



The following is the finding aid for the Synod Office collection located at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Archives. A finding aid is a catalog tool used in archives that briefly describes the material found in a collection. These records are not available digitally unless otherwise noted.

[Researchers must make an appointment with an archivist to view the material.](#)

**Synod Office
Records, 1984-1987
AS 3**

Volume
4.25 cubic ft.

Access
Open/unrestricted

Arrangement

Collection is arranged alphabetically and chronologically. Box 1 contains general files arranged alphabetically. Box 2 is arranged chronologically and contains a variety of synod materials, including correspondence, memos, and minutes. Boxes 3 to 5 contain synod papers and publications arranged chronologically. Audio-visual materials are found at the back of box 5. Box 7 contains the parish/community Synod recommendations organized by parishes. Box 8 contains a variety of synod materials, including correspondence, press releases, and meeting minutes. Box 9 contains post-synod materials such as correspondence, newspaper columns and the manuscript of "Synod 1987: 'Walking Together' Archdiocese of Milwaukee, 1984-1987".

Scope and Content *a brief description of the types of materials in the collection.*

This collection contains records of the 1987 Milwaukee Archdiocesan Synod. This collection includes the synod correspondence of Rev. Michael T. Newman, Chancellor, who coordinated the synod in its early stages; and the correspondence of Rev. Donald H. Thimm, who became synod coordinator on October 1, 1985. The collection also includes minutes from the synod coordinating committee, as well as minutes from various other committees and sub-committees. Memos, fact sheets, delegate and commission information, synod teams, job descriptions, training information, youth ministry involvement, lesson plans, liturgy suggestions, and a variety of synod communications are found in these files. The general files contain synod background materials and resources, as well as synod newsletters and newspaper clippings. In addition to the pastoral letter convoking the synod, the collection includes reports from the May 1985 synod survey and publications from the parish/community synods, the regional synods, and the general synod--booklets, guides, background papers, reports, results, responses, recommendations, and information on the implementation of the recommendations. The collection also includes a video tape of the general synod and interviews with people involved in Synod 1987. This collection also consists of the parish/community Synod recommendations that were submitted from the parishes/communities to the Synod before it began.

Note

See also: Thimm, Donald H. "Synod 1987: 'Walking Together': Archdiocese of Milwaukee, 1984-1987." Diss. St. Mary of the Lake (Mundelein, Ill.) 1991.

This dissertation describes the synod in detail and includes an appendix containing synod publications.

Box and Folder List *This is a list of folders names within the collection. The folders have been arranged alphabetically by series. “B” is an abbreviation for box and “F” is an abbreviation for folder. This list will help the researcher narrow down exactly what folder they want to look at.*

Box	Folder	Folder Title
<i>General Files</i>		
B 1	F 1	Archbishop Rembert G. Weakland's <u>Catholic Herald</u> columns, March 7, 1985-October 15, 1987
B 9	F 1	Archbishop Rembert C. Weakland's <u>Catholic Herald</u> columns, June 1988 - November 1990
B 1	F 2	Bulletin Announcements, March 1986-January 1987
B 1	F 3	<u>Catholic Herald</u> newspaper clippings, April 1985-December 1987
B 9	F 2	Donald H. Thimm “Synod 1987: ‘Walking Together’ Archdiocese of Milwaukee 1984-1987”, 1991
B 1	F 4	Financial statement for Synod, 1984-1988
B 1	F 5	General Synod Committee meeting minutes, 1986-1987
B 8	F 1	General Synod Materials, August 28-30, 1987
B 1	F 6	Goals of the Synod
B 1	F 7	<u>In Touch</u> ... with Catholic Youth Ministry, March 1986
B 1	F 8	Large group session materials
B 1	F 9	Meeting of the Archbishop with Pastors/Administrators and Parish Council Chairpersons, October 22, 1985
B 8	F 2	Meeting of the Archbishop with Pastors/Administrators and Parish Chairpersons October 22, 1985
B 1	F 10	Newspaper clippings, July 1984-September 1987
B 7		Parish/community Synod Recommendations
B 9	F 3	Post-Synod Correspondence, April 1988-April 1994
B 1	F 11	Prayer for a Synod
B 1	F 12	Resources for small groups
B 1	F 13	Resources provided commissions (2 folders)
B 1	F 14	Small group materials (What other parishes are doing)
B 1	F 15	Speaker's list
B 1	F 16	Synod: background materials
B 1	F 17	Synod consultants - outside, 1985
B 1	F 18	Synod Coordinating Committee meeting minutes, 1984-1987
B 8	F 4	Synod Correspondence, 1984
B 8	F 5	Synod Correspondence, 1985
B 8	F 6	Synod Correspondence, January – May 1986
B 8	F 7	Synod Correspondence, June-December 1986
B 8	F 8	Synod Correspondence, 1987
B 1	F 19	Synod - miscellaneous
B 1	F 20	<u>Synod Newsnotes</u> , May 1985-January 1986
B 1	F 21	Synod organizational chart
B 8	F 9	Synod Preparation Materials
B 8	F 10	Synod Press Releases, September 1985-August 1987
B 1	F 22	Synod process timelines
B 1	F 23	Synod Pulpit and Bulletin Announcements
B 8	F 11	Synod Timelines: Parish, Regional, General
B 1	F 24	<u>Synod Update</u> , April 1986-September 1987

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 1	F 25	"Synods: The Historical View" by Steven M. Avella
B 1	F 26	Themes for the Synod
B 1	F 27	UW-Milwaukee - Archdiocesan Contracts, 1985-1986
<i>Synod Materials</i>		
B 2	F 1	Synod materials, May 1984-August 1987
B 2	F 2	Post-synod correspondence, September 1987-February 1988
<i>Publications and Papers</i>		
B 3	F 1	"Walking Together: Convoking the Archdiocesan Synod for Fall, 1987," A Pastoral Letter, by Archbishop Weakland, August 1984
B 3	F 2	Introducing the Synod: Mystery of the Church, 1985
B 3	F 3	Synod survey, May 1985
B 3	F 4	Synod Survey Written Correspondence Summary Report, by Mariangela Pledl, September 23, 1985
B 3	F 5	"Report on the Synod Survey," by Richard D. Bingham, December 1985
B 3	F 6	Survey Results by District, December 1985
B 3	F 7-8	Survey Results by Parish, December 1985 (2 folders)
B 3	F 9	Survey issues: rank ordering (weighted), 1985
B 3	F 10	Additional themes suggested on survey, Section "I", 1985
B 3	F 11	Small Group Facilitator's Guides, 1986
B 3	F 12	Parish/Community Synod Papers, July 1986
B 3	F 13	Parish/Community Synod Booklet, September 1986
B 3	F 14	Background Papers, September 1986
B 3	F 15	Parish Papers, October 1986
B 4	F 1	Parish and Community Synod Facilitator's Guides, 1986
B 4	F 2	Parish Synods Summary Reports, Fall 1986
B 4	F 3	Regional Synod Recommendations, Fall 1986
B 4	F 4	Regional Synod Report: Analysis of "Prophetic" Recommendations, December 1986
B 4	F 5	Regional Synod Evaluations, December 1986
B 4	F 6	Regional Synod Results by Region, January 1987
B 4	F 7	Regional Synod Results by Theme, January 1987
B 4	F 8	Regional Synod Prophetic Responses, January 1987
B 4	F 9	Parish/Community Synod Booklet, February 1987
B 4	F 10	Background Papers, February 1987
B 4	F 11	Parish and Community Synod Facilitator's Guides, 1987
B 4	F 12	Parish Synods Summary Report, 1987
B 4	F 13	Regional Synod Recommendations, Spring 1987
B 4	F 14	Regional Synod Report: Analysis of "New" Recommendations and Suggested Edits and Amendments, May 1987
B 4	F 15	Regional Synod Evaluations, May 1987
B 4	F 16	Christian Formation Pastoral Letter, Archbishop Weakland, May 8, 1986
B 8	F 3	Regional Synod Materials, December 1986-may 1987
B 4	F 17	Regional Synod Prayer Service, May 16, 1987
B 4	F 18	Regional Synod Results by Region, June 1987
B 4	F 19	Regional Synod Results by Theme, June 1987
B 4	F 20	Regional Synod New Recommendations/Edits and Amendments, June 1987
B 4	F 21	Prayer and Fasting in Preparation for the General Synod, August 1987
B 4	F 22	General Synod Booklet, August 28-30, 1987

Box	Folder	Folder Title
B 4	F 23	General Synod Presiders' Booklet, August 28-30, 1987
B 4	F 24	General Synod - miscellaneous, August 28-30, 1987
B 5	F 1	General Synod Recommendations, August 28-30, 1987
B 5	F 2	General Synod Common Threads, August 28-30, 1987
B 5	F 3	General Synod Results, August 28-30, 1987
B 5	F 4	Synod Recommendations, September 1987
B 5	F 5	Implementation of recommendations - Chancery Office response, September 1, 1987
B 5	F 6	Implementation of recommendations - Christian Formation response, September 1, 1987
B 5	F 7	Implementation of recommendations - Clergy Personnel response, September 1, 1987
B 5	F 8	Implementation of recommendations - Ecclesiastical Processes response, September 1, 1987
B 5	F 9	Implementation of recommendations - Finance and Administration response, September 1, 1987
B 5	F 10	Implementation of recommendations - Ministerial Formation response, September 1, 1987
B 5	F 11	Implementation of recommendations - Parish and Pastoral Concerns response, September 1, 1987
B 5	F 12	Implementation of recommendations - Social Ministry and Catholic Social Services response, September 1, 1987
B 5	F 13	Synod Implementation Recommendations, September 11-12, 1987
B 5	F 14	"One in Heart and Mind: Implementing the Archdiocesan Synod of 1987," Archbishop's response to recommendations, November 29, 1987
<i>Audio Visual Materials</i>		
B 5		Slides
B 5		Synod 1987 "A Remembrances" video tape
B 5		Provost Synod, October 19, 1984
B 5		"Homeward Bound" audio cassette, September 7, 1986
B 5		WISN/WLTQ "Encounters" audio cassette, September 21, 1986
B 5		Synod Medal (2)
B 6		videotape related to the Synod, July 1987