The Unique Luke 1985 |
| box-folder 1 / 35 | Jonah on Stage 1986 |
| box-folder 1 / | Scenes on the Bridge 1992 |
| 36-37 | |
| box-folder 2 / 1 | Good News: God is Love - A Performance 1992 |
| box-folder 2 / 2 | Job - The Biblical Text 1993 |
| box-folder 2 / 3 | The Teachings of Jesus - A Reading 1994 |
| box-folder 2 / 4 | The Tragical History of Saul 1995 |
| box-folder 2 / 5 | Aimee! - A Play About Aimee Semple McPherson 1996 |
| box-folder 2 / 6 | Modern Drama and the Search for Meaning undated |
| box-folder 2 / 7 | I, Paul: Agent of the Heart Set Free undated |

Series 3 **Worship 1942-1985**

Physical Description: 10 folders

Scope and Content Note

Services, sermons, convocations.

box-folder 2 / 8
box-folder 2 / 9
box-folder 2 / 10
box-folder 2 / 11
box-folder 2 / 12
box-folder 2 / 13
box-folder 2 / 14
box-folder 2 / 15
box-folder 2 / 16
box-folder 2 / 17

Sermons 1946-1987

The Beginning of Wisdom 1942

What is the Faith We Live By? 1958

Materials for a Communion Service 1959

A Biblical Service for Communion 1967

Vesper Service the Week of Graduation 1974

Worshiping and Preaching - First Baptist Church of Berkeley 1975

Once Upon a Graduation 1981

Prayers 1983-1985

Meditations for Advent, Christmastide, Epiphany 1984-1985

Series 4 **Articles 1955-1985**

Physical Description: 11 folders

Scope and Content Note

Articles, essays, criticisms, other writings.

box-folder 2 / 18
box-folder 2 / 19
box-folder 2 / 20
box-folder 2 / 21
box-folder 2 / 22
box-folder 2 / 23
box-folder 2 / 24
box-folder 2 / 25
box-folder 2 / 26
box-folder 2 / 27
box-folder 2 / 28

The Nigerian Investigation 1955

The Shining Man - A Myth 1963, 1994

Ventures into Criticism 1965-1988

Risking the Creative Process: The Arts Retreat 1967

Thoughts of Albert Camus on Rebellion 1969

Wings and Things 1970

Christian Education - Articles and Reviews 1970-1983

Management Principles 1979

On Comedy 1985

Practical Principles 1985

How to be a Director of Religious Education undated

Series 5 **Books 1991-2002**

Physical Description: 8 folders

Scope and Content Note

Books and autobiographies, published and in manuscript.

box-folder 2 / 29
box-folder 2 / 30
box-folder 2 /
31-32
box-folder 2 / 33
box-folder 2 / 34

box-folder 2 /
35-36

***The Art of Teaching Christianity* 1991**

***Building the Bridge* 1991**

***Glimpses - An Autobiography* 1991**

***A Theological Autobiography* 1993**

***You Okay, Chappy? Memories of Infantry Field Chaplain WWII and his Wife on the Home Front, Wayne and Anne Rood* 2002**

***Chained by Grace* undated**