March 2014


Western Theological Seminary

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Abstract

Organized in 1854, records of Hope Church include minutes and financial records of the consistory and other church organizations, bulletins, directories, anniversary booklets, women’s organizations, membership records, and photographs.

Accession No.: W91-1034
Provenance: Hope Church
Donor: Hope Church
Photographs: 550 images (Boxes 5, 7, 10, and 12)
Processed by: Leon Witteveen, August 1993
Geoffrey D. Reynolds, April 1997
David Andrews, September 2000
Elaine Bruins, 2013

History

The first services of Hope Church were held in 1854, and the church was formally organized in 1862 as “Hope Church, a Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Holland, Michigan.” It was the first English-speaking Reformed Church in Holland.

The first church building, a wooden structure, was erected on the present site, 77 West 11th Street, in 1864. This building was destroyed in the fire of 1871. A new brick building was dedicated in 1874, and the present sanctuary was built in 1902. The educational wing was added in 1962.

Scope and Content

The collection includes consistory minutes from 1897 to 1985 and minutes and financial records of other organizations of the church. The Publications series includes bulletins, directories, booklets, and copies of the Hope Church News. The Topical File contains materials relating to property and building projects, membership records, and the financial records of the church. The Photograph series includes images of individuals, groups, and building projects in progress.

Container List

Box 1

ORGANIZATIONS

Consorty
Annual Reports, 1988-1994
Minutes, 1862-1950 (9 volumes)

Box 2

ORGANIZATIONS (cont.)

Consistory (cont.)

Minutes, 1951-1963 (13 volumes)

Box 3

ORGANIZATIONS (cont.)

Consistory (cont.)

Minutes, 1964-1975 (12 volumes)

Box 4

ORGANIZATIONS (cont.)

Consistory (cont.)

Minutes, 1976-1985 (11 volumes)

Congregational Meetings, 2002-2004

Box 5

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Elders Minutes, 1862-1883

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Senior Ministries, n.d.

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Mr. & Mrs. Club

Correspondence 1955-1961

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Programs, 1956-1963, n.d.

Women

Mission Circle Minutes, 1887-1898

Ladies’ Aid Society

Annual Reports, n.d., 1927-1934

Constitution, 1883

Cook Books (cookbooks) 1896, 1904, 1912, 1926, 1935, 1942 (6 folders)
Correspondence, n.d., 1904-05, 1919, 1928-1929
Membership, 1934-1944
Minutes, 1893-1904, 1913-1926 (5 bound volumes)
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Women’s Foreign Missionary Society of RCA Churches of Holland, 1884-1895
Women’s Missionary Society
Annual Reports, 1912-1916
Ledger, Financial Records, 1920-1959 (4 folders)
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Minutes, 1886-1924, 1931-1959 (11 folders)
Programs, 1917-1944
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Box 6.5

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Holland Area Councils of Church Women Minutes, 1955-1960
Guild for Christian Service
Annual Report, 1959
By-Laws, 1959
Minutes, 1959-1975 (2 folders)
Programs of Installation (also for Reformed Church Women), n.d., 1971-2000
Yearbooks, 1965-1975
Hope Church Readers, 1993-2013
Hope Church Women
“Blessed Are You” Lent, 2006
Hope Church, Holland, Michigan
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“A Centennial Celebration,” Dr. Bernadine DeValois, April 6, 1975
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Financial, 2001-2006
Minutes, Board, 1975-2001 (6 folders)
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Steering Committee 2001
Study Guides, 1973-1979
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A Missionary Doctor Comes to Class, Dr. Bernadine De Valois, 1972
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Sermon on the Death of John F. Kennedy by Arthur J. Jentz, Jr., 1963

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1st Reformed Church, Albany, N.Y., n.d.

Reformed Church Press
From Sorrow to Celebration, Karen Granberg-Michaelson, n.d.
Heaven Came Down, Boogaart, 1998
The Worship Center, Eve Leenhouts Pelgrim, n.d.

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Rev. Thomas Walker Jones, 1883-1888
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