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### W95-1198. Michigan, Holland. Sixth Reformed Church (1916-1995). Records, 1915-1995. 18.00 linear ft. PARTIALLY RESTRICTED

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**W95-1198.** Michigan, Holland. Sixth Reformed Church (1916-1995).

Records, 1915-1995. 18.00 linear ft. **PARTIALLY RESTRICTED**



### Abstract

Merged with Calvary Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan, in 1995. Records include records for Bible classes, choir, consistory, building changes, finances, membership, missionaries, Ladies' Aid, and Women's Guild. Other information concerning organ dedication, youth groups, fellowship services, as well as church bulletins, photographs, slides, and videocassette tapes.

Accession No:	W95-1198
Provenance:	Sixth Reformed Church
Donor:	Sixth Reformed Church
Photographs:	608 images (Boxes 8 and 12)
Processed by:	Tracy Bednarick, July 1998

### History

The Sixth Reformed Church was located on the corner of East 12th Street and Lincoln Avenue. It began as an outgrowth of a Sunday School a few years prior to 1916, which was located in the old Holland Township Hall on East Eighth Street. In the spring of 1916, the Holland Classis appointed a committee to begin a new church. In July of that year, they obtained the site for the church and moved a sectional church building to this site. Dr. J. W. Beardslee, Sr. conducted the first service on July 9th.

By the end of the summer, the need for a new building arose, and by 1917, a basement church was constructed. The first people to assist in the work of the church were Reverend G. De Jonge (classical ministry), and seminary students John Van Strien, Fred De Jong, and Frank De Roos. In 1919, the church called its first pastor, Rev. John Bruggers, who served until 1928. During his ministry, the church completed a parsonage next door, and groups such as the Choral Union, the Ladies Aid Society, and the Young Peoples Christian Endeavor Society all began. Other pastors included: Rev. John Vanderbeek (1929-1942), Rev. Lambert Olgers (1932-1948), and Rev. Henry A. Mouw (1949-1983), Rev. Mark Minegar (1984-1988), Rev. Paul D. Schmidt (1988-1990), and Rev. Marvin Beukelman (1990-1995).

During Henry A. Mouw's term, both Sunday School and Christian Education grew in the church, which resulted in the building of an education unit in 1958.

During World War II, the young people in the church put together a newsletter titled "The Eastern Light." The purpose of the newsletter, which was sent to service people in the war, was to keep them in touch with the church and community activities. One hundred and seven young men from Sixth Reformed Church served in World War II. Ninety-seven church members served in wars since World War II.

The church was always active in both local and foreign ministries going everywhere from Africa to Japan. William Estell and his wife, Judy, served as missionaries to Formosa for over thirty years. The children's groups were regular sponsors for Compassion Children in different

places of the world.

In 1976, Reverend Robert Schut joined the church as an associate pastor. He worked with the young people of the church and developed a youth group. When he and his wife left in 1978, Earl and Betty Kortering took over. At this time, Lora Muyskens and Debbie Zwiers formed the “Puppetainers” groups, which became very popular. In 1979, Steven Pearson organized the “Kid’s Club.”

During Rev. Mark Minegar’s ministry, the organ was replaced in the sanctuary. The old pipe organ had begun to fail repeatedly, but the church had been “making due” because of financial restrictions. A committee was established to find a solution to the problem. The final decision was to purchase the Heyligar organ which was dedicated on June 20th, 1986.

In 1991, under Rev. Marvin Beukelman, the church celebrated its 75th anniversary. But even at this time, membership was down and the church was facing the task of bringing more people to their ministry. In 1995, attempts to survive as a church body on their own and attract young families to the church were no longer sustaining the church. The church created a committee to find a solution. After research and discussion, the final decision was to merge with Calvary Reformed Church in August 1995. During this time, several members chose to transfer to other churches, but many stuck with the church through its merger and are now active at Calvary Reformed.

The Sixth Reformed Church building, at this time, is occupied by Crossroads Chapel with Rev. Andres Fierro as pastor.

Carolyn Veldhoff played an integral role in preserving this historical information and preparing it for archival organization.

### Scope and Content

This collection ranges in date from 1915 to 1995, the date when the church merged with Calvary Reformed Church. This collection covers all areas of the church’s operation: Bible classes, choir, consistory, building changes, financial records, missionaries, Ladies’ Aid, and Women’s Guild. Bulletins from almost every year the church was in operation are included in a two box collection. The photograph collection is extensive, although most photos are from the time just before the church merged with Calvary Reformed Church. The collection also contains a large amount of information on the organ dedication, youth groups, and fellowship services. There are records of attendance and transfers. This is a thorough collection that represents the entire scope and development of the Sixth Reformed Church, in addition to documenting the struggles of keeping the church alive as the attendance diminished prior to the merger.

The collection is organized alphabetically by box and by folder, except for Boxes 1, 2, 3, 4. These are arranged alphabetically, but skip letters between boxes in order to keep all the bulletins in two boxes rather than dividing them into four separate boxes to retain alphabetically. The lettering goes from A,B,C, and then back to B, and then to D. When possible, within the folders, the documents have been arranged chronologically. There is a box for oversized documents which mainly contains oversized record books. There is also a box for media, which includes slides and video tapes.

### Container List

Box 1

**Sixth Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan  
W95-1198**

Adult Bible Class Minutes, 1921-1995  
Adult Bible Class Pamphlets, 1945-1983  
Adult Bible Class Records, 1921-1990  
Articles of Incorporation, 1918  
Associate Pastors, 1976-1979, 1983-1985, 1992  
Attendance Records and Offerings, 1958-1995, not including 1989 or 1994 (10 folders)  
Beginners Sunday School, 1967-1971  
Beginners' and Primary Songs Hymn Book, 1915  
Blue Prints Program, 1990-1991, n.d.  
Boy Scout Troop 155, 1959-1978  
Building and Improvement Contracts, 1921, 1957  
Calvinist Cadet Corps, 1973  
Calvinist Cadet Corps, 1981-1986  
Calvinette Counselor Manual, 1981-1987  
Camp Geneva, 1993-1994  
Certificate of Ordination  
    Deacon, 1986  
    Elder, n.d.  
Choir  
    Church (Cookbook), 1989, 1992, n.d.  
    Junior, n.d.  
    Men's, 1935, 1946, 1968  
    Record Book 1938-1939

Box 2

Bulletins, 1922-1980, not including 1923, 1925-1926, 1928-1931, 1934-1939, 1941, 1942  
(44 folders)

Box 3

Bulletins, 1981-1995 (15 folders)

Box 4

Choir  
    Record Book, 1942-1956, 1948-1956, 1956-1962  
    Senior, 1938-1971  
Christian Endeavor  
    Songbooks, 1919-1963  
    Junior, 1938-1964  
    Intermediate, 1938-1944  
    Senior, 1922-1985  
Church Anniversaries (25th, 50th, 75th), 1941, 1966, 1991  
Church Fund, 1986-1988

**Sixth Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan  
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Church Herald Membership List, Family Questionnaire List, 1980-1998  
Church Missions, 1956, 1958-1964, 1980  
Church Positions, Job Descriptions and Responsibilities, 1989-1990, n.d.  
Church Profile Form, 1989  
Church Repairs and Maintenance, 1963, 1978-1981, 1984-1985, 1992-1993  
Columbus Steering Committee, 1985  
Classis of Holland and Youth Committee, 1969-1981  
Classis of Holland, 1982-1990  
Compassion Children and Children's Ministry, 1969, 1974, 1986-1988, 1991  
Corporate Charter/Non-Profit Filing, 1955-1995  
Consistory (**RESTRICTED THIRTY YEARS FROM DATE OF CREATION**)  
    Minutes, 1922-1983, 1977-1979, 1980-1981, 1984-1986, 1987-1989,  
        1990-1992, 1993-1994, 1995  
    General, n.d.  
Dedication, Parish House, 1958  
Deeds, Property, 1919, 1920, 1938, 1940  
Directories, 1922-1995, including "The Eastern Light" 1922 (2 folders)  
Disbursements (Cash Acts), 1932-1948  
Dismissal Certificate Stubs, 1947-1995  
"The Eastern Light," 1922-1959  
"The Eastern Light," 1943

Box 5

"The Eastern Light," 1944-1959 (10 folders)  
Education Committee and Sunday School, 1978, 1992, 1994  
Elder's Meeting, 1985-1995  
Executive Committee (**RESTRICTED THIRTY YEARS FROM DATE OF CREATION**)  
    Minutes, 1990-1991  
"Fedilas" Class Record 1935-1948  
Fellowship Guild  
    General, 1951-1959  
    Priscilla League Records, 1947-1963  
Fellowship Pads, n.d.  
Financial Records, 1923-1941  
Financial Reports  
    1928-38, 1941-1944, 1955-1968, 1969-1995 (11 folders)  
    Guide, 1929-1995

Box 6

Financial Reports (cont.)  
    Misc., 1972, 1975-1982, 1990-1991  
Floor Plans, n.d.  
General Fund Records, 1980-1982

Girls' League for Service, 1934-1936, 1941, 1947-1963, 1975  
Guest Book, 1987?-1989  
Inventory, n.d.  
Investments, Misc., 1957, 1967  
K-Group, Young Adults, 1977  
Ladies Aid  
    Constitution, n.d.  
    Financial Records, 1981-1988, 1989-1994  
    Flower Fund, 1972-1983  
    Roll Book, 1957-1995 (3 items)  
    Secretarial Record, 1963-1995 (5 items)  
    Sunshine Bags, n.d.  
    Treasurer's Record, 1963-1980 (2 items)  
Ladies Auxiliary, 1934-1936, 1940-1941  
Ladies Mission Society Band and Men's Brotherhood, 1934-1936, 1941  
Meetings Minutes (**RESTRICTED THIRTY YEARS FROM DATE OF  
CREATION**), Elders

Box 7

Meetings Minutes (cont.) (**RESTRICTED THIRTY YEARS FROM DATE OF  
CREATION**), Consistory, and Congregational, 1966-1991 (10 folders)  
Membership  
    Baptism List, 1916-1995  
    Information, 1986-1990  
    Transfers (to and from 6th Reformed), 1981-1992  
    Record A-D, G-M, N-S, T-Z, Single Individuals (5 folders), 1904-1992  
Merger, 1995  
Missionaries  
    Mission Committee, 1993-1995  
    Paul Alderenk, 1983, 1985, 1990  
    Reverend Andrew Branche, 1951, 1954  
    Reverend and Mrs. Ben DeVries, 1949, 1954-1955, 1962  
    William Estell, 1958-1987, n.d.  
    Mrs. (William) Judy Estell, 1991  
    Harvey Hoekstra, 1971-1990  
    Helen Hofman, 1978-1984  
    Reverend and Mrs. Jay Kapenga, 1952-1958, 1966, 1993  
    Reverend and Mrs. John Koedyker, 1982-1984  
    Wilfrido Labay, 1979, 1981  
    Jim and Jenny Olson, 1989-1990  
    Brian and Donna Renes, 1991  
    Robert and Muriel Robinson, 1982  
    Bob Schut, 1976-1978, 1990, 1995  
    Miscellaneous, n.d.  
Mortgage, 1921-1921, 1940-1941, 1917

**Sixth Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan  
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News clippings (photocopies can be found in appropriate files), 1944, n.d.

Organ Dedication, 1964, n.d.

Outreach Callers, 1990-1993

Pastors

Pastors Congregational Record, 1919-1929

Pastors 1919-1983

Mark (Susan) Minegar, 1984-1986, 1987, 1988

Box 8

Pastors (cont.)

Pastors Congregational Record Ledger 1916-?

Pastors 1988-1991

Blaine Curtis Newhouse, 1994

Miscellaneous, 1987, n.d.

Photographs

Baby Roll, 1932-1966

Exterior Church Building, 1966, 1995, n.d.

Interior Church Building, 1986, 1995, n.d.

Miscellaneous, 1937, 1995, n.d.

Negatives, n.d.

Organ, 1986, 1995

People, Groups, 1995, n.d.

People, Individuals and Families, 1995, n.d.

Puppetainers, n.d.

Prayer Vigil, 1992

Primary Sunday School, 1970, n.d.

Proposed Building Alterations, 1955

RCW (Lydia Circle), including Secretary Records and Minutes (handwritten), 1972, and  
Volunteer Programs and Pamphlets on Various Issues

RCYF Minutes, 1971

S.A.F.E: Shaping a Future Effectively, 1986, 1986-1987

Schedules: Various, 1979-1995

Scrapbook

Photos, Book 1, n.d.

Photos, Book 2, n.d.

Photos, Book 3 (3 folders), 1974-1988, n.d.

Photos, Book 4 (3 folders), 1935-1975, n.d.

Service Committee, 1990-1993

“Sixth Sense” Newsletter August 1976-December 1979, 1980-April 1982, August  
1985-November 1986

“Sixth Sense” Index, 1976-1986

Box 9

Slide Show, 1995

**Sixth Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan  
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Social Committee, 1983-1985, 1992  
Songs for Little Singers Hymn Book, n.d.  
Spirit of Sixth Youth Group, 1964-1990  
Sports (Softball, Volleyball, Wallyball), 1956, 1980, 1986-1987, 1992  
Sunday School  
    1896-1990 (folder 1)  
    Miscellaneous (folder 2), 1989-1995, n.d.  
    Convention, 1937  
    Officers & Teachers Meetings, 1957-1986  
    Records, 1921-1926 (3 folders)  
    Financial Records, 1978-1988  
Treasurer's Letters, 1975-1993  
U.S. Servicemen & Women, 1943-1991  
Visitation, 1978-1996  
We Two Club  
    Records and Minutes, 1948-1955  
    Young Couples, 1957-1964  
Wills (Property and Funds Bequeathed to the Church), 1975-1976, 1981  
Women's Guild for Christian Service, 1961-1981  
Women's Guild Records  
    General Fund, 1959-1964, 1960-1973, 1964-1973, 1973-1984  
    Missionary Fund, 1960-1984  
Women's Guild for Hope College, 1975, 1983-1985  
Worship Committee, 1984-1985, 1990-1994  
Youth Sunday & Kids Club, 1981-1986

Box 10 (oversize)

Compassion Child Poster, n.d.  
Ladies Auxiliary Band Record, 1939-1951  
Ledgers, Meeting Minutes (1916-1960)  
    Elder's Consistory, Congregational, 1916-1936, 1939-1960 (5)

Box 11

Photograph albums (3 items), n.d.

Box 12

Photograph album, n.d.  
Photographs of church demolition, March 2009 (CD)  
Videos  
    "Kids" Church, 1993  
    Sixth Reformed Church Picnic, 1986  
    Sixth Reformed Church Christmas, 1990  
    Sixth Reformed Church Last Services (Todd Mulder-Morning Service, Mike



**Sixth Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan**  
**W95-1198**

Dalman-Evening Service) 4 copies of varying quality, 1995  
Sunday School Picnic, 1987  
Sunday School Christmas Program, 1991  
Boxes of slides (4 items), n.d.  
Banks (2 items), n.d.