

**COLLECTION 110: Worldwide Church of God Collection,
1920-2008**

Administrative Information

Title:

Worldwide Church of God Collection, 1920-2008

Collection Identifier:

CFT00110

Creators:

Denzler, Brenda
Worldwide Church of God

Size:

39 Boxes

Repository:

David Allan Hubbard Library
Fuller Theological Seminary
135 N Oakland Ave
Pasadena, CA 91182
archives@fuller.edu

Provenance:

The gift of Brenda Denzler

Conditions Governing Access/Restrictions:

Scholarly use with parameters of copyright law

Language:

English

Processing:

Adam Gossman

Finding Aid Revisions:

Andrew Wong, June 2018

Historical Background

The Worldwide Church of God (WCG), with headquarters in Pasadena, California, was officially begun in Oregon in 1934 by Herbert W. Armstrong (1892-1986). The WCG's original name was "The Radio Church of God" but changed its name to Worldwide Church of God in 1968. In 2009, WCG's name changed to Grace Communion International. The church is headquartered in Glendora, CA. and is a member of the National Association of Evangelicals.

In 1978, Garner Ted Armstrong, son of the founder, was "disfellowshipped" and moved to Tyler, Texas, where he founded a splinter group, the Church of God International. Just prior to H.W. Armstrong's death, Joseph W Tkach, Sr. assumed the title of "Pastor General" of the WCG. Tkach died in September 1995, at the age of 68 and was succeeded by his son, Joseph Tkach Jr.

From the late 1970s, WCG members raised multiple concerns regarding doctrinal issues. In the 1990s, some members sought pastoral training at Fuller Theological Seminary. Collection donor, Brenda Denzler, was a Worldwide Church of God member, who was among those who began to question the WCG's doctrine and leadership. The additional education and 1986 leadership change led to WCG's transition in doctrinal issues. Since 1986, observers of WCG affairs can list up to 40 changes in doctrine, as well as a withdrawal from circulation of a number of Armstrong's written works. One example was the issuance of a new statement of faith giving greater authority given to Biblical teachings than previously recognized.

Scope and Content

The collection includes materials related to Denzler and other Worldwide Church of God members who questioned the church's leadership and doctrine. Dates range from the late 1970s - 2008. Contents include financial records, written histories, church newsletters, audiovisual materials, and correspondence.

The collection does not include material related to the WCG's affiliated Ambassador College (1947-1997)'s administration, class materials, or yearbooks. The collection does include copies of the newsletter "The Ambassador Report."

Subjects:

- Armstrong, Garner Ted.
- Armstrong, Herbert W.
- Christian life
- Church controversies
- Church management
- Controversial literature
- Cults
- Religion
- Sects
- Theology -- Doctrinal
- Worldwide Church of God

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in the original order and folders. A list of the periodicals separated to Archived Periodicals of the David Allan Hubbard Library follows the Box Inventory. The collection is organized into 39 boxes consisting of 4 series as follows:

Series 1: History (Box 1-4)

Series 2: People and Events (Box 5-14)

Series 3: "Ambassador Report" and "Pastor's Report" (Box 15-27)

Series 4: Miscellaneous, including Letters and Cassette tapes (Box 28-39)

Box Inventory

Series 1: History

BOX 1: History

Folder	Item	Date
1	General WCG History- Detailed Statement of History of WCG	1957
2	General WCG History- Original Worldwide Church of God	
3	General WCG History- Basil Wolverton Letters	
4	General WCG History- Finances- Old WCG	
5	General WCG History- WCG Articles of Incorporation	
6	Finances- New WCG	

BOX 2: History

Folder	Item	Date
1	Co-Worker Letters	
2	<i>Worldwide News</i>	1973-1979
3	Legal Documents	
4	WCG Real Estate Data	1991
5	John's Personal	
6	Painful Truth	

BOX 3: History

Folder	Title	Date
1	Pre-1920	Pre-1920
2	1920's	1920's
3	1930's	1930's
4	1940's	1940's
5	1960's	1960's
6	1970's	1970's
7	1980's	1980's

BOX 4: History

Folder	Title
1	WCG Doctrinal Statements
2	WCG Important Articles
3	WCG Humor
4	WCG Legal Papers
5	WCG Ministers
6	WCG News
7	Wealth and Midnight Ministries

Series 2: People and Events

BOX 5: People and Events

Folder	Title
1	20 th Century Church of God
2	ACD
3	M. John Allen
4	Ambassador Report
5	AR 40
6	AR Org (?)
7	AR Taxes, etc.
8	Brinsmead
9	Buchner, J. L. F.

BOX 6: People and Events

Folder	Title
1	Carruzzo
2	Church Light
3	Raymond Cole
4	Common Sense
5	Coulter
6	Dankenbring, William F
7	Depo I- Lane
8	File Later

BOX 7: People and Events

Folder	Title
1	Flurry
2	Flurry 2
3	GTA
4	GTA and CRI
5	Hank Hanegraaf Lawsuit (CRI)
6	Helge
7	Keith Hunt
8	HWA Remembered

BOX 8: People and Events

Folder	Title
1	Jerusalem Sentinel
2	Kerley, John
3	Ray Lampley
4	Midnight Ministries- Heap
5	Miscellaneous
6	New Life

7	Newspaper Clippings
8	Poconos File- PR 55
9	Postponements

BOX 9: People and Events

Folder	Title
1	Proclaim Liberty
2	John Purvins
3	Rod's Global
4	Rick Scott
5	David Smith and Evan A
6	Linda Stuhlman
7	Splits Research
8	The Total Truth
9	Track Notes 1

BOX 10: People and Events

Folder	Title
1	Track Notes 2
2	Trechak, John
3	Trescott, John

BOX 11: People and Events

Folder	Title
1	The Journal
2	Andrews, Jill
3	Antion, David
4	Armstrong, Shirley
5	Arvidson, Gary
6	Black, Wiley & Suzanne
7	Bogaard, Betty
8	Bungalow News
9	Corrozzo, Al
10	Cartwright, Dixon
11	Cole, C Wayne
12	Covington, David
13	Dankenbring, William
14	Dart, Ron
15	Dean, Aaron
16	Dewey, Pam
17	Doescher, Louise
18	Fairchild, Bill
19	Fisher, Bob
20	Garner, Ted Armstrong

21	Gotoh, Osamu
22	HWA

BOX 12: People and Events

Folder	Title
1	Hart, Ellen
2	Haynes, Dale
3	Hill, David Jon
4	Hohmann, Bill
5	Kessler, Jack
6	Kiesz, John (CoG 7 th Day)
7	Kineston, Virginia
8	Kuchta, Mary Ann
9	Kuhn, Robert
10	Lochner, Floyd
11	Luker, Dennis
12	McNair, Leona Ganshorn
13	McNair, Marion
14	Portune, Albert J Jr
15	Rader
16	Salyer, Larry
17	Schroeder, John Daner I
18	Scott, Gary, PhD
19	Strickland, Ken
20	Tkach, Joe Jr
21	Trechack, Andrew
22	Truit, Dan
23	Tuit, John
24	Urwiller, Ron
25	Voth, Andrew
26	Ward, Don
27	Westby, Ken

BOX 13: People and Events

Folder	Title
1	Critical Reminiscences
2	FBR / ASK
3	Splinter Groups - Splinter Groups
4	Splinter Groups - Global Church of God
5	Splinter Groups - Living Church of God
6	Splinter Groups - Independent Church of God- Bill Bratt
7	Splinter Groups - Church of God (Christian?) Fellowship
8	Splinter Groups - God's Church Worldwide
9	Splinter Groups - Restored Church of God

10	Splinter Groups - Church of the Eternal God
11	Splinter Groups - Philadelphia Church of God (Gerald Flurry)
12	Splinter Groups - United Church of God
13	Splinter Groups - Stedfast Church of God
14	Splinter Groups - Church of God, International

BOX 14: People and Events

Folder	Name
1	Christine Allen
2	Tony Badillo
3	John Bainger
4	Bob Barrett
5	Catherine Blumel
6	Virginia Boykin
7	Jane Jordan Browne
8	Donald Buchanan
9	Louise Burkley
10	Anthony Buzzard
11	Helen Calver
12	Arbidene Casey
13	Pat Cook
14	Jim Coram
15	Joe and Doris Coutcher
16	Jerry Crowley
17	Steven E. Dalton
18	Roy A. Davis
19	Tom Driver
20	Robert E. Erickson
21	Former Friends
22	Jerry Fry
23	Arliss Gamble
24	Naria Fusiarska
25	Des Griffin
26	Morris Hahn
27	Larry Heuerley
28	Emmett Hoctor
29	Jerry Horton
30	Robert Houston
31	Mary Hudson
32	Elizabeth Jackson
33	Robert James
34	Mrs. Jack W. Johnson
35	Mac Kachere
36	Karen Karimi

37	Audrey Koerner
38	Donna Koerner
39	Robert MacDonald
40	Alma Nelson
41	Betty Otto
42	Anita Packwood
43	Charles and Glada Perry
44	Mrs. D. Richards
45	Alfred E Sauer
46	Pearl Shultz
47	Vera Scroggins
48	Rene Spicher
49	Dave Strickland
50	Pam Unruh-Roger
51	John W. Trescott
52	The Two Crazies
53	Pat Van Buskirk
54	L. J. Wagner
55	Mrs. Ralph Williams
56	Bob Volkmar
57	Diane Wheeler
58	Malcolm R. Young

Series 3: “Ambassador Report”

BOX 15: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Title
1	AR 35:0
2	AR 36: Ambassador Paper
3	AR 37: Groups
4	AR 38
5	AR 40: R. Scott Book
6	AR 41: Minn’s... Story
7	AR 42: Materials

BOX 16: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Title
1	AR 43: Letters, etc.
2	AR 44
3	AR 45
4	AR 46: Jan 91
5	AR 46: Jonathan Parker

BOX 17: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Title
1	AR 47: “Research”
2	AR 48: May 91- Research
3	AR 49: Track VI- Homosexuality
4	AR 49: Letters
5	AR 49: Divorce, Remarriage, etc
6	AR 49: Divorce Fellowships, etc

BOX 18: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Title
1	AR 50
2	AR 51: Research
3	AR 52 General Items
4	AR 52: GTA
5	AR 52: Meredith
6	AR 52: Koresh

BOX 19: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Title
1	AR 54: Letters
2	AR 54: Research
3	AR 55: General
4	AR 56
5	AR 57: Letters, etc.
6	AR 57: Demons/Demonology
7	AR 57: Waco

BOX 20: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Title
1	AR 58
2	AR 58: Bible Research
3	AR 58: Letters...
4	AR 58: Who’s Left?
5	AR 59
6	AR 60
7	AR 61 & 62: GTA & DART
8	AR 62: Rick Ross
9	AR 62
10	AR 63
11	AR 65
12	AR 66

BOX 21: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Title
1	AR 68
2	AR 69
3	AR 70
4	AR 71
5	AR 72
6	Closing Issue Ideas
7	Fathers and Sons
8-9	Miscellaneous

BOX 22: “Ambassador Report”

Folder	Title
1	Daughter of Babylon- Painful Truth
2	HWA Library
3	AR Folks Interviews
4	Tim Nugent
5	Ambassador Review Startup
6	Ambassador Report Startup
7	Correspondence
8	Reaction to AR Publication- Miscellaneous
9	Reaction to AR Publication- Member/Co-Worker Letter
10	Reaction to AR Publication- Tithing Checks
11	Reaction to AR Publication- Pastor’s Report
12	Reaction to AR Publication- Changes to Student Mailboxes
13	Reaction to AR Publication- Newspaper and Magazine Articles
14	Reaction to AR Publication- Security Memos RE: Personae Non Grata
15	Reaction to AR Publication- Media File
16	Reaction to AR Publication- “Pontifical Trail” of WCG by UUs
17	Reaction to AR Publication
18	Reaction to AR Publication

BOX 23: “Pastor’s Report”

Folder	Title	Date	Note
1	Pastor’s Communication	Through 1977	
2	Pastor’s Report	1978	Vol. 2
3	Pastor’s Report	1979	Vol. 3/1
4	Pastor’s Report	1980	Vol. 2
5	Pastor’s Report	1981	Vol. 3

BOX 24: “Ambassador Report” Prints

BOX 25: “Very Early AR Stuff”

Folder	Title
1	Index of Ambassador College Lit Part II
2	RIICF- Quest, etc.
3	Miscellaneous Documents
4	WCG Legal Documents
5	GTA
6	Lawsuits
7	Larry Gilbert Johnson
8	Letters from HWA
9	Letters to Keep- From Legal / Acct. / Adv.
10	Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests

BOX 26: “Very Early AR Stuff”

Folder	Title	Date
1	Nugent	
2	Healing	
3	AR- Accounts Work Sheet Pad	February 1976-
4	AR- Bagley Authorization	
5	Fictitious Name	
6	Tax Information	
7	Library of Congress Correspondence	1985
8	Fischer Notes	
9	Bank Statements	
10	Photos of Ambassador College, Pasadena. Black and white Ambassador College, Big Sandy postcards	
11	Ambassador College Letterhead- Herbert W Armstrong	
12	Am Review- Early History	
13	AC Tax Returns and Financial Reports	1970-1974

BOX 27: “Very Early AR Stuff”

Folder	Title
1	Hinson
2	Christian Merchandising
3	Manuscripts
4	Christianity in Transition
5	Evolution
6	World Devotionals
7	U K Devotionals
8	U S Devotionals
9	Identity and Nazi Groups
10	Catholics and the Pope
11	Jesuit Conspiracy

Series 4: Miscellaneous

BOX 28: Miscellaneous

Folder	Title
1	CRI / Hannnegraf
2	Endings and Assets Sale
3	Exit and Support Network
4	Articles John Saved
5	Drafts / Unused AR Materials
6	All-2-True
7	ALT Religion W-W-Church God
8	Yahoo WCG Chat Group
9	Manpower Papers

BOX 29: Miscellaneous

Folder	Item
1	Ambassador Watch
2	Outsiders' Inside Update
3	Letters of Contention with John T.

BOX 30: Miscellaneous

Folder	Title	Note
1	Healing Chapter—Not Many Wise Men	Brenda Denzler
2	Book about Worldwide- Letters	
3	WCG Newspaper Clippings and Articles	1979-1982
4	WCG Letters and Reprints	
5	WCG	
6	Old Articles that HWA Wrote	
7	Miscellaneous Church Related Letters	
8	FOCUS / S N A C Material	
9	The Focus Journal- By, For, and About Ex-Cultists	
10	Ankerberg, John (The ... Show)	
11	Gerry's Letters	

BOX 31: Miscellaneous

Folder	Item	Date
1	Research	
2	Research 2	
3	Miscellaneous	
4	Typewriter Information and Papers	
5	Jerry Farwell Visit to WSU Campus	November 1984
6	Writing- Articles About...	

7	Learning Disabilities	
8	NEH Younger Scholars	1986
9	The Forum Newspaper (Jobs, Assignments, Etc.)	
10	Miscellaneous	

BOX 32: Miscellaneous

Folder	Item	Date
1	Letters, Etc.	
2	Miscellaneous	
3	Brown Folder Regarding Article Against Garner Ted Armstrong	1978
4	Film Industry Workshop Folder	

BOX 33: Letters

Folder	Item
1	Miscellaneous Letters
2	Crazy Letters
3	Recent Letters

BOX 34: Letters

Folder	Item
1	Conspiracy Theories
2	Flat Earth
3	Articles
4	Letter from Grabbe

BOX 35: Letters

Folder	Item	Date
1	Good Letters- Not used 1	1990-1993
2	Good Letters- Not used 2	
3	Good Letters- Not used 3	
4	Good Letters- Not used 4	

Box 36: Cassette Tapes and Timeline (1968-1999, 25 feet by 11 inches, annotated)

Box 37: Ambassador College Publication Binder

Box 38: Correspondence Course Binder

Box 39: Oversize

Periodicals separated from World Wide Church of God Collection to Archived Periodicals of the David Allan Hubbard Library:

Ambassador Report:

(June 30, 1980) (Sept. 21, 1980) (Dec. 1, 1980) (Mar. 31, 1981) (July 15, 1981) (Oct. 22, 1981) (Dec. 31, 1981) (Mar. 31, 1982) (June 30, 1982) (Sept. 30, 1982) (Dec. 15, 1982) (Jan. 1983) (Apr. 1983) (July 1983) (Oct. 1983) (Apr. 1984) (July 1984) (Dec. 1984) (Mar. 1985) (June 1985) (Oct. 1985) (Jan. 1986) (Apr. 1986) (Aug. 1986) (Jan. 1987) (Apr. 1987) (Sept. 1987) (Mar. 1988) (Mar. 1989) (Sept. 1989) (Dec. 1989) (June 1990) (Sept. 1990) (Jan. 1990) (May 1991) (Nov. 1991) (Oct. 1992) (Dec. 1992) (June 1993) (Sept. 1993) (Feb. 1994) (May 1994) (Oct. 1994) (April 1995) (June 1995) (Mar. 1996) (July 1996) (Sept. 1996) (May 1997) (Sept. 1997) (Dec. 1997) (Apr. 1998) (July 1998) (Oct. 1998) (Feb. 1999) (Apr. 1999)

Bible Review

(Winter 1985)

The Foundation Commentator:

(Sept. /Oct. 1983)

A Publication of the Foundation for

(Sept. 1985)

Biblical Research

(Oct. 1985)

(Nov. /Dec. 1985)

(Jan. 1986)

Global Church News:

(March 1993)

News of the Word, the Work, and the World

(May 1993)

The Journal:

News of the Churches of God:

(Mar. 31, 2006) (April 30, 2006) (May 31, 2006) (June 30, 2006) (July 31, 2006) (Aug. 31, 2006) (Sept. 30, 2006) (Oct. 31, 2006) (Nov./Dec. 2006) (Jan./Feb. 2007) (Mar./Apr. 2007) (May 31, 2007) (June/July 2007) (Aug. 2007) (Sept./Oct. 2007) (Nov./Dec. 2007) (Jan. 31, 2008) (Feb. 29, 2008) (Mar. 31, 2008) (Apr. 30, 2008) (May 31, 2008) (June 30, 2008) (July 31, 2008) (Aug. 31, 2008)

Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion

(June 2005)

Journal of the American Academy of Religion

(Spring 1998)

The Los Angeles University Cathedral Pulpit

(Vol. 3, No. 1- 1992)

(Vol. 3, No. 3- 1994)

Ministerial Bulletin of the Worldwide Church of God:

(June 5, 1970) (Sept. 14, 1970) (Dec. 15, 1970) (July 11, 1972) (July 25, 1972) (Oct. 31, 1972) (Feb 12, 1974) (Apr. 2, 1974) (Apr. 23, 1974) (June 21, 1974) (July 17, 1974) (Aug 14, 1974) (Sept. 23, 1974) (Oct. 23, 1974) (Nov. 6, 1974) (Dec. 17, 1974) (Dec. 2, 1975) (Winter 1976) (Jan. 13, 1976) (Feb. 10, 1976) (May 4, 1976) (Aug. 24, 1976) (Nov. 2, 1976) (Dec. 29, 1976) (Feb. 4, 1977) (Apr. 20, 1977) (May 18, 1977) (July 14, 1977) (Aug. 12, 1977)

Nova Religio:

(Oct. 1997)

The Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions

(Apr. 1998)

(Oct. 1999)

(Apr. 2000)

(Oct. 2000)

The Philadelphia Trumpet

(Mar. 1991- Aug. 1998, sporadic)

The Plain Truth: A Magazine of Understanding:

(Apr. 1978) (Jan. 1986) (Feb. 1986) (Apr. 1986) (Jan. 1990) (Mar. 1990) (Nov./Dec. 1990) (Jan. 1991)

(Feb. 1991) (Mar. 1991) (May/June 1991) (Nov./Dec. 1994) (Oct. 1994) (May/June 1994) (Mar./Apr.

1996)

Prophecy Flash!

A Newsletter of insight and understanding

of Biblical prophecy for our time.

(Nov. 1991) (Jan./Feb. 1992) (Apr. 1992) (May/June 1992) (July 1992) (Aug. 1992) (Sept. 1992)

(Oct./Nov. 1992) (Dec. 1992) (Jan. 1993) (Feb. 1993) (Mar./Apr. 1993) (May 1993) (June 1993)

(July/Aug. 1993) (Sept./Oct. 1993) (Nov. 1993) (Dec. 1993/Jan. 1994) (Jan. 1995)

The Truth About... The Church in the City

(Vol. 7, No. 1)