

*The Center for Evangelical United Brethren Heritage
United Theological Seminary
Trotwood, Ohio*

**HC- 65:
“Grassroots Voices: The EUB Experience” Oral History Collection**



**Preliminary Finding Aid
Produced by Timothy Binkley
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INTRODUCTION

As part of its mission “to preserve, to interpret, and to appropriate the spiritual vitality” of the Evangelical United Brethren Heritage, the Center has conducted two major oral history projects. The “Grassroots Voices” project was the second and largest of these. Between 2002 and 2006, Center members and friends conducted more than 250 interviews with former EUB clergy and laity. The project’s interviews, transcriptions, and supporting documents are available for use as Historical Collection 65: “Grassroots Voices: The EUB Experience” Oral History Collection.

The collection currently consists of two boxes (1 linear ft) of materials organized into five series:

- Series 1: Project Guidelines and Resources
- Series 2: Steering Committee
- Series 3: Recordings
- Series 4: DePauw University Archives
- Series 5: Transcriptions and Notes

The oral history interviews in HC-65 were created by the Center for the Evangelical United Brethren Heritage. All legal rights reside with the Center.

DePauw University Archives staff and students have played a major role in transcribing the “Grassroots Voices” interviews. The work of transcription is ongoing (2006).

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

“Grassroots Voices: The EUB Experience” was conducted and managed by volunteers. Lorraine Esterly Pierce served as project Director. The stated purpose of the project was: “From as broad and balanced a perspective as possible to capture and preserve the memories of common – ordinary Evangelical United Brethren ministers and laity regarding what their church was for them and how it affected their lives.” The focus of the project was “on remembered perceptions of every dimension of church life... through description of persons, practices, customs, ceremonies, social and architectural structures and arrangements, attitudes, rules of conduct and what not.” The steering committee carefully selected lay and clergy subjects from across the United States who were long-time participants in the life of the former denomination.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

Series 1, Project Guidelines and Resources, contains papers defining the project and guiding the selection of subjects, guidelines on how to conduct oral history interviews, and copies of forms used by interviewers. Steering Committee reports are filed in **Series 2**. **Series 3**, Recordings, consists of the audio recordings of Grassroots Voices project interviews. **Series 4**, DePauw University Archives, includes correspondence and electronic transcription discs. Interview notes and transcriptions constitute **Series 5**.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

Box	File	Description	Dates
Series 1: Project Guidelines and Resources			
1	1	Project Packet	2006
Series 2: Steering Committee			
1	2	Steering Committee Reports	2006
Series 3: Recordings			
2		<i>(See Series 5 list of transcriptions below)</i>	2004-2006
Series 4: DePauw University Archives			
1	3	Correspondence and electronic transcriptions	June 2006
Series 5: Transcriptions and Notes			
1	4	Allen, Wilma	4/13/2006
	5	Brown, Francis Stuckey	7/3/2004
	6	Brown, Keith	5/10/2004
	7	Chen, Rev. Yung Sheng	6/3/2004
	8	Clayton, William R.	7/12/2004
	9	Coles, William G.	5/17/04
	10	Crawford, Ruth	6/2/2004
	11	Harner, Dale	4/13/2006
	12	Herr, Bernice	7/3/2004
	13	Koenig, Kathryn	6/22/04
	14	McBride, Robert	5/4/2004
	15	Miller, Jack	7/12/2004
	16	Myers, Ruth Ann Hawkins	6/16/2004
	17	Taylor, Mareta	6/28/2004
	18	Thomas, Jack K.	2004
	19	Underwood, Harold E.	9/29/2004
	20	Wood, G. Leonard	6/23/2004