

**The Mustard Seed Collection
1981-1987**

Milligan College Archives and
Special Collections
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INTRODUCTION

Title: The Mustard Seed Collection

Collection Number: 13

Physical Description: 2 boxes (approx. 1.5 linear feet)

Creator: Billie Oakes

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Provenance: The Mustard Seed Collection was brought to the Archives and Special Collections in an unknown year, most likely by Billie Oakes.

Access: The collection is open for research.

Processing Information: Crystele Woodlee finished processing this collection on October 26, 2005. Ginger Dillon updated the finding aid in August of 2007

HISTORICAL NOTE

The Mustard Seed was an organization started by Milligan women in 1980 and continued at least until 1989. Mitzi Gwaltney, Margaret Neth, Ruth Nix, Jackie Oosting, Sue Rhodes, Em Webb, Billie Oakes, Virginia Laws, and Shirley Wiggington were ladies associated with Milligan whose vision for the organization was made a reality when The Mustard Seed held its first meeting on September 22, 1980. These women wanted to do three things for Milligan College: raise scholarship funds for students in need; provide services to students by way of remembrances, babysitting and other activities; and to provide fellowship opportunities to the ladies of Milligan and of the community. The Mustard Seed raised funds for scholarships through selling cookbooks, crafts, and offerings gathered at luncheons. The remembrances provided for the students were for special occasions such as holidays and birthdays and included homemade desserts, balloons, or a book of special interest. The organization also provided meals and places to stay for students who remained at Milligan during holidays. Mustard Seed held numerous salad and tea luncheons from 1981 to 1989. These luncheons were held for the School of Ministry, Board Members' wives, and Board Meetings. Also for fellowship the organization sponsored tours of Jonesborough and Ladies' Day conferences. The last

recorded activity held by the Mustard Seed was the third annual Ladies' Day conference in 1989.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Mustard Seed collection includes various materials dating between 1981 and 1989. This collection is mostly made up of documents such as meeting minutes, financial reports, correspondence to and from the organization, promotional materials, and mailing lists. This collection also contains some artifacts including a cookbook published by the Mustard Seed, a guest book which is signed by guests of different events sponsored by Mustard Seed from 1981-1985, crafts made for fund raising purposes, and some audio recordings. This collection was organized into three series: Series I for documents, Series II for artifacts, and Series III for a scrapbook and audio recordings.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

Series I, DOCUMENTS, 1981-1989, Box 1

Series one has been further subdivided into folders.

Folder one is composed of all organizational papers, such as meeting minutes, which contain information on meeting times and places, activities planned by the Mustard Seed, and names of ladies active in the organization. In addition to the meeting minutes, folder one contains extensive financial reports which document collection and usage of funds.

Folder two contains promotional material from The Mustard Seed, including the flyers sent out or handed out announcing events, needs, and the Mustard Seed itself.

Folder three contains the correspondence to and from members. This folder is comprised mainly of letters sent out from the Mustard Seed informing people of events and meetings, but also includes letters informing scholarship recipients of their awards and a few thank you notes from scholarship recipients.

Folders one, two, and three have been arranged chronologically.

Folder four contains blank letterheads used by the Mustard Seed.

Folder five contains multiple mailing lists used by the Mustard Seed to send out event and meeting notices. The dates of these mailing lists are unknown.

Folder six contains two receipt books used by the Mustard Seed organization. One book starts December 31, 1981 and goes through March 5, 1982. The second book covers the dates August 27, 1983 through January 15, 1987.

Folder seven contains an alumni file found with the collection. Date of alumni file is unknown.

Folder eight contains samples of blank Mustard Seed stationary.

Series II, ARTIFACTS, 1981-1987, Box 2

Series II contains a guest book recording the dates and signatures of attendees of luncheons held by the Mustard Seed. The Series also contains *Our Favorite Salads and Desserts Recipes*, a recipe book published by members of the Mustard Seed in 1983, and three Styrofoam hats and a small basket made for fund raising purposes.

Series III, AUDIO RECORDINGS AND SCRAPBOOK, 1980-1985, 1987, Box 2

Series III contains a scrapbook compiled by the Mustard Seed which contains meeting minutes, announcements, invitations, activity lists, and photographs of the group's activities from its origins in 1980 through 1985. The series also contains 6 audio tapes of talks sponsored by the Mustard Seed in 1987 and a set of tapes by Charles Swindol dating from 1979.

AUDIO RECORDING INDEX

Cassette Tape 1

Side A: Lower Seeger – Norris

First Ladies' Day Tapes

Wednesday April 22, 1987

Workshop: "How To Keep From Going To Seed" with Judy Norris

Cassette Tape 2

Side A: Upper Seeger – Walker

First Ladies' Day Tapes

Wednesday April 22, 1987

Workshop: "The Magnitude of Attitude" with Dorothy Keister-Walker

Cassette Tape 3

Side A: Dorothy Walker

Side B: Judy Norris

First Ladies' Day Tapes

Wednesday April 22, 1987

Both sides of cassette are blank

Cassette Tape 4

Side A: Jean Lawrence
First Ladies' Day Tapes
Wednesday April 22, 1987

Cassette Tape 5

Side A: Hylde Smith
Side B: Hylde Smith (con)
First Ladies' Day Tapes
Wednesday April 22, 1987

Cassette Tape 6

Side A: The Rewards of Serving
Side B: The Rewards of Serving (con)
Charles R. Swindoll, 1979
"Improving Your Serve"