

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

Holdings at October 2013

For more information, please contact:

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

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 alphabetical order by name of parish or church. A catalogue number uniquely identifies each register and should be used if referring to individual registers.

Maori baptism records

Most registers dating from prior to 1860s-1870s, can include Maori baptism entries. However once the Methodist Maori Mission was well established, (which is part of the Methodist Church in New Zealand), it had its own chapels, preaching places and churches, and most had their own baptism registers.

Registers from the Methodist Maori Mission are held by Te Taha Maori. Contact Te Taha Maori, 409 Great South Road, Auckland. Phone 09 525 4179. Registers are described in the Auckland District baptism registers descriptive list under Te Taha Maori.

Name	Inclusive dates	Description of register	Quantity	Catalogue number	Parish code number	Notes	Box number
Blenheim Parish	1865-1881	Baptism register, Blenheim Parish including Tua Marina, Marlborough and Picton	1 volume	B129	7070	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 11
Blenheim Parish	1881-1901	Baptism register, Blenheim Parish	1 volume	B130	7070	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch. Blenheim Parish still hold further registers	Box 11
Buller Union Parish	1885-1904	Baptism register, United Methodist Free Church, Westport Parish	1 volume	B136	7100	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 11
Buller Union Parish	1904-1967	Baptism register Buller Union Parish including Westport Church	1 volume	B137	7100	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 11
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 transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 11
Greymouth District Uniting Parish	1867-1907	Baptism register, Greymouth Circuit	1 volume	B141	7110	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	LF Box 9
Greymouth District Uniting Parish	1907-1970	Baptism register Greymouth Circuit	1 volume	B142	7110	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 12
Havelock Church	1894-1905	Baptism register Havelock Church	1 volume	B131	7075	Register of Rev Charles A Foster and Rev Herman Foster. Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 11

Name	Inclusive dates	Description of register	Quantity	Catalogue number	Parish code number	Notes	Box number
Hokitika-St Andrews United Parish	1915-1971	Baptism register, Hokitika Parish	1 volume	B143	7120	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 12
Kumara Church	1877-1905	Baptism register, Kumara Parish and Church	1 volume	B139	7110-1	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 12
Kumara Church	1905-1909	Baptism register Kumara Parish and Church	1 volume	B140	7110-1	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 12
Motueka Uniting Parish	1873-1904	Baptism register, Motueka Circuit	1 volume	B128	7040	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 10
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. Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 10
Nelson-Marlborough District	1842-1971	Baptism register, Nelson South Circuit. Includes St Johns Church	1 volume	B146	7000	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch. Photocopy available for years 1842-1892. Copy of this sent to Nelson Museum and Nelson Society of Genealogists. Fragile register, handle with care. Maori baptisms and marriages transcribed and included in book <i>Te Tau Ihu o Te Waka</i> by Hilary and John Mitchell	LF Box 9
Picton Union Parish	1840-1843	Baptism register, Cloudy Bay Circuit. Includes marriages	1 volume	B147	7080	Use photocopy as original register fragile. Includes marriages. Sometimes referred to as Rev Samuel Ironside's register. Maori baptisms transcribed and included in book <i>Te Tau Ihu o Te Waka</i> by Hilary and John Mitchell	Box 11
Reefton Church	1895-1939	Baptism register, Reefton Circuit	1 volume	B134	7091	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 11

Name	Inclusive dates	Description of register	Quantity	Catalogue number	Parish code number	Notes	Box number
Reefton Church	1939-1969	Baptism register, Reefton Church	1 volume	B135	7091	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 11
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 transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch. Reefton 1877-78, Christchurch, Sydenham, Oxford, 1879-1885	Box 11
Richmond Church	1914-1971	Baptism register, Richmond Circuit. Includes Richmond Church	1 volume	B126	7031	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 10
St Lukes Union Parish	1934-1966	Baptism register, Nelson South Parish 1934-1935, 1945-1966	1 volume	B125	7020	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch. Copy sent to Nelson Museum and Nelson Society of Genealogists. Union Parish formed 1966	Box 10
Tua Marina Church	1903-1946	Baptism register, Tua Marina Church and Port Underwood Church	1 volume	B132	7073		Box 11
Waimea Parish	1867-1913	Baptism register, Richmond Circuit. Includes Waimea Parish	1 volume	B150	7030	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 10
Wakefield Church	1928-1953	Baptism register, 1928-1934, 1940, 1953, for Wakefield and Dovedale Churches. Includes Mission Station	1 volume	B127	7032	Handwritten transcript made of original register and available at Methodist Church of NZ Archives Christchurch	Box 10