The Latourette Initiative is a proactive program to preserve and provide access to the documentation of world Christianity. It provides funding for the microfilming and digitization of published and archival resources documenting the history of Christian missions and the life of the churches in countries where missionaries served.

The Initiative is named for Kenneth Scott Latourette (1884-1968), who was D. Willis James Professor of Missions and World Christianity at Yale Divinity School. Latourette was instrumental in changing the focus of the Day Missions Collection at Yale from a resource for training missionaries to a collection documenting the history of Christian missions. The endowment he established to further the work of the Yale Divinity Library provides the funding for the Latourette Initiative.

Projects funded by the Latourette Initiative include:

**World Council of Churches**

World War II-era records of the World Council of Churches (distributed by Brill /IDC Publishers)

- YDSL [Fiche Ms117](#) [5]
- [Digital version available to Yale community](#) [6] through Brill

World Student Christian Federation Archives, held by the World Council of Churches (Brill)

- YDSL [Film Ms313](#) [7]
- Portions of WSCF archives held at Divinity Library (RG 46)

Programme to Combat Racism (Brill)

- YDSL [Film Ms367](#) [9]

Dialogue with People of Living Faiths (Brill)

- YDSL [Film Ms381](#) [10]

Christian Medical Commission (Brill)

- YDSL [Film Ms516](#) [11]

Relations with the Roman Catholic Church (Brill)

- YDSL [Film Ms517](#) [12]

Correspondence of the General Secretaries (Brill)

- YDSL [Film Ms518](#) [13]

General correspondence (Brill)
- YDSL [Fiche Ms113] [14]
- Centre for the Study of World Christianity, University of Edinburgh
  Regions Beyond Missionary Union Archives (distributed by AM, formerly Adam Matthew)
  - YDSL [Film Ms312] [15]
  - Parts 1-4 (reels 1-46) have been digitized and are now part of Missionary Studies (AM)
  - Missionary periodicals & Alexander Duff pamphlet collection (AM)
  - Sudan United Mission (AM)
  - YDSL [Film Ms387] [17]
- Melbourne School of Theology (Australia)
  Unevangelised Fields Mission (distributed by Pacific Manuscripts Bureau)
  - YDSL [Film Ms536] [20]
- South Sea Evangelical Mission (PMB)
  - YDSL [Film SD2345], [Film SD2346], [Film Ms271] [21], [Film Ms375] [23], [Film Ms482] [25]
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
  ELCA mission archives
  - see YDSL Archives of Organizations [26] listing for specific microfilm call numbers
- Uganda Christian University: Church of the Province
  Finding aids and link to digital files [27] [Digital files available only on Yale campus]
- Gujarat United School of Theology: Gujarat Diocese
  Monograph collection [28] [Digital files available only on Yale campus]
  Archival collection [29] [Digital files available only on Yale campus]
- Documentation of Chinese Christianity
  China Free Methodist Church [30]
  Chinese Baptist Convention [31]
  Chinese Christian Literature Council [32]
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**Archives of the Presbyterian Church of Cuba Online**
Available through BrillOnline Primary Sources [40]

**Missionary Archives from Lesotho, 1832-2006**
Available through BrillOnline Primary Sources [41]

Microfilm produced by Latourette Initiative projects is available for Interlibrary Loan. Contact the Special Collections Librarian for more information.

Source URL: https://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/latourette-initiative

Links