
Western Theological Seminary

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Records, 1956-[ongoing]. 27.00 linear ft.
PARTIALLY RESTRICTED

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)  

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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  - Correspondence/Minutes, 1981
  - Logo, 1981

- **50th Anniversary and Dedication**
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  - Newspaper Articles, 2007
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  - 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**
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- **Booklet, “Open Doors for Christ,” n.d.**
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**Box 2**

- **Bridgebuilder Newsletter (cont.), 1976-2002 (13 folders)**

**Box 3**

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