

Yale University Library
Yale Divinity Library

Guide to the Herluf M. Jensen Papers

RG 312



Divinity Library staff

2022

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Yale Divinity Library
409 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06511
(203) 432-5301
divinity.library@yale.edu
<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

CALL NUMBER: RG 312

CREATOR: Jensen, Herluf M., 1923-2010

TITLE: Herluf M. Jensen papers

DATES: 1943-2002

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 6 linear feet (14 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: This collection documents Herluf Jensen's work with ecumenical and student Christian organizations, including the World Student Christian Federation, United Student Christian Council, a variety of Lutheran ministries, the National Council of Churches, and others. His writings focus primarily on the relation between churches and the academy, religion on university campuses, Christian mission and ethics, ecumenicalism, and contemporary political issues such as the civil rights movement and McCarthyism.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.312>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.312>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Herluf Jensen, 2019

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

Preferred Citation

Herluf Jensen Papers, RG 312, Special Collections, Yale Divinity School Library

Biographical / Historical

Herluf M. Jensen (1923-2010) was a Lutheran bishop and a leader in the ecumenical movement, with involvement in the World Christian Student Federation, United Student Christian Council, and several other interdenominational organizations. He served in the US Army in World War II and was awarded a Purple Heart. He studied at Grand View Junior College, where he met and married Dorthea Lund, then received a bachelor's degree from Harvard and a master's degree in English from the University of Minnesota.

After receiving his Master's degree, Jensen worked for the National Council of Churches, coordinating evangelistic programs for college religious groups. After graduating from Union Theological Seminary in 1964, Jensen worked as a secretary for the Board of Social Ministry in the Lutheran Church of America. In that position, he participated in civil rights marches and organized food and clothing distributions in Newark, New Jersey and in Detroit. In 1968 he became pastor of 750-member St Matthew Lutheran Church in Moorestown, New Jersey, and in 1978 he was elected president of the New Jersey Synod. As both pastor and bishop, he advocated for women's ordination, the racial diversification of congregations, and activist urban ministries, particularly in Camden and Newark. He retired from ministry in 1991 and passed away in 2010.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes correspondence and documents from throughout Jensen's life, especially reflecting his work with ecumenical and student Christian organizations, including the WCSF, USCC, a variety of Lutheran ministries, the National Council of Churches, and others. His writings focus primarily on the relation between churches and the academy, religion on university campuses, Christian mission and ethics, ecumenicalism, and contemporary political issues such as the civil rights movement and McCarthyism.

The Jensen papers complement various other collections at the Divinity Library that document student Christian movements, including records of the World Student Christian Federation (RG 46), United Student Christian Council (RG 239), National Student Christian Federation (RG 247), and Student Christian Movement in New England (RG 57).

Arrangement

Arranged in 5 series:

Series I: Correspondence

Series II: Writings and Notes by Jensen

Series III: Collected Material

Series IV: Memorabilia

Series V: Audio-Visual Material

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence

Personal correspondence		
b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence with colleagues and friends	1952–1968
b. 1, f. 2	Correspondence with colleagues and friends	1984–2002
b. 1, f. 3	Event invitations	1952–1962
b. 1, f. 4	Documents sent to Jensen for review	1985–2009
Correspondence related to organizations		
b. 1, f. 5	Lutheran organizations	1952–1981
b. 12, f. 1	Lutheran organizations	1952–1960
b. 1, f. 6	Methodist and Congregational organizations	1959–1960
b. 1, f. 7	National Council of the Churches of Christ	1953–1962
b. 12, f. 4	National Council of the Churches of Christ	1953–1962
b. 1, f. 8	National Student Christian Federation	1959–1964
b. 2, f. 9	United Student Christian Council	1949–1960
b. 12, f. 6	United Student Christian Council	1953–1954
b. 12, f. 7	United Student Fellowship: correspondence	1953
b. 2, f. 10	World Student Christian Federation	1954–1996
b. 2, f. 11	Miscellaneous other organizations	1959–1960

Series II: Writings and Notes by Jensen

Essays		
b. 2, f. 12	Essay manuscripts	1953–1956
b. 2, f. 13	Essay manuscripts	1959–1969
b. 11, f. 1	Typed essay manuscripts Including "For the Life of the World"; "Some Thoughts about the NSCF as Community and Organization"; "The Church and the Racial Revolution"	1960–1962
b. 11, f. 2	Published essays Including "When We Pray For Students"; "The Student Non-Violent Movement for Racial Equality"; "Special Ecumenical Opportunitites"	1958–1961
b. 2, f. 14	Published essays	1959–1967
Sermons and talks		
b. 10, f. 1	Handwritten sermons, notes	1955–1961
b. 10, f. 2	Handwritten sermons, notes	1960–1962
b. 10, f. 5	Typed speeches Including "Holy Communion at Ecumenical Gatherings"; "Christian Work Among International Students"; "Report on Students and Segregation"	1952–1961
Liturgies and notes		
b. 2, f. 15	Handwritten personal notes	no date
b. 10, f. 3	Liturgies with handwritten notes	1949–1955
b. 10, f. 4	Liturgies with handwritten notes	1959–1960
Academic materials		
b. 3, f. 16	Basic Christian Ethics class	no date
b. 3, f. 17	Catechetics class	1954
b. 3, f. 18	Christian Missions class	1953
b. 3, f. 19	Galatians exegesis class	1954
b. 3, f. 20	Hebrew class	1954
b. 3, f. 21	History of Christian Thought class	1954
b. 3, f. 22	Liturgical Materials class	1953
b. 3, f. 23	Preaching class	1953
b. 3, f. 24	Symbolics class	1954
b. 3, f. 25	Miscellaneous seminary class papers	1953–1954
b. 3, f. 26	"Experiment in Ecumenism" thesis (bound volume)	1964

Writings by others

b. 11, f. 3	Essays, speeches Including "To the Martyrs of the Church in Germany" by Guenter Rutenborn; "This is the Beat Generation" by Clellon Holmes; "Realism and Reorientation" by Ann Finkle	1946-1959
b. 11, f. 4	Essays, speeches Including "Christ and the World in the Modern Age" by Hans Hoekendijk; "The Christian Message to Men Without Religion" by Kathleen Bliss; "Witness Amidst Racial and Cultural Tensions" by Henry Makulu; "The Law and Civil Disobedience" by Harris Wofford	1960-1965

Series III: Collected Material

Miscellaneous topics		
b. 4, f. 27	World War II	1943–1945
b. 4, f. 28	McCarthyism, Red Scare	1953
b. 4, f. 29	General political	1953–1960
b. 4, f. 30	Education and the academy	1949–1958
b. 4, f. 31	Education and the academy	1959–1962
b. 4, f. 32	Church and theology	1958–1963
Civil Rights Movement		
b. 4, f. 33	"Christian Century"	1960–1965
b. 4, f. 34	"The Intercollegian"	1960–1961
b. 4, f. 35	"Student Voice"	1960
b. 5, f. 36	Other journals, booklets	1946–1963
b. 5, f. 37	Other journals, booklets	1964–1965
b. 5, f. 38	Newspaper and magazine clippings	1960–1965
b. 5, f. 39	Essays and reports	1960–1964
b. 5, f. 40	Various brochures and tracts	1955–1965
b. 5, f. 41	Liturgy booklets	1955–1962
b. 5, f. 42	Essay manuscripts on church, academy by others	1953–1959
b. 5, f. 43	Published essays on church, academy by others	1948–1959
By organization		
b. 6, f. 44	Center for the Study of Campus Ministry	1978
b. 6, f. 45	Committee on Friendly Relations Among Foreign Students	1953–1954
b. 6, f. 46	Department of Campus Christian Life	1954
b. 11, f. 5	Division of Student Service: documents, reports	1953–1954
b. 6, f. 47	Lutheran Student Association of America	1949–1953
b. 6, f. 48	Lutheran Student Association of America	1953–1962
b. 12, f. 2	Lutheran Student Association of America	1953
b. 6, f. 49	Lutheran Student Council of America	1949
b. 6, f. 50	Lutheran Student Council of America	1951

By organization (continued)

b. 6, f. 51	Lutheran World Action	1952-1964
b. 6, f. 52	National Lutheran Council	1952-1987
b. 7, f. 53	Other Lutheran organizations	1949-1956
b. 12, f. 3	Methodist Student Movement: documents	no date
b. 7, f. 54	National Student Christian Federation	1959-1961
b. 12, f. 5	National Student Christian Federation	1960-1961
b. 7, f. 55	Student Christian Movement	1953-1975
b. 7, f. 56	United Student Christian Council (brochures, booklets)	1946-1959
b. 7, f. 57	United Student Christian Council (meeting notes, memos)	1949-1953
b. 7, f. 58	United Student Christian Council (meeting notes, memos)	1953-1956
b. 7, f. 59	United Student Christian Council (meeting notes, memos)	1956-1958
b. 8, f. 60	World Council of Churches	1953-1954
b. 12, f. 8	World Student Christian Federation: committee reports	1960
b. 13, f. 1	World Student Christian Federation: committee reports	1960
b. 13, f. 2	World Student Christian Federation: documents, reports	1952-1961
b. 13, f. 3	WSCF trip to Puerto Rico & Jamaica: conference notes	1958
b. 8, f. 61	Young Citizens' Committee on Immigration Policy	1953
b. 8, f. 62	Miscellaneous denominational organizations	1954-1961
b. 13, f. 4	Other organizations: documents	1953-1961
Conference materials		
b. 8, f. 63	Ashram Conferences	1953
b. 8, f. 64	First Quadrennial Convocation of Christian Colleges	1954
b. 8, f. 65	Other conferences	1953
Pamphlets, newsletters		
b. 13, f. 5	Liturgical programs	1954
b. 13, f. 6	Communique newsletter	1953-1962
b. 13, f. 7	Brochures and other publications from student Christian movement organizations	1950-1970
Newspaper clippings		
b. 14, f. 1	From Student Christian Movement	1953-1962
b. 14, f. 2	Related to race and the civil rights movement	1959-1962

Series IV: Memorabilia

b. 8, f. 66	Looseleaf binder with notes, labeled "Grand View College"	no date
b. 8, f. 67	Looseleaf binder with notes, labeled "My LSAA Plan Book"	no date
b. 8, f. 68	Pins, LWA map, stamp with name and title	no date

Series V: Audio-Visual Material

b. 9, f. 69	Kodachrome transparencies of LWF assemblies	1952-1960
b. 9, f. 70	Kodachrome transparencies of USCC conferences	1955-1958
b. 9, f. 71	Negatives from India trip	1952-1953
b. 9, f. 72	USCC conference recordings (reel-to-reel audio tapes)	no date
b. 14	USCC conference recordings (4 reel-to-reel audio tapes)	1954
b. 14	WSCF conference recordings (2 reel-to-reel audio tapes)	

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Civil rights -- Religious aspects -- Christianity
College students -- Religious life
Ecumenical movement

Acquired From

Jensen, Herluf M., 1923-2010