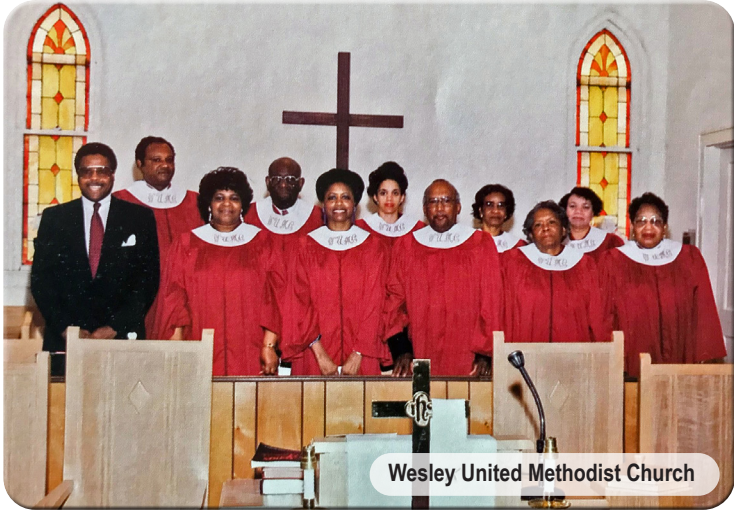


Lorain
Black History
Project

For More Information:
info@lorainblackhistory.org
 (440) 209-2980



Your church's historical records are valuable!



Churches play many crucial roles in Black communities. They are places to fellowship and worship, centers of political power, venues for community organizing, and agents for change. Church records document the heritage of Lorain's congregations, but also the history of our entire community and our city. Tomorrow's Black History is made today. Archiving your church's records is one way to tell the story of your institution to future generations.

What kinds of things should be kept?

Any materials that illustrate and document the actions, decisions, policies, programs, and statements of the church are important to keep. Here are some examples:

Photographs of:

- The inside or outside of the church building
- Special events (e.g. the annual church picnic)
- Church groups (e.g. the 1980 youth choir)
- People, especially those who can be identified by name (e.g. Sis. Jane Doe, Lead Usher from 1960-1975)

Additional Documents:

- Programs from concerts or special events (e.g. anniversary programs or books)
- Historical narratives (often found in anniversary programs)
- Lists of weddings or funerals / building use calendars
- End of Year or Annual Financial Reports
- Sick and Shut-In Reports / Church Announcements
- Minutes from church meetings
- Sunday school or bible study attendance logs
- Committee files & reports
- Newsletters
- Newspaper clippings, scrapbooks
- Video and audio recordings



How should they be kept?

There are many things to consider when you have old records -- like security, file systems and room temperature. Some churches have historians or secretaries who keep these records safe and organized within their own building. But many churches do not have the staff or the space to do so. **The Lorain Historical Society can help. Call or email us. We would be happy to archive your historical records so that they are part of the city's history for posterity.**

Lorain Black History Project at the Lorain Historical Society
info@lorainblackhistory.org • (440) 209-2980

Project coordinated by:

With support from:

