

## **Elmer C. Lewis Artifacts**

### **Unknown year**

Milligan College Archives and  
Special Collections  
P.H. Welshimer Memorial Library  
Milligan College, TN 37682

Email: [archives@milligan.edu](mailto:archives@milligan.edu)  
Telephone: (423)461-8695

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### **INTRODUCTION**

**Title:** Elmer C. Lewis Artifacts

**Collection Number:** 18

**Physical Description:** 1 box

**Creator:** Al Thomas

### **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Provenance:** The Elmer C. Lewis artifacts were given by Mrs. Mary Lewis to Mr. Al Thomas at an unknown date after her husband's death. Mr. Thomas then gave the artifacts to the Milligan College Archives and Special Collections on October 5, 1994.

**Access:** The artifacts are open for research.

**Processing Information:** Ginger Dillon finished processing the collection on January 31, 2006.

### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Elmer Clifford Lewis was born September 21, 1896 in Homestead, Pennsylvania. An ordained minister in the Restoration Movement, Lewis preached in Tarentum, PA from April 1921 through January 1922 and in Belle Vernon, PA from October 1923 until an unknown date. He graduated from Pittsburgh Academy in 1923, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Bethany College in 1927, a Master of Arts and a PhD from the University of Pittsburgh in 1937 and 1957 respectively. Lewis taught at Belle Vernon High School in Pennsylvania from 1928 to 1942 while attending the Carnegie Institute of Technology and the University of Pittsburgh. Lewis further attended the Army Chaplain School at Harvard University in 1943 before going overseas and serving as a chaplain during World War II.

Lewis came to Milligan College in 1946 and served as a professor of Religious Education and Vice President of the college. These were difficult years for Milligan as a growing

debt and declining enrollment cut short the prosperous years immediately following the end of the Second World War. In 1949, president Dr. Virgil Elliot resigned. Lewis became acting president until the installment of Dr. Dean Everest Walker in 1950. Lewis is listed as the college chaplain and professor of psychology and sociology in the yearbooks from 1951 through 1954 when he left, possibly to take a teaching position at Johnson Bible College. Lewis was teaching at Johnson Bible College in 1957 when he earned his PhD. Lewis spent the last years of his life as the pastor of Squirrel Hill Christian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He died May 4, 1984.

*See also: Elmer C. Lewis name file.*

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The Elmer C. Lewis contains an briefcase and an empty notebook owned by Elmer Lewis. The dates for these artifacts is unknown. The collection is in one Series.

## **SERIES DESCRIPTION**

### **Series I, Artifacts, date unknown, Box 1**

Box 1 contains a briefcase and unused notebook stamped with “Rev. Elmer C. Lewis, D.D., Compliments of Howard W. McCrory.” The notebook was not used by Lewis but contains a note from an unknown person, probably a previous Milligan College Archivist, explaining where the artifacts came from and how they came into the possession of the Archives and Special Collections.