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Western Theological Seminary

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Abstract

Organized in 1966 in the Lakewood-Waukazoo area of Holland. Records include bulletins, directories, consistory/elder minutes, building plans, information pertaining to pastors, and numerous photographs and other audio-visual materials.

Accession No: W97-1226
Provenance: Fellowship Reformed Church
Custody Agreement: Fellowship Reformed Church
Photographs: 569 images (88 slides) (Box 3)
Processed by: Russell Norden, March 1998
Elaine Bruins, September 2010

History

In April 1966, the Holland Classis of the Reformed Church in America (RCA) approved the commencement of worship services in the Lakewood-Waukazoo area. Despite the comments from some in the area that the north side of Holland did not need yet another church, the burgeoning community felt that the spiritual needs of the area warranted such a proposal. The first worship service was held June 12, 1966, in Waukazoo School as 125 people gathered to hear RCA Field Secretary James Schut preach from Acts 14 (“When God Starts a Church”). Seminarian Edward Grant maintained pastoral duties that first summer.

On December 6, 1966, the Lakewood-Waukazoo area Reformed church was officially organized as a congregation, heretofore known as Fellowship Reformed Church. Her period of charter membership ended February 15, 1967, with 44 families officially recognized as charter families, and Rev. Larry Izenbart serving as the church’s first pastor. By 1996, with Rev. Ken Eriks heading Worship and Outreach and a ministry team of over half a dozen persons, Fellowship membership had swelled to 530 families. Their first church building was constructed in 1969-1970, and added to in 1975, 1984, 1989, and 1996.

Scope and Content

The records of Fellowship Reformed Church include bulletins, directories, consistory/elder minutes, building plans, information pertaining to Fellowship’s pastors, and numerous photographs and other audio-visual materials. This collection is particularly strong in the ‘60s and ‘70s, but the information dwindles as one looks for more recent information. The history of the church can be well-documented from these records.

Container List

Box 1

“Anniversary Center”
Fellowship Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan

Anniversary Trivia, 1966-1990
Baar, James H., 1981

Building
Addition Documents, 1969-1975
Finance, etc., 1981-1982
Plans, etc.
Dan Vos Construction Company (Chairman’s Copy)
Dedication Service, 1970
Dykehouse, Amanda Walvoord, 1998
Evangelism Committee Minutes, December 1967-February, 1977
Family Cluster Program (2 folders)
Fiet, Wilfred, 1975
Guest Book, 1966-1970
History of the Church, n.d., 1966, 2000 (2 folders)
Izenbart, Larry, 1967
Jackson, Roderic, 1975
Keunen, Cornie, 1975
Lenten Devotional, n.d., 1983
Master Plan, 1980-1981
Membership
Family List, 1976
Transfer
Miscellaneous, n.d., 1977
Monthly Devotions, 1973
Newsletter, 1985-1990 (2 folders)
Ordination and Installation Services
Pamphlets
Learning the Meaning of Ministry, 1987
Membership in the RCA (Ridder)
Elder’s Manual for Family Visitation, 1965
Provisional Liturgy, 1965
Proposed Plan of Union, 1968
Pastoral Seeking Committee
Pastoral Seeking Committee Materials, 1975
Reynen, Ken, 1975, 1983
Special Documents
Special Pictures and Newspaper Articles
Talent and Time Survey
Wildman, Robert

Box 2
Organization/Consistory Minutes, 1966-1985 (5 folders)
Elder’s Minutes, 1967-1985 (3 folders)
Photographs
  Building Photos since 1970 (65 images)
  Choirs, n.d. (9 images)
  Groundbreakings, 1969, 1980s (6 images)
  Health Fair, 1991 (25 images)
  Indoor Activities, 1986, n.d. (5 images)
  Nursery, 1986, n.d. (5 images)
  Outdoor Activities, 1984, n.d. (20 images)
  Small Groups, n.d. (10 images)
  VBS, 1991 (15 images)
Women’s Guild
  Board Minutes, 1968-1986 (2 folders)
  By-Laws, 1967, 1979
  Meeting Minutes, 1967-1976

Box 3

Women’s Guild (cont.)
  Treasurer Records, 1967-1988 (5 folders)
Photographs of New Building, 1984-1985 (notebook) (267 images)
Slides, Various views, n.d. (88 images)
Video Cassettes, Charter members (1996, 1997) (2 cassettes)
Audio Cassettes
  Izenbart farewell, n.d.
  Anniversary celebration (Jim Van Dyke), n.d.

Box 4 (Oversized - See WTS Oversized Collections Drawer)

Blueprints of church, 1975
Drawing of front of church, n.d.
“Growing with God, Journey Wall of Fellowship Reformed Church” timeline, 2000