National Baptist Convention of the United States of America Foreign Mission Board Records
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2024

Contact information: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2021086415

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms023023

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff
Finding aid encoded by Manuscript Division staff, 2024
Collection Summary
Title: National Baptist Convention of the United states of America Foreign Mission Board Records
Inclusive Dates: 1953-2021
Bulk Dates: 1958-1960
ID No.: MSS86415
Extent: 135 items
Extent: 1 container
Extent: 0.2 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2021086415
Summary: African American Christian denomination. Correspondence and reports on West African mission activities.

Acquisition Information
The records of the National Baptist Convention of the United States of America Foreign Mission Board were purchased by the Library of Congress in 2021.

Processing History
The records of the National Baptist Convention of the United States of America Foreign Mission Board were arranged and described by Allyssa Wiggins in 2023.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the National Baptist Convention of the United States of America Foreign Mission Board records is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions
The records of the National Baptist Convention of the United States of America Foreign Mission Board are open to research. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting.

Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, National Baptist Convention of the United States of America Foreign Mission Board Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Administrative History
The Baptist Foreign Mission Convention was formed in 1880, with a focus on mission work in African countries. This organization merged with the National Baptist Convention of America and the National Baptist Education Convention in 1895 to form the National Baptist Convention. The National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. is the largest African American Christian denomination in the United States. The objectives of the convention include uniting all National Baptist churches, promoting domestic and foreign mission efforts, and encouraging and supporting Christian education. The Foreign Mission
Board is the convention's foreign missions arm, which seeks to provide education, health services, and occupational training with the convention’s missions.

**Scope and Content Note**

The records of the National Baptist Convention of the United States of America Foreign Mission Board span the years 1953-2021, with the bulk of the material dating from 1958 to 1960. The collection largely consists of reports and correspondence from various West African missions. The correspondence is primarily addressed to Reverend C. C. Adams, the corresponding secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, sent from other members of West African mission leadership. Most correspondence originates from Liberia, specifically the Suehn Industrial Mission and Bendoo Industrial Mission. Other notable correspondents include John B. Falconer, supervisor of the Foreign Mission Board's West African work, and W. R. Tolbert, president of the Liberian Baptist Convention.

**Arrangement of the Collection**

This collection is arranged alphabetically by name or subject.

**Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

**People**
- Adams, C. C., Dr.--Correspondence.
- Falconer, John B., Reverend--Correspondence.
- Tolbert, William R., Jr., 1913-1980--Correspondence.

**Organizations**
- Bendoo Industrial Mission.
- Liberia Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention.
- National Baptist Convention of the United States of America.
- Suehn Industrial Mission.

**Subjects**
- Africa, West--History--20th century.
- African American Baptists--Missions.
- African American missionaries.
- African Americans--Religion.
- Baptists--Missions.
- Baptists--United States.
- Liberia--History--20th century.
- Missionaries--Africa, West.
- Missionaries--Africa.
- Missionaries--Liberia.
- Missions--Africa, West.
- Missions--Africa.
- Missions--Liberia--Grand Cape Mount County.
- Missions--Liberia--Monrovia.
- Missions--Liberia.

**Places**
- Africa, West--Religion.
- Liberia--Religion.
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