July 2012


Western Theological Seminary

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Abstract

Records of the Christ Memorial Reformed Church. Collection includes complete consistory minutes from 1956-1975, financial materials, bylaws, correspondence and Sunday School materials, newsletters, committee minutes, building and expansion, financial information, bulletins, photographs certificates, and audio and video recordings. Correspondents include Edwin Mulder.

Accession No.: W91-1029
Provenance: Christ Memorial Reformed Church
Custody Agreement: Christ Memorial Reformed Church
Photographs: 2,396 (1,927 slides) (mostly in boxes 8-11)
Processed most recently by: Lee Witteveen, August 2000, July 2006
Carolyn Nienhuis, March 2009
Elaine Bruins, June 2011

History

Christ Memorial Reformed Church was formed in 1956 as an outgrowth of Trinity Reformed Church, which was located at Central Avenue and 20th Street in Holland. The fifty people who attended the organizational meeting on November 13, 1956, represented families that were interested in starting a Reformed Church on the southwest side of Holland. The first pastor to the fledgling congregation was Rev. Edwin Mulder, who later became General Secretary of the Reformed Church in America. The congregation constructed a small brick structure at the corner of 24th Street and Graafschap Road and, in 1968, completed a much larger sanctuary seating 650 with educational wings and offices. In 1990, a new five million dollar sanctuary and renovation project was completed. The current sanctuary will seat in excess of 1500 people. Christ Memorial, one of the fastest growing churches in the Holland community, is also one of the largest congregations of the Reformed Church in America.

The church was organized with 41 families and had grown to over 1,100 families in 1991. Senior pastors have included Edwin Mulder, Royal Kemper, Ronald Beyer, Tim Brown, Kirt Anderson, Michael Pitsenberger, Steve Vander Molen, and Todd Van Ek.

Scope and Content

The records of Christ Memorial Reformed Church include background materials which contain a history of the church and an organizational statement summary by Henry A. Mouw (clerk of the Classis of Holland), treasurer’s reports, newsletters, committee minutes, building and expansion, financial information, bulletins, photographs, certificates, audio and video recordings, correspondence, and the Sunday School’s constitution. Consistory minutes are RESTRICTED for twenty-five years from date of their creation. Search Committee Records are...
permanently RESTRICTED. RESTRICTED materials are only open to the current senior pastor and one other appointed person. The accession record lists those two people. RESTRICTED materials are located in Box 20.

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Logo, 1981  

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Former Pastors, 2007  
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History and Service, September 9, 2007  
Newspaper Articles, 2007  
Ribbon-Cutting Committee, Minutes and Plans, March-April 2007  
Technical/Video, January-September 2007  
Activity Reports, Capture the Blessing, 1991  
Award Plaque, Elzinga & Volkers, 1990 (1 image)  
Baptisms and Funerals List, 1978-2010  
Bible, used in pulpit and for 1990 sanctuary dedication, 1952  
Biography, Rev. Neva Evenhouse, n.d.  
Bound Volume, Membership Records, 1957-1971  
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Bridgebuilder Newsletter (cont.), 1976-2002 (13 folders)

**Box 3**

Bridgebuilder Newsletter (cont.), 2003-2004 (2 folders)  
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