## First Universalist Church

## **Collection Information**

Title	First Universalist Church	
Collection Number	BC-26	
Dates	1855-1959, undated	
Extent	2 legal document boxes, 1 document box	
Creator	First Universalist Church	
Biographical Note	The church was built in 1895 and was important to the histories of Galesburg and of Lombard College. The church was located on the northeast corner of Tompkins and Prairie Streets. The church hosted a church organ, a church bell, and two large stained glass windows. With Universalist sponsored Lombard College in Galesburg, the parish flourished with about 500 members. With the closing of Lombard in 30s the church declined and in 1963 there were only 100 members - the church was sold for \$20,000. William Clay tore the church down to make a parking lot.  The Universalists preach following what seems right to the individual and following God (seen as a love that permeates all things). But their records also show professions of belief and declarations of principles.	
Scope & Content	The First Universalist Church collection includes records, pamphlets, program lists (boxes 1-2),miscellaneous papers (box 3 folder 1), and a newspaper article box 3 folder 2) from the years 1855-1956.	

## **Administrative Information**

Arrangement Note	Materials are arranged chronologically
Access	Materials are available for research by request.
Rights & Reproduction	Contact archivist (archives@galesburglibrary.org)
Repository Information	Galesburg Public Library Archives & Special Collections 40 E. Simmons St., Galesburg, IL 61401

Language of Materials	English
Notes	Box 1 Folder 1 is a book with the spine mostly off - tied with a string. Box 2 Folder 2 spine is off - bound by thin cover and string Box 2 Folder 3 is especially delicate - front cover almost broken, back cover missing, spine nearly gone Box 2 Folder 4 is bound by a couple rings and string. The holes for the rings are broken. Box 3 Folder 1 contains a program, list of pew holders in 1876, a letter, and pamphlets. Box 3 Folder 2 newspaper is torn along the fold - pages must be rearranged slightly to read the article. The newspaper is beginning to crumble.

## Inventory

Box Number	Folder Number	Folder Title	Date
1	1	1st Univ. Society Records	1855-1870
1	2	1st Univ. Society Records	1870-1932
1	3	100th Anniversary Book	1956
2	1	1st Univ. Church Records	1860-1917
2	2	1st Univ. Church Trustees Records	1901-1924
2	3	1st Univ. Church Mission Circle	1922-1927
2	4	1st Univ. Church Records	1927-1937
2	5	Letters & Ramona Pageant Papers	1959, undated
3	1	Misc. Papers	1869-1956, undated
3	2	Daily Republican Register Dedication of the 1st Universalist Church in Galesburg, III.	May 6, 1895