

# John Piper Papers, 1980-2011

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By The Wheaton College Archives & Special Collections Staff

## Collection Overview

**Title:** John Piper Papers, 1980-2011

**ID:** SC/217

**Creator:** Piper, John (1946-)

**Extent:** 16.0 Boxes. [More info below.](#)

**Date Acquired:** 04/13/2012

## Scope and Contents of the Materials

[Accessions](#)

## Biographical Note

John Stephen Piper was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, to William Solomon Hottle Piper (1919-2007) and Ruth Eulalia Mohn Piper (1918-1974) on January 11, 1946. When John and his older sister, Beverly (three years his senior), were still young, the Pipers moved to Greenville, South Carolina where John spent the rest of his youth and graduated from Wade Hampton High School. His father was an itinerant evangelist who ministered through international radio and Bible courses.

At Wheaton College (1964-68), John majored in Literature and minored in Philosophy. Studying Romantic Literature with Clyde Kilby stimulated the poetic side of his nature and today he regularly writes poems to celebrate special family occasions as well as composing story-poems (based on the life of a Biblical character) for his congregation during the four weeks of Advent each year. At Wheaton, John also met Noël Henry whom he married in 1968.

Following college he completed a Bachelor of Divinity degree at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California (1968-71). While at Fuller he took several courses from Daniel Fuller and through him discovered the writings of Jonathan Edwards.

John did his doctoral work (D.theol) in New Testament Studies at the University of Munich, Munich, West Germany (1971-74), under Leonhard Goppelt. His dissertation, *Love Your Enemies*, was published by Cambridge University Press and Baker Book House. Upon completion of his doctorate, he taught Biblical Studies at Bethel College in St. Paul, Minnesota for six years (1974-80).

In 1980, after what he described as an irresistible call of the Lord to preach, John became the senior pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota where he was Pastor for Preaching and Vision until 2013. He is also the founder and teacher of [DesiringGod.org](#) and chancellor of Bethlehem College and Seminary.

Piper was catapulted onto the evangelical scene after the publication of his book *Desiring God: Meditations of a Christian Hedonist* (1986) and has continued to publish dozens of other books further articulating this theological perspectives regarding Reformed Calvinist theology and Christian Hedonism. In 1994, he founded *Desiring God Ministries*, which today provides free online access to Piper's sermons, articles, and books from the past three decades.

John and his wife, Noël, have four sons, one adopted daughter, and twelve grandchildren.

## Administrative Information

**Alternate Extent Statement:** 20 linear feet

**Acquisition Method:** gift

**Preferred Citation:** John Piper Papers (SC-217), Wheaton College Special Collections, Wheaton, Illinois.

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## Box and Folder Listing

Series 1: General Files

Box 1: Piper Correspondence, 1985-1988

- Folder 1: Steller, 1985
- Folder 2: Steve Roy, 1985
- Folder 3: Char Ransom, 1985
- Folder 4: Staff Reports
- Folder 5: Correspondence A-B-C, 1987
- Folder 6: Correspondence D-E-F, 1987
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- Folder 8: Correspondence J-K-L, 1987
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- Folder 13: Miscellaneous Historical, 1987
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- Folder 19: Correspondence M-N-O, 1998
- Folder 20: Correspondence P-Q-R, 1998
- Folder 21: Correspondence S-T-U, 1988
- Folder 22: Correspondence V-W-X-Y-Z, 1988
- Folder 23: Miscellaneous Historical, 1988

Box 2: Restricted journals #21-47 (not including #33-36)

Box 3: DG Letterhead and Apparel

- Item 1: Sweater
- Item 2: Shirt
- Item 3: Green Shirt and Sweater
- Item 4: Archives DG Shirts/rests
- Item 5: DG Envelops

Box 4: Piper Files A-K Early 80s

- Folder 1: B.I.T.C. Strategies For Fighting Sexual Sin, 1994 04 27
- Folder 2: Baby Dedication Vows, 1991 04

- Folder 3: Bethlehem Constitution, 1993 12 15
- Folder 4: B.G.C. Resources, 1995
- Folder 5: BITC General info, 1990
- Folder 6: BITC 2000 by 2000, 1990
- Folder 7: BITC The Body of Christ, the Church, 1992
- Folder 8: BITC Compassion, Power & the Kingdom of God / Piper & Steller, 1990 02 07
- Folder 9: BITC Foundations for Missions @ B.B.C., 1993 11
- Folder 10: BITC Lord, Show Us Your Glory, 1991
- Folder 11: BITC The Pleasure of God
- Folder 12: BITC Desiring God
- Folder 13: Philippians, 1993
- Folder 14: Lesson on Prayer, 1993 12 01
- Folder 15: BITC Lovers of Truth in a Politically Correct World, 1994 02
- Folder 16: BITC Public Worship in a Secular..., 1990 09
- Folder 17: BITC Living by Faith in Future Grace, 1994
- Folder 18: BITC Where Your Treasure Is, 1991
- Folder 19: Cabins /Retereats
- Folder 20: Piper CBMW Miscellaneous, 1994
- Folder 21: Piper Deacon Council, 1991
- Folder 22: Deacon Council Meeting Minutes, 1970 10 01
- Folder 23: Deacon Board, 1980
- Folder 24: Deacon Council, 1980-1981
- Folder 25: Deacon Council, 1982
- Folder 26: Deacon Council, 1983-1984
- Folder 27: Ministry Manual Forms, 1991
- Folder 28: Mission Board Meeting Minutes, 1970-1971
- Folder 29: Deacons, 1985-1986
- Folder 30: Piper Downtown Pastors
- Folder 31: DirnBerger
- Folder 32: Piper Education Search & Task Force, 1989
- Folder 33: Executive Pastor
- Folder 34: Evangelism, 1995 04 21
- Folder 35: Ministry Manual
- Folder 36: Ministry Manual For Congregation
- Folder 37: Elders Various Proposals
- Folder 38: Elders Meeting Minutes, Agendas
- Folder 39: Elders Drafts & Correspondence
- Folder 40: Fasting
- Folder 41: Fellowship of the Arc, 1994
- Folder 42: John Piper: Funerals, 1993 08 26
- Folder 43: Piper Good Neighbor Fellowship
- Folder 44: Piper Pastors on Homosexuality, 1991 12 04
- Folder 45: Piper Homosexuality Resolution (BGC), 1992
- Folder 46: Homosexuality Resources, 1993
- Folder 47: Lausanne Covenant
- Folder 48: Lovers of Truth in a Politically Correct World, 1993
- Folder 49: Piper Long Range Planning Committee, 1987 02 02
- Box 5: DG Correspondence & Historical, 1994-1997

- Folder 1: Masterplanning - Correspondence, 1994 09 09
- Folder 2: Database
- Folder 3: Bethlehem baptist church information packet including cassette tape
- Folder 4: Master Planning Documents
- Folder 5: Meloids

- Folder 6: Mental Health Professionals, 1994
  - Folder 7: Daryl Morrissey
  - Folder 8: Ordination Examination
  - Folder 9: Organ Controversy, 1993-1994
  - Folder 10: Piper Pastoral Staff
  - Folder 11: Piper P.A.R.I.L
  - Folder 12: Piper Pastors Conference
  - Folder 13: Pontius Pilae ad, 1992 04 26
  - Folder 14: Resumes
  - Folder 15: Retreats & Camps
  - Folder 16: Self Interest / Selfishness Survey Sam Crabtree 11/94
  - Folder 17: SPAN the Nineties Part 2 Ballot
  - Folder 18: Piper: Staff Time Management Forms
  - Folder 19: Piper Travel
  - Folder 20: Piper Study Leave
  - Folder 21: Weddings
  - Folder 22: Worship: Misc. Articles
  - Folder 23: Philosophy of Worship
  - Folder 24: Worship Leader, Qualifications and Responsibilities
  - Folder 25: Worship Letter
  - Folder 26: John Writing Leave
  - Folder 27: Desiring God Historical, 1994
  - Folder 28: Desiring God Historical, 1995
  - Folder 29: Desiring God ABC, 1996
  - Folder 30: Desiring God DEF, 1996
  - Folder 31: Desiring God GHI, 1996
  - Folder 32: Desiring God JKL, 1996
  - Folder 33: Desiring God MNO, 1996
  - Folder 34: Desiring God PQR, 1996
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  - Folder 37: Desiring God YZ, 1996
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  - Folder 50: DGM Historical, 1997
  - Folder 51: DGM Encouragement Pastors Conference, 1997
  - Folder 52: DGM Encouragement General Ministry, 1997
  - Folder 53: DGM Encouragement General Writing, 1997
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- Box 6: Piper Correspondence, 1989-1992

- Folder 1: Appointbook, 1989
- Folder 2: Correspondence A,B,C, 1989
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- Folder 4: Correspondence G,H,I, 1989
  - Folder 5: Correspondence J,K,L, 1989
  - Folder 6: Correspondence M,N,O, 1989
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  - Folder 11: John, 1989
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  - Folder 13: Weekly Appointments, 1990
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  - Folder 16: Correspondence G,H,I, 1990
  - Folder 17: Correspondence J,K,L, 1990
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  - Folder 36: Correspondence M,N,O, 1992
  - Folder 37: Correspondence P,Q,R, 1992
  - Folder 38: Correspondence S,T,U, 1992
  - Folder 39: Correspondence V,W,X,Y,Z, 1992
  - Folder 40: Miscellaneous Historical, 1992
- Box 7: Handwritten Sermon Manuscripts, Oct 81 - Dec 84

- Folder 1: Handwritten Sermon Manuscripts, 1981 10
- Folder 2: Handwritten Sermon Manuscripts, 1981 11
- Folder 3: Handwritten Sermon Manuscripts, 1981 12
- Folder 4: Handwritten Sermon Manuscripts, 1982 01
- Folder 5: Handwritten Sermon Manuscripts, 1982 02
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Folder 38: Handwritten Sermon Manuscripts, 1984 12

Box 8: Restricted journals #1-20

Box 9: Piper Correspondence, 1993-1997

Folder 1: Piper ABC, 1993  
Folder 2: Piper DEF, 1993  
Folder 3: Piper GHI, 1993  
Folder 4: Piper JKL, 1993  
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Folder 6: Piper PQR, 1993  
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Folder 8: Piper VWXYZ, 1993  
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Folder 10 : Piper ABC, 1994  
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Folder 40: Piper GHI, 1997  
Folder 41: Piper JKL, 1997  
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Folder 46: Piper YZ, 1997

Box 10: Hard Copy Masters for various advent poems and TBI booklets  
BAD=Bethlehem Advent Devotional

Folder 1: BTDG Master, 1998  
Folder 2: Master BADVOO  
Folder 3: Master BADV82  
Folder 4: Master BADV83  
Folder 5: Master BADV84  
Folder 6: Master BADV85  
Folder 7: Master BADV86  
Folder 8: Master BADV87  
Folder 9: Master BADV88  
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Folder 21: BCAT  
Folder 22: Master BDGLG  
Folder 23: BFOR  
Folder 24: Biography Masters  
Folder 25: BLENT Master  
Folder 26: Master BPGLG  
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Folder 31: BLTF  
Folder 32: BTSC  
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- Folder 35: BTT
- Folder 36: BTWB
- Folder 37: Quest for Joy
- Folder 38: CPBAP
- Folder 39: CBC
- Folder 40: CPGF
- Folder 41: CPFW
- Folder 42: CPNG
- Folder 43: CSAMPLE
- Folder 44: CPVM
- Folder 45: FVRK
- Folder 46: World Christians

Box 11: Handwritten Sermon Manuscripts, July 80 - Sept 81

- Folder 1: Miscellaneous Manuscripts
- Folder 2: Handwritten Sermon Manuscripts, 1980 07
- Folder 3: Handwritten Sermon Manuscripts, 1980 08
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Box 12: Notes etc to JP Re Prostate Cancer, 2006

- Folder 1: Prayer letters for Piper's Prostate cancer, 2006
- Folder 2: Prostate Cancer Testimonies, Treatment Options, Ministry/DG Testimonies, Prayers, Blog Announcements, Personal Friends, 2006
- Folder 3: Prayers, 2006
- Folder 4: Prayers, 2006
- Folder 5: Prayer letters, 2006

Box 13: Piper Correspondence, 2001-2003

- Folder 1: Piper Correspondence, 1002
- Folder 2: Piper Correspondence, Part 1, 2003
- Folder 3: Piper Correspondence, Part 2, 2003
- Folder 4: Piper Correspondence, Part 3, 2003
- Folder 5: Declines, Part 1, 2001
- Folder 6: Declines, Part 2, 2001
- Folder 7: Declines, Part 3, 2001
- Folder 8: Declines, Part 1, 2002
- Folder 9: Declines, Part 2, 2002
- Folder 10: Declines, Part 3, 2002
- Folder 11: Declines, Part 1, 2003
- Folder 12: Declines, Part 2, 2003
- Folder 13: Declines, Part 3, 2003



## Box 14: Piper Correspondence, 1980-1983

Folder 1: Correspondence A-B-C, 1980  
Folder 2: Correspondence D-E-F, 1980  
Folder 3: Correspondence G-H-I, 1980  
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Folder 36: Miscellaneous Historical, 1983

## Box 15: Request to Speak, 1990-2000

Folder 1: Organ Papers  
Folder 2: Piper Photos & Vitae & Bio  
Folder 3: Piper Perspectives Lectures #1, #20  
Folder 4: Photographs  
Folder 5: Piper: Book List  
Folder 6: Piper: Elder Mailing Labels  
Folder 7: Piper: Misc.  
Folder 8: Piper Speaking Engagements, 1989  
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