

UNIVERSITY *of* PENNSYLVANIA



The University Archives
and Records Center

A Guide to the
Edward G. Harris Collection
1938-1962 (bulk 1950-1961)

1.25 Cubic feet

UPT 50 H313E

Prepared by Anna Pugsley
July 2019

The University Archives and Records Center
3401 Market Street, Suite 210
Philadelphia, PA 19104-3358
215.898.7024
Fax: 215.573.2036
www.archives.upenn.edu

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ARRANGEMENT

The Edward G. Harris Collection is arranged in three series; Sermons, Correspondence, and Miscellaneous, which are arranged chronologically. Within Sermons, there are three subseries; sermon text, chapel programs, and Boardman lectures.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

The Very Reverend Edward George Harris was Chaplain of the University of Pennsylvania and Boardman Lecturer in Christian Ethics from 1950 to 1961. He was born in Boston on April 30, 1917 to Ulysses S. and Lillian Dennett Harris. He completed his secondary education at Boston Latin School, graduated from Harvard College in 1938, and received his Bachelor of Divinity from the Episcopal Theological School in 1941. That same year he was ordained an Episcopal priest. In 1942, he was awarded his Master of Sacred Theology at the Union Theological Seminary. During World War II, Rev. Harris enlisted in the Army as chaplain, serving in the European theater. Until 1950, Rev. Harris was assistant minister of the Church of the Ascension in New York and rector of St. Mark's Church in Southborough, Massachusetts.

At the University of Pennsylvania, Rev. Harris's duties as chaplain included giving monthly sermons at the University Chapel in Irvine Auditorium, advising the president in the area of religious policy, overseeing the University religious program, and occupying the position of Boardman Lecturer in Christian Ethics. In addition to these administrative and teaching duties, Rev. Harris counseled students in both spiritual and personal matters as well as took part in committees within the University and in Philadelphia. At the 1961 University midyear convocation, President Gaylord P. Harnwell conferred upon Rev. Harris the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

After his tenure at the University of Pennsylvania, he became the dean of the Divinity School of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Philadelphia. In 1974 the school merged with the Episcopal Theological School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where Rev. Harris continued his position as dean. He died on March 28, 2010 in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, survived by his wife, Sherry L. Barlow, and three children: David B. Harris, Jennifer D. Harris, and Geoffrey P. Harris.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The bulk of this collection consists of Rev. Harris's sermons and lectures for All University Chapel at Irvine Auditorium from 1950 to 1961. It includes both typed scripts and handwritten drafts, with accompanying chapel programs. The Correspondence series documents the logistics behind Rev. Harris's published book reviews, journal articles, and panel discussions; it also documents communication with President Harnwell and responses to Daily Pennsylvanian articles. The Miscellaneous series includes photographs of Rev. Harris, documents detailing the duties and responsibilities of the university chaplain, book reviews he wrote, journal articles in which he was quoted or took part in discussion, a book he published *Prayers for a University*, and a copy of the Class of 1961's *Sophomore Annals* that is dedicated to him. There are also additional lectures and sermons he gave outside of his services, especially about Zionism and Judeo-Christian relations.

CONTROLLED ACCESS HEADINGS

Corporate Name(s)

- Office of the Chaplain..
- University of Pennsylvania.

Genre(s)

- Sermons, American--20th century.

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INVENTORY

SERMONS	Box	Folder
Sermon Texts		
"Saul: Trapped by Self," handwritten draft and typed 1949 Jan 16	1	1
"Why Religion?" handwritten draft and typed 1950 Apr 27	1	2
"A Faith for Our Day," handwritten draft and typed 1950 May 16	1	3
"God and Man's Anxiety," handwritten draft 1950 Nov 14-1954 Nov 25	1	4
"Be Not Anxious," typed	1	5
"Called by God," handwritten draft and typed 1950 Oct 26-1955 Aug 14	1	6
"The God who Comes," handwritten draft and typed 1950 Dec 3-1961 Jul 9	1	7
"The God who Carries," handwritten draft and typed 1950 Dec 10-1961 Jul 16	1	8
"God Made Small," handwritten draft and typed 1950 Dec 14	1	9
"The God who Cares," handwritten draft and typed 1950 Dec 17	1	10
"The Time for Decision: About Face to God," handwritten draft and typed 1951 Jan 9-1956 Jun 6	1	11
"God and Our Cleavages," handwritten draft and typed 1951 Feb 15-Mar 4	1	12

"Jesus Seen through Hostile Eyes: He Stirs Up the People," typed 1951 Mar 11	1	13
"God's Eternal Yes," handwritten draft and typed 1951 Mar 12-1958 Apr 13	1	14
"Time, Eternity, and the Bible," handwritten draft and typed 1951 Apr 16	1	15
"With Great Power," handwritten draft and typed 1951 May 13-1956 May 20	1	16
"Religion with a Cutting Edge," handwritten draft and typed 1951 May 15	1	17
"Christianity with a Cutting Edge," handwritten draft and typed 1951 Jun 10-1953 Dec 4	1	18
"Creed or Chaos?" handwritten draft and typed 1951 Oct 25-1955 Mar 6	1	19
"God's Living Word," handwritten draft and typed 1951 Dec 13-1954 Sep 6	1	20
"For God and Country," handwritten draft and typed 1952 Jan 15-1955 Apr 21	1	21
"Hollow Men and the Bread of Life," handwritten draft and typed 1952 Mar 17-20	1	22
"The Hope that Conquers," handwritten draft and typed 1952 Apr 21-1958 Aug 31	1	23
"Nice People or New Men?" handwritten draft and typed 1952 May 19-22	1	24
"God: Lackey or Lord?" handwritten draft and typed 1952 Oct 19-23	1	25
"Faith and the Menace of Suspicion," handwritten draft and typed 1952 Nov 18	1	26
"First-Hand Religion," handwritten draft and typed 1952 Dec 16-1954 Dec 19	1	27
"The Hope of a New World," handwritten draft and typed 1953 Jan 8-1955 Sep 19	1	28

"Asking the Right Questions," handwritten draft and typed 1953 Feb 19	1	29
"Avoiding God," handwritten draft and typed 1953 Mar 17	1	30
"For Sceptics Only," handwritten draft and typed 1953 Apr 21	1	31
"God in Focus," handwritten draft and typed 1953 May 14	1	32
"Winning Life's Prize," handwritten draft and typed 1953 Nov 17-1959 Sep 28	1	33
"God's Own Invasion," handwritten draft and typed 1953 Dec 15-1954 Dec 26	1	34
"Life's Call to Action," handwritten draft and typed 1954 Jan 14	1	35
"First-Hand Experience of God," handwritten draft and typed 1954 Feb 25-1960 Jun 11	1	36
"Religion in the Indicative Mood," handwritten draft and typed 1954 Mar 23	1	37
"Freedom in God's Harness," handwritten draft and typed 1954 Apr 27	1	38
"Unpurchasable Men," handwritten draft and typed 1954 Oct 21-1955 Jul 24	1	39
"Your Spiritual Ceiling," handwritten draft and typed 1954 Nov 11	1	40
"The Heart of Christmas," handwritten draft and typed 1954 Dec 14-1955 Sep 18	1	41
"Ideas with Landing-Gear," handwritten draft and typed 1955 Jan 11-1962 Jul 22	1	42
"Cheap Religion," handwritten draft and typed 1955 Feb 22	1	43
"Sex Ethics and God," handwritten draft and typed 1955 Mar 17	1	44
"God Alcohol, and You," handwritten draft and typed 1955 Apr 28	1	45
"An Old Creed in a New World," handwritten draft and typed 1955 May 17-1962 Aug 5	1	46
"Partisans of God," handwritten draft and typed 1955 Oct 4-1960	1	47

"The Meaning of Faith," handwritten draft and typed 1955 Oct 20	1	48
"Life and the Call of God," handwritten draft and typed 1955 Nov 8	1	49
"Making New Life," handwritten draft and typed 1955 Dec 15-1961 Jun 29	1	50
"Integration and New Life," handwritten draft and typed 1956 Mar 15-1960 Jul 31	1	51
"Alive to God," handwritten draft and typed 1956 Apr 19-1957 Mar 3	1	52
"Fervent in Spirit," handwritten draft and typed 1956 May 15-Nov 11	1	53
"Transformed Lives," handwritten draft and typed 1956 Oct 2-1957 Sep 15	1	54
"In God's Time," handwritten draft and typed 1956 Oct 25-1957 Jul 21	1	55
"Surprised by Love," handwritten draft and typed 1956 Nov 13-1957 Aug 18	1	56
"This Visited Planet," handwritten draft and typed 1956 Dec 13-1957 Aug 4	1	57
"How Wrong Can You Be?" handwritten draft and typed 1957 Mar 14	1	58
"God's Manifesto," handwritten draft and typed 1957 Apr-1958 Jul 6	1	59
"On Spiritual Tiptoe," handwritten draft and typed 1957 May 14	1	60
"Religion in the Making," handwritten draft and typed 1957 Oct 1	1	61
"Zest for Living," handwritten draft and typed 1957 Oct 24	1	62
"The Encounter of Faith," handwritten draft and typed 1957 Nov 21-1960 Mar 27	1	63
"The Approach of the Infinite," handwritten draft and typed 1957 Dec 17	1	64
"The Art of Being Alone," handwritten draft and typed 1958 Mar 13	1	65

"What Really Matters," handwritten draft and typed 1958 Apr 17	1	66
"A Time to Build," handwritten draft and typed 1958 May 13-1961 Jun 4	1	67
"The Pioneer of Life," handwritten draft and typed 1958 Sep 30	1	68
"The Sense of Wonder," handwritten draft and typed 1958 Oct 23-1963 Oct 27	1	69
"God Is No Bargain," handwritten draft and typed 1958 Nov 20	1	70
"In Touch with God," handwritten draft and typed 1958 Dec 16	1	71
"The Importance of Being Eccentric," handwritten draft and typed 1959 Mar 12-1962 Mar 13	1	72
"The Moment Eternal," handwritten draft and typed 1959 Apr 16	1	73
"Ingredients of Greatness," handwritten draft 1959 Oct 6-1960 Aug 14	1	74
"Enjoying God," handwritten draft 1959 Nov 19-1960 Jul 24	1	75
"Eternity's Emissary," handwritten draft and typed 1959 Dec 15-1960 Aug 21	1	76
"The Strange Concern of the Bible," handwritten draft and typed 1960 Apr 5-1961 Feb 23	1	77
"Weapons for Good," typed 1960 Sep 27	1	78
"God's Revolution," typed 1960 Nov 15	1	79
"The Return to Reality," handwritten draft and typed 1961 Feb 14	1	80
Chapel Programs		
University Chapel Programs 1950-61	1	81
Boardman Lectures		
"The Valley of Decision" lecture text 1956 Feb 14	1	82
"Mission to Mankind" lecture text 1957 Feb 12	1	83
"God and Our Daily Work" lecture text 1958 Feb 11	1	84

"Ethics in Ferment" lecture text 1959 Feb 10	1	85
"Doubt and Faith: A Study in Existentialism" lecture text 1960 Mar 10	1	86
"The Urgency of Ethics" lecture text 1961 Apr 11	1	87

CORRESPONDENCE	Box	Folder
Harris's letter to DP editor re church attendance 1950 May 2	1	88
Letter by Harris to DP editor 1951 Nov 14	1	89
"To the Student Body" re cheating 1952 May 12	1	90
Letter to President Harnwell offering religious advice for a speech 1955 Apr 22	1	91
Correspondence re nursing student-submitted panel questions 1957 Nov 18	1	92
Questions submitted by graduate nurse students 1957 Dec 6	1	93
Correspondence re Jehovah's Witnesses article, Harris's contribution 1958 Jan 9-Dec 24	1	94
Correspondence re student-submitted panel questions 1958 Feb 12	1	95
Correspondence re Jehovah's Witnesses journal article discussion 1958 May 23	1	96
Correspondence with George H. Riley to publish Bible verse in the Bulletin 1959 Jan 12	1	97
Correspondence re Jehovah's Witnesses article reprints 1959 Jun 22	1	98

MISCELLANEOUS	Box	Folder
Boston Latin School Diploma 1934	OS 1	1
President Gates speaking at the University Chaplain's Religious Council dinner 1938 Feb 28	1	99
Harvard College Diploma 1938	OS 1	2

Harvard Class Day Program 1938 June 22	1	131
Episcopal Theological School Diploma 1941	1	132
Certificates of Ordination 1941	OS 1	3
DP issue with article announcing Harris's university-wide sermon 1950 Oct 25	1	100
Photographs of Edward G. Harris - Houston Hall ca. 1950	1	130
Article "The Physician, the Clergyman, and the Patient in Terminal Illness" 1951 Jun	1	101
University of Pennsylvania Religion on Your Campus Brochure ca. 1951	1	133
Harris's book review for "Live and Help Live" sent to academic journal 1953 Jun 2	1	102
For page in the Freshman Handbook published by the Christian Association 1954 Apr 30	1	103
Alpha Epsilon Delta Membership Certificate 1954 March 24	OS 1	4
Alpha Phi Omega Membership Certificate 1954 May 19	1	134
Class of 1958 Junior Annals Dedication ca. 1957	1	135
Excerpts from an address at the Interfraternity Council banquet 1958 Mar 13	1	104
Article "Chaplain's Corner" 1958	1	105
Class of 1961 Sophomore Annals [dedicated to Rev. Harris] 1958 Dec 12	1	106
Article "Blood Transfusion and Jehovah's Witnesses" 1959 Apr	1	107
Houston Hall Student Board of Directors Certificate 1959-1961	1	136
"Religion on Your Campus" pamphlet 1960	1	108
Israel Trip Photographs 1960	1	128
Israel Postcards ca. 1960	1	129
Address before the Philadelphia Zionist Organization of America 1960 Nov 22	1	109

Issue of American Christian Palestine Committee periodical "Land Reborn" addressed to Rev. Harris 1960 Dec	1	110
Report of the Chaplain, 1960-61 1961	1	111
Handwritten draft of chaplain philosophy and duties n.d	1	112
"The Office of the University Chaplain" 1961 Jan 12	1	113
University of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees Resolution 1961 January 13	1	137
Convocation pamphlet 1961 Feb 4	1	114
University of Pennsylvania Honorary Degree Diploma 1961 February 4	OS 2	
University of Pennsylvania Honorary Degree Citation 1961 February 4	1	138
University of Pennsylvania Dental Alumni Society Certificate 1961 April 28	OS 1	5
Houston Hall Student Board of Directors Life Honorary Membership Certificate 1961 May 8	OS 1	6
"Recommendation regarding University Chapel" 1961 Jun 7	1	115
"Prayers for a University" [collection of prayers Rev. Harris delivered to university-wide congregations] 1961 Jun 30	1	116
Address by The Very Rev. Edward G. Harris, Dean of the Philadelphia Divinity School, before the Luncheon Club of the B'nai B'rith Council of Greater Philadelphia 1962 Feb 27	1	117
Random quotes n.d	1	118
Biography of Jacob Boehme n.d	1	119
Hymn n.d	1	120
"The Nurse's Concern and Responsibility for the Religious Care of the Protestant Patient" n.d	1	121
Harris's book review for "The Illusion of Immortality" sent to academic journal	1	122
"A Number One Job" re the importance of the chaplain's job on campus	1	123
"Suggested Itinerary for the Inter-Faith Group" in Israel Jun 17-Jul 6	1	124

List of book titles and blurbs n.d.	1	125
National Conference of Christians and Jews Certificate of Recognition n.d	OS 1	7
News article referenced in Harris's sermon n.d.	1	126
Photographs of Edward G. Harris n.d.	1	127
Photograph of Edward G. Harris celebrating at St. Andrew's Chapel, Philadelphia Divinity School n.d	OS 1	8