

# **Guide to the Camilo José Vergara Collection of Urban Church Ephemera**

**RG 234**



Martha Lund Smalley

2010

409 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
(203) 432-5301

[divinity.library@yale.edu](mailto:divinity.library@yale.edu)

<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	3
Preferred Citation .....	4
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	4
Collection Contents .....	5
Series I: Geographically Arranged Church Documentation, 1993-2004 .....	5
California .....	5
Los Angeles .....	5
Oakland .....	5
Richmond .....	5
Miscellaneous .....	5
Illinois .....	5
Chicago .....	5
Miscellaneous .....	5
Indiana .....	6
Gary .....	6
Michigan .....	6
Detroit .....	6
Missouri .....	6
Kansas City .....	6
New Jersey .....	6
Camden .....	6
Irvington and Port Norris .....	6
Newark .....	6
Miscellaneous .....	6
New York .....	6
Brooklyn .....	7
Bronx .....	7
Manhattan / NYC .....	7
Miscellaneous NY .....	7
Pennsylvania .....	8
Philadelphia .....	8
Other states .....	8
Additional Church Documentation .....	9
Selected Search Terms .....	10

---

## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Yale Divinity Library  
409 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
(203) 432-5301  
divinity.library@yale.edu  
<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

**CALL NUMBER:** RG 234

**CREATOR:** Vergara, Camilo J., 1944-

**TITLE:** Camilo José Vergara Collection of Urban Church Ephemera

**DATES:** 1993-2004

**BULK DATES:** 2002-2004

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.5 linear feet (3 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** This collection contains church bulletins, brochures, event notices, newsletters, fans, and other ephemera documenting urban churches in America, primarily dating from 2000-2004. These materials shed light on the weekly activities of churches, their pastors and leaders, worship services, and outreach efforts. They provide a fascinating snapshot of religion in urban America.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.234>

---

## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.234>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Acquired from Camilo José Vergara, 2010

---

### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

---

## Preferred Citation

Camilo José Vergara Collection of Urban Church Ephemera (RG 234), Special Collections, Yale Divinity School Library.

---

## Biographical / Historical

The documentation in this collection was collected by Camilo José Vergara in connection with his book, *How the Other Half Worships* (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 2005) and in subsequent visits to urban churches throughout the United States. In the introduction to his book, Vergara wrote: " *How the Other Half Worships* has its roots in the late 1970s, when I began photographing the built environment of poor, minority communities in cities across the United States. Churches were such a prevalent feature of the urban landscape that I quickly understood them to be crucial to my project, and a separate study of them began to develop. The subject of this study inevitably grew beyond the church buildings themselves to include socioeconomic conditions and religious practices that shape these churches and give them meaning."

---

## Scope and Contents

This collection contains church bulletins, brochures, event notices, newsletters, fans, and other ephemera documenting urban churches in America. The activities of small and large churches from across the country are documented, with particular emphasis on the New York City area. These materials shed light on the weekly activities of churches, their pastors and leaders, worship services, and outreach efforts. They provide a fascinating snapshot of religion in urban America.

---

## Arrangement

- I. Geographically Arranged Church Documentation
- II. Additional Church Documentation

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Geographically Arranged Church Documentation, 1993-2004

#### California

##### Los Angeles

b. 1, f. 1	Including: Crenshaw Christian Center, Crossroads Calvary Church, Church of Humanity and Divine Love, Ebony Missionary Baptist Church
b. 1, f. 2	Faith in Christ Ministries, Good Shepherd Missionary Baptist Church, Grace to You Bible Church, Greater New Light Baptist Church
b. 1, f. 3	House of God Apostolic Church, Iglesia Evangelica de Jesucristo, Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, Prosperity Missionary Baptist Church, Revelation Baptist Church, The Rhema Church
b. 1, f. 4	St. Hillrie Church of God in Christ (COGIC), Southside Christian Palace, Union Rescue Mission, Universal Church of the Kingdom of God, Upper Room Christian Church, Welcome Baptist Church, Welcome Missionary Baptist Church, West Los Angeles COGIC

##### Oakland

b. 1, f. 5	East Oakland Faith Deliverance Church, Friendship Christian Church, Mt. Zion Spiritual Temple, Inc., New St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
------------	---

##### Richmond

b. 1, f. 6	Faith Temple COGIC, New Nazarene Baptist Church, St. Mark Catholic Church
------------	---

##### Miscellaneous

b. 1, f. 7	Church unidentified
------------	---------------------

#### Illinois

##### Chicago

b. 1, f. 8	Apostolic Faith Church, Christ Universal Temple for Better Living
b. 1, f. 9	Faith Community of St. Sabina, Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, First Church of Deliverance, First Church of Love and Faith, First New Revelation Missionary Baptist Church, Friendly Temple COGIC
b. 1, f. 10	God's House of Prayer, Greater Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, Greater New St. James Missionary Baptist Church, Harris Temple COGIC, House of Prayer COGIC, Liberation Christian Center, Lily of the Valley Spiritual Church
b. 1, f. 11	New Eclipse Missionary Baptist Church, New Heritage Cathedral, New St. Rest Congregation, Oakdale Covenant Church, Omega Missionary Baptist Church, St. Ailbe Catholic Church, St. Anthony Parish
b. 1, f. 12	St. John COGIC, St. John Missionary Baptist Church, Sweet Holy Spirit Ministries, Trinity United Church of Christ, Truth and Deliverance Christian Church

##### Miscellaneous

Illinois > Miscellaneous (continued)

b. 1, f. 13	Announcements, Chicago Gospel Music, Radio Directory, META Monthly magazine
	Indiana
	Gary
b. 1, f. 14	New Revelation Baptist Church, Power and Light Church of Gary, St. Timothy Community Church, leaflet re. glaucoma from Gary church
	Michigan
	Detroit
b. 1, f. 15	Inner Peace Baptist Church, Perfecting Church, Refreshing Spring COGIC, New Bride Baptist Church
	Missouri
	Kansas City
b. 1, f. 16	Metropolitan Spiritual Church of Christ
	New Jersey
	Camden
b. 1, f. 17	Antioch Baptist Church, Community Baptist Church, Emmanuel United Pentecostal Church, Higher Ground Temple, Holy Bethel Pentecostal Temple
b. 1, f. 18	Mt. Hope Union African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, New Freedom Full Gospel Church, New Mickle Baptist Church, La Parroquia del Sagrado Corazon, United House of Prayer for All People
	Irvington and Port Norris
b. 1, f. 19	Christian Pentecostal Church of Christ, Deliverance Jesus is Coming, Shiloh Baptist Church
	Newark
b. 1, f. 20	Allen AME Church, Bethany Baptist Church, Bethel Church of Christ, Calvary Touch of God Church, Central Presbyterian Church, Christian Faith Baptist Church
b. 2, f. 21	Evangelistic Glorious Church of God, First Bethel Baptist Church, Focus on Jesus Bible Church, Inc., General Assembly and Church of the First Born, Gospel Deliverance Born Again Church, Haitian Pentecostal Church, Holy Temple Unified Freewill Baptist Church
b. 2, f. 22	Iglesia Cristiana Emanuel, Inc., Jesus Only Apostolic Faith Church, Little Friendship Baptist Church, Macedonia Baptist Church, Memorial Baptist Church, Miracle Temple Church, Mt. Olive AME Zion Church
b. 2, f. 23	The Redeemed Christian Church of God, Reveival Temple Center of Deliverance, St. Antoninus Church, St. James Church, St. Lucy
	Miscellaneous
b. 2, f. 24	Fan, announcements
	New York

New York (continued)

Brooklyn

b. 2, f. 25	America Come Back to God Evangelistic Church, Antioch Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Apostolic Gospel Church of Christ
b. 2, f. 26	Bethany Baptist Church, Christian Cultural Center, Church of God in Christ on the Hill, Glover Memorial Baptist Church, Good Tiding Gospel Chaple, Greater Jerusalem Baptist Church, Greater Zion Shiloh Baptist Church
b. 2, f. 27	House of Faith COGIC, Miracle Temple United Church of God, Monk's Memorial Church - National Fellowship Council of Churches, Mt. Ararat Baptist Church of Christ
b. 2, f. 28	Mt. Zion Cathedral COGIC, Mr. Zion Pentecostal Holiness Church, National Church of God, New Frontier Baptist Church, Open Door COGIC, Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church, Pilgrim Church of Brownsville, Pillar of Truth Apostolic Church of Christ
b. 2, f. 29	The Sabbath Cathedral, St. Barbara Roman Catholic Church, St. Luke's Community Church of Brownsville, St. Mark Holy Church of America, Temple Royale Pentecostal Church, The Triumphant Church of God, Wayside Baptist Church

Bronx

b. 2, f. 30	Bethel Temple Church, Bronx Christian Charismatic Fellowship, Bronx Church of Christ, Bronx Full Gospel Tabernacle, Catedral de la Fe, Day Star Cathedral United Baptist Church, Faith Worship Center, Family and Friends Christian Worship Center, Fort Motte Baptist Church
b. 2, f. 31	Gospel Hill Baptist Church, Greater Eternal Baptist Church, Iglesia Cristiana Tesalonica, Iglesia Evangelica Española del Bronx, Iglesia Mision Canaan IRA, LTD, Ministeria Palabra de Vida - Bronx, Morrisania Baptist Church, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
b. 2, f. 32	Nazareth Baptist Church, New Morrisania Full Gospel FBC Church, Powerhouse St. Luke COGIC, Prayer Temple Church, Providence Baptist Church, The Rivers Tabernacle Prayer House
b. 2, f. 33	St. Ann's Church, St. Athanasius Church, St. Joseph's Church, St. Piur V Church, Seven Light Bapatist Church, Soul Tabernacle, Thessalonica Christian Church, True Gospel Tabernacle Church, United Missionary Baptist Association, Universal Church of the Kingdom of God, Victory Baptist Church, Zion Hill Pentecostal Church

Manhattan / NYC

b. 2, f. 33a	Bethany Baptist Church (Harlem)
b. 2, f. 34	All Saints Roman Catholic Church, Bethel Church of our Lord Jesus Christ, Bethel Gospel Assembly, Calvary Christian Fellowship, Canaan Baptist Church, Canaan Land Church, Crenshaw Christian Center - East
b. 2, f. 35	Elmendorf Reformed Church, Good News Evangelical Church, Greater Central Baptist Church, Holy Ghost Pentecostal Faith Church, Iglesia de Dios Church of God, Iglesia Pentecostal de Washington Heights, Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church, Metropolitan Community United Methodist Church
b. 2, f. 36	Mt. Pisgah African Methodist Episcopal Church, Mother African Methodist Episcopal Church, New Ebenezer Baptist Church, St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church, Tabernacle of Deliverance for All People, Inc., Thomas Memorial Wesleyan Methodist Church, United Moravian Church

Miscellaneous NY

New York > Miscellaneous NY (continued)

b. 2, f. 37                      Announcements, *Tri-State Voice* issue, "Sweet Daddy" Grace United House of Prayer  
computer printout

---

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia

b. 3, f. 38                      The Bibleway Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Calvary Chapel on the King's Highway,  
Christian Hope Baptist Church, Deliverance Evangelistic Church, Deliverance Evangelical  
Christian Academy, Evening Light Apostolic Church, Faith Independent Baptist Church,  
Fellowship Greater Jehovah Baptist Church

---

b. 3, f. 39                      Holy Redeemer Missionary Baptist Church, House of Prayer for All People, Iglesia  
Evangelic Bautista, Jones Tabernacle African Methodist Episcopal Church

---

b. 3, f. 40                      New Greater Straightway Baptist Church, New Psalmist Baptist Church, Prayer and Faith  
Temple Church of God in Christ, Smith Chapel Baptist Church, Taylor Memorial Baptist  
Church, Zion Baptist Church

---

Other states

b. 3, f. 41                      True Witness Church, Georgetown, South Carolina

---

b. 3, f. 41                      Clear Vision Bible Studies, Norfolk, Virginia

---

b. 3, f. 41                      Bethel Baptist Church, Leadership Missionary Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

---



## Additional Church Documentation

b. 3, f. 42	Bulletins from unidentified churches, offering envelopes, visitors cards, responsive readings
b. 3, f. 43	Booklets, tracts
b. 3, f. 44	Hymns
b. 3, f. 45	Newsletters, magazine
b. 3, f. 46	Website printouts, various churches
b. 3, f. 47	Catalogs for church supplies, attire
b. 3, f. 48	Sermons from unidentified churches, on cassette tape

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Church Buildings -- United States  
City churches -- United States

### **Geographic Names**

United States -- Religious life and customs

### **Names**

Vergara, Camilo J., 1944-