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Western Theological Seminary

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Abstract

Ebenezer Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan, was started in 1866, with formal organization taking place in 1867. The records include consistory minutes, member, marriage and baptismal records, Mission Society records, Sunday school records, financial records, bulletins and newsletters entitled Ebenezer Echoes. Many early minutes and records are in the Dutch language.

Accession No: W88-0616
Provenance: Ebenezer Reformed Church
Donor: Ebenezer Reformed Church
Processed by: Carolyn Nienhuis, September 2003

History

In 1866, a group of settlers living near the Allegan and Ottawa County line petitioned Dr. Albertus Van Raalte for permission to establish a new congregation. They received approval, plans were started and the proposed name was the Third Reformed Church of Holland on the County Line. Later, the name was shortened to Ebenezer Reformed Church. There were approximately seventy-two charter members and a large number of children. A 36x36 foot structure was erected. About fifteen years later, a tragic fire destroyed the church. The congregation used the horse barn for worship until a new structure was completed. When the congregation outgrew that structure, a new brick church was completed in 1964. Two additions were made since then, the last one completed in 1987.


Scope and Content

The collection contents consists of consistory minutes, member, marriage, and baptismal records, Mission Society records, Sunday school records, financial records, bulletins, and newsletters entitled Ebenezer Echoes. Many early minutes and records are in the Dutch language. The material is arranged alphabetically.
Container List

Box 1

Baptismal Records, 1867-1914 (Dutch, 1867-1903, English, 1904-1914) (bound volume)
Bethel Series, n.d.
Bread of Life Broadcast Schedule, 1976
Brochure, n.d.
Bulletins, 1971-1982

Box 2

Bulletins, 1983-1995

Box 3

Bulletins, 1996-March, 2003

Box 4

Christian Endeavor, Minutes, 1928-1938
Church Discipline, 1979
Congregational Meetings, n.d., 1875-1986
Consistory, Elders, 1979, 1986
Consistory, Minutes, 1880-1979 (Dutch, 1880-1917, English, 1918-1979) (10 bound volumes)
Contract with the Janitor, 1975, 1976, 1980
Correspondence, Miscellaneous, n.d., 1973-1986
Directory, 1986

Box 5

_Ebenezer Echoes_, 1975-June 2003
Ebenezer Newsletter, 1977-1978 (scattered)
Financial Records
  1867-1876 (Dutch) (bound volume)
  1974-1985 (scattered)
Hymns found in “Hymns for the Living Church, n.d.
Joy Fellowship, n.d.
Ladies Missionary Society, Minutes
1904-1907 (Dutch) (bound volume)
1908-1918 (Dutch) (bound volume)
1919-1928 (Dutch, 1919-1920, English, 1921-1928) (bound volume)
1929-1937

Box 6

Ladies Missionary Society, Minutes (cont.)
1938-1963 (5 bound volumes)
Marriage Records, 1867-1907 (bound volume)
Ministers
Baker, Jeffrey S., 1982
Rozeboom, Nickolas, 1971
Van Den Berg, Dewey, 1991
Volkers, Mark, 1985
Miscellaneous, n.d., 1972-1995
Missionaries, Den Bleyker, Marvin, 1972-1980
Missionary Society
    Constitution, n.d.
    Correspondence, n.d., 1962-1963
    Treasurer Reports, 1942-1963 (bound volume)
Mother Daughter Banquet, Programs, 1975-1985 (scattered)
Music Schedule, 1976-1980
Nursery Schedule, January 1978-March 1982 (scattered)
Organizational Chart, 1979, 1982, 1984
Poem, by Lydia Kolean, 1978
Rules
    For use of the church, 1972-1980
    For use of the church organ, n.d.
    For use of the youth room, 1980
    Ushers, n.d.
Senior High Youth Group, n.d.
Sunday School
    Attendance Records, n.d., 1900-1924 (3 bound volumes)
    Miscellaneous, 1976-1998 (scattered)
Treasurer Records, 1867-1890 (Dutch) (bound volume)
Wedding Information Form, 1980
Young Ladies Mission Guild
    Correspondence, n.d., 1955-1959
    Minutes, 1948-1961 (bound volume)