
Western Theological Seminary

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Abstract

James A. Neevel was born in Albany, New York, in 1935. He graduated from Hope College in 1956 and New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1959. He served as pastor of Community Reformed Church in Clarksville, New York, from 1959 to 1966; Pitcher Hill Community Church in North Syracuse, New York, from 1966 to 1975; and New Hackensack Reformed Church in Wappinger Falls, New York, from 1975 to 2000. Neevel served as the president of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America in 1986. In 1987, he was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award from Hope College. After his retirement from the board of trustees at Hope College and the position of head pastor at New Hackensack, he continues to preach in a guest capacity, including visiting his previous churches. The James A. Neevel papers contain documentation from his undergraduate years at Hope in 1955 through guest preaching appearances at New Hackensack in 2009. There are relevant programs from his past churches during multiple milestone celebrations, as well as personal correspondence from mentors during his years at New Brunswick Theological Seminary and his presidency of the General Synod. The photographs include singing performances and campaign posters from his undergraduate years at Hope, his ordination and installation as a minister at Clarksville Community Church, the dedication of the Warwick Estates Education Center, his election as General Synod president, and his receipt of the Distinguished Alumni Award from Hope College.

Accession No: W17-1748
Provenance: James A. Neevel
Donor: James A. Neevel
Photographs: 16 images
Processed by: Rebecca Palomino, June 2017

Biography

James A. Neevel was born in Albany, New York, in 1935. He was named to Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities in 1955. After graduating from Hope in 1956, he pursued a Masters of Divinity at New Brunswick Theological Seminary from which he graduated in 1959. He served as a pastor to Community Reformed Church in Clarksville, New York, from 1959 to 1966; Pitcher Hill Community Church in North Syracuse, New York, from 1966 to 1975; and New Hackensack Reformed Church in Wappinger Falls, New York, from 1975 to 2000. He was elected to the position of president of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America in 1986, becoming the first third-generation clergyman to hold the title, having been preceded by his grandfather and great-grandfather. His presidency provided him and his wife the opportunity to travel and to oversee the planting of multiple churches. In 1987, he was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award from Hope College. After his retirement from the board of trustees at Hope College and the position of head pastor at New Hackensack, he continues to preach in a guest capacity, including visiting his previous churches.
Scope and Content

The James A. Neevel papers contain documentation from his undergraduate years at Hope in 1955 through guest preaching appearances at New Hackensack in 2009. There are relevant programs from his past churches during multiple milestone celebrations, as well as personal correspondence from mentors during his years at New Brunswick Theological Seminary and his presidency of the General Synod. The photographs include singing performances and campaign posters from his undergraduate years at Hope, his ordination and installation as a minister at Clarksville Community Church, the dedication of the Warwick Estates Education Center, his election as General Synod president, and his receipt of the Distinguished Alumni Award from Hope College.

Container List

Articles, 1987-2000
Biographical, 1955-2003, 2017
Churches
  Community Reformed Church, Clarksville, New York, 1965-1983
  New Hackensack Reformed Church, Wappinger Falls, New York, 1984-2009
  Pitcher Hill Community Reformed Church, North Syracuse, New York, 1966-2004
Photographs, ca. 1955-1987 (16 images)
Reformed Church in America Synod Presidency, 1986-2001
Warwick Estates Dedication, 1959