

Methodist Church of New Zealand Archives Nelson and West Coast Districts Baptism Registers

Holdings at September 2009

For more information, please contact:

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The Methodist Church of New Zealand Archives is the approved repository for Methodist baptism registers once completed by parishes. They are part of the parish and church records held.

Registers can date from the first Wesleyan missionaries time in New Zealand during the 1830s, through to the present day.

They include all branches of Methodism in New Zealand: Primitive Methodist, Wesleyan, United Free Methodist, and Bible Christian.

Some registers, particularly those still in use, are held by parishes. Details of how to contact parishes are on the Methodist Church website www.methodist.org.nz

In the case of union or combined parishes, registers containing Methodist baptisms may be held by other repositories such as the Presbyterian Archives and Anglican Archives.

The format of baptism registers varied over the years. Early registers often only contained the name of the person being baptised, the date of baptism, the district they lived in and the name of the minister performing the baptism.

Later on, when standard baptism registers were printed and distributed by the Methodist Church, more information was added, such as birth date, names of parents, their address and the parish or circuit in which the baptism was taking place.

This information varies from register to register – the most basic register is a notebook ruled with lines and often these registers carried on being used until they were full.

In most cases, there is no name index to baptism registers, and to find information, requires reading carefully through registers.

While access to registers held at the Methodist Archives in Christchurch is free, a research fee is charged if researchers are unable to visit in person and Archives staff are requested to search through registers on their behalf. Fees and charges are outlined on our website, along with our opening hours and contact details. See www.methodist.org.nz

Please note that most of these registers are fragile and require careful supervised handling. To ensure their long term preservation, we do not photocopy from baptism registers. A verified transcript of an entry can be provided for a fee.

This list is arranged in code number order, which is loosely geographic. These numbers uniquely identify each Church. A catalogue number, also uniquely identifies each register.

Nelson and West Coast Districts Baptism Registers – other holdings

A name index to Nelson baptism registers is held by the Nelson Genealogical Society. See www.genealogy.org.nz for contact details.

Nelson Museum holds copies of Nelson Methodist Church baptism registers. See www.nzmuseums.co.nz for contact details.

Blenheim Methodist Parish still holds its baptism registers. See www.methodist.org.nz for contact details.

Name	Date	Description	Amount	Catalogue number	Code number	Notes
Nelson-Marlborough District	1842-1971	Baptism register, Nelson South Circuit. Includes St Johns Church.	1 volume	B146	7000	Handwritten transcription made. Photocopy for years 1842-1892. Copy of this to Nelson Museum and Nelson NZSG. Fragile register, handle with care.
St Lukes Union Parish	1934-1966	Baptism register, Nelson South Parish 1934-1935, 1945-1966.	1 volume	B125	7020	Handwritten transcription made. Copy to Nelson Museum and Nelson NZSG. Union Parish formed 1966.
Waimea Parish	1867-1913	Baptism register Richmond Circuit. Includes Waimea Parish	1 volume	B50	7030	Handwritten transcription made.
Richmond Church	1914-1971	Baptism register, Richmond Circuit. Includes Richmond Church	1 volume	B126	7031	Handwritten transcription made
Wakefield Church	1928-1953	Baptism register, 1928-1934, 1940, 1953, for Wakefield and Dovedale Churches. Includes Mission Station.	1 volume	B127	7032,	Handwritten transcription made.
Motueka Uniting Parish	1873-1904	Baptism register, Motueka Circuit	1 volume	B128	7040	Handwritten transcription made
Motueka Uniting Parish	1974-1995	Baptism register Motueka Parish	1 volume	B294	7040	Uniting parish formed 1976. Extract from Presbyterian Register. Photocopy. Original held in Presbyterian Archives.
Blenheim Parish	1865-1881	Baptism register, Blenheim Parish including Tua Marina, Marlborough and Picton	1 volume	B129	7070	Handwritten transcription made
Blenheim Parish	1881-1901	Baptism register, Blenheim Parish	1 volume	B130	7070	Handwritten transcription made
Tua Marina Church	1903-1946	Baptism register, Tua Marina Church and Port Underwood Church	1 volume	B132	7073	

Havelock Church	1894-1905	Baptism register Havelock Church	1 volume	B131	7075	Register of Rev Charles A Foster and Rev Herman Foster. Handwritten transcription made
Picton Union Parish	1840-1843	Baptism register, Cloudy Bay Circuit. Includes marriages	1 volume	B147	7080	Original register very fragile. Use photocopy. Register also includes marriages. Sometimes referred to as Rev Samuel Ironside's register.
Reefton Union Parish/North Canterbury District	1877-1885	Baptism register of Rev Alfred Peters. United Methodist Free Church, Inangahua Parish 1877-1878, Christchurch 1879-1885. Includes Sydenham Church, Oxford Church	1 volume	B133	7090, 8000	Handwritten transcription made
Reefton Church	1895-1939	Baptism register, Reefton Circuit	1 volume	B134	7091	Handwritten transcription made
Reefton Church	1939-1969	Baptism register, Reefton Church	1 volume	B135	7091	Handwritten transcription made
Buller Union Parish	1885-1904	Baptism register, United Methodist Free Church, Westport Parish	1 volume	B136	7100	Handwritten transcription made
Buller Union Parish	1904-1967	Baptism register Buller Union Parish including Westport Church	1 volume	B137	7100	Handwritten transcription made

Buller Union Parish	1906-1945	Baptism register, Primitive Methodist Church West Coast Circuit. Includes Buller Church, Granity Church, Seddonville Church, Millerton Church. Burnetts Face Church, Denniston Church, Mangatina Church, Waimangaroa Church, Dalington Church, Stockton Church, Hector Church, Birchfield Church, Karamea Church	1 volume	B138	7100	Handwritten transcription made
Greymouth District Uniting Parish	1867-1907	Baptism register, Greymouth Circuit	1 volume	B141	7110	Handwritten transcription made
Greymouth District Uniting Parish	1907-1970	Baptism register Greymouth Circuit	1 volume	B142	7110	Handwritten transcription made
Kumara Church	1877-1905	Baptism register, Kumara Parish and Church	1 volume	B139	7110-1	Handwritten transcription made
Kumara Church	1905-1909	Baptism register Kumara Parish and Church	1 volume	B140	7110-1	Handwritten transcription made
Hokitika-St Andrews United Parish	1915-1971	Baptism register, Hokitika Parish	1 volume	B143	7120	Handwritten transcription made