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Finding Aid - Faith and Sharing Federation fonds (1)

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Faith and Sharing Federation fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	University of St. Michael's College, John M. Kelly Library, Special Collections
Title:	Faith and Sharing Federation fonds
ID:	1
Date:	1968-2012 (date of creation)
Language:	English
Language:	French
Physical description:	-3.75 m of textual records -189 audio cassettes -7 photographs
Note [sourcesDescription]:	http://stmikes.utoronto.ca/kelly/collections-faith-and-sharing-federation-fonds/
Note [generalNote]:	The source of the supplied title proper has been taken from the official name given to the charity when it became incorporated.
Note [generalNote]:	A detailed content listing of audio cassettes from 1971 to 1991 was prepared by Sguin and is available in the Archives.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The Faith and Sharing Federation /Foi et Partage is a bilingual Catholic organization with a mandate to deepen and foster the experience of Christian community through week long retreats. The first retreat was held in Marylake, Ontario in 1968 and was led by Jean Vanier, internationally renowned spiritual writer and leader, and founder of other Catholic organizations, including Faith and Light and L'Arche. A retreat is usually a five or seven day excursion to a retreat centre or church that consists of time for personal prayer, a presentation based on biblical scripture by one or more animators and group meetings where people can share their experiences. Mediation, relaxation and silence are a primary focus of the retreats; music and song are also considered important and there is often a theme song chosen for a retreat. There are "happenings" where participation in dancing, singing or parlour games is encouraged, followed by a sharing of experiences by groups or individuals about the retreat through poems, sketches, imitations, and other forms of expression. A celebration of forgiveness is often followed by a feast known as the "celebration of Life". The Eucharist is a central activity of the retreats. One of the aims of the retreats is to bring together a cross-section of people with an emphasis on those who are marginalized in society. Each retreat usually consists of priests, bishops, people with disabilities,

members of religious orders and laity. The retreats take place throughout Canada and North America. Mini-retreats and week-ends are also organized.

The principal function of the Faith and Sharing Federation is to organize annual retreats however they are also active during the year through local communities. Each local community is part of a region which mirrors the boundaries of Catholic dioceses. There are seven regions in North America. Region 7 includes several communities in the United States. The activities of the local communities include regular gatherings for prayer and mutual support and the organization of regional meetings.

Faith and Sharing in North America is based in Ottawa, Ontario, which administers to local chapters throughout Canada as well as several communities in the United States. The organization currently remains active. Vanier continues to provide leadership at annual retreats.

Custodial history

The records were transferred to the University of St Michael's in May 2004. Prior to their transfer to St Michael's, the records were deposited in the Archives Deschatelets, Ottawa for ten years. During that time, Madeleine Seguin worked with archivists Father Andre Dubois, Father Romuald Boucher and Father Roland Leclaire to arrange and classify the records. In 2002, Sr. Sue Mosteller of the Henri Nouwen Literary Centre initiated the transfer to St Michael's with English Coordinator Marilyn Moore. A Deed of Gift was signed by Moore and Richard Alway, President, USMC, on February 12, 2004 and March 4, 2004 respectively

Scope and content

The fonds consists of administrative, organizational, summary and financial records relating to the Faith and Sharing Federation. The records range in date from 1968 to 2012. The fonds is composed of eight series:

1. History and Spirit of Faith and Sharing
2. Documents of the Secretary, North American Committee
3. Correspondence of the North American Committee
4. Documents related to participation in the Canadian Conference of Catholic Lay Associations
5. Faith and Sharing Bulletins
6. Financial Files
7. Sound recordings of Retreats
8. Secondary resources collected by Madeleine Sguin, Secretary of the North American Committee, related to Jean Vanier

The majority of the records are textual however, as indicated, the fonds includes almost 200 recordings of retreats, including many talks by founder Jean Vanier.

Notes

Title notes

Physical condition

Good

Immediate source of acquisition

See custodial history.

Arrangement

The fonds is arranged according to a classification scheme imposed by Secretary Madeleine Séguin and archivists at the Archives Deschatelets.

The classification numbers are retained in the note area of the file level description.

Records are filed chronologically.

Accruals

Further accruals are expected annually.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Status description:** Draft
- **Description identifier:** faith-and-sharing-federation-fonds

Access points

- Textual record (documentary form)
- Sound recording (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)

Collection holdings

Series: 1-1 - History and Spirit of Faith and Sharing

Creator: Faith and Sharing Federation

Title: History and Spirit of Faith and Sharing

ID: 1-1

Date: 1968-2002, 2010 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series consists of documents about the history and development of the Faith and Sharing Federation. This includes documents related to first retreats and the incorporation of the Faith and Sharing Federation as a registered charity. There is also material on the history and development of the regional groups. This includes correspondence from the regional delegates about the organization of annual retreats and meetings, 1972-1976, lists of attendees and representatives and newsletters detailing the activities of the regions. There is also a collection of annual reports for the period 1995 to 2002. There is also material on the organizational structure of the Faith and Sharing Federation and the North American Committee including a practical guide to the retreats and personal reflections on the Faith and Sharing movement by members of the North American Committee.

Physical description: 27.35 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Original reference FP 44.

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the series.

Physical condition:

Good

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Ottawa (place)
-

Subseries: 1-1-1 - Correspondence and other documents related to first retreats

Title: Correspondence and other documents related to first retreats

ID: 1-1-1

Date: 1969-1972 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of correspondence and other documents related to first retreats.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the sub-series. File has been arranged chronologically. Original reference FP 44 (A 1.1 - A 1.7).

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Subseries: 1-1-2 - Retreatant lists

Title: Retreatant lists

ID: 1-1-2

Date: 1968-1984 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of lists containing the names and contact information of people who attended retreats between 1968 and 1984.

Physical description: 3.5 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the sub-series. Original reference FP 44 (A 2).

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Subseries: 1-1-3 - Correspondence and other documents of the Regional Delegates

Title: Correspondence and other documents of the Regional Delegates

ID: 1-1-3

Date: 1972-1976 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of one file relating to the organization of the Faith and Sharing Federation's regional groups, including correspondence from the Regional Delegates to the Secretary of the North American Committee.

Physical description: 1.5 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the sub-series. Original reference FP 44 (B 1.1 - B 1.5).

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Subseries: 1-1-4 - Documents describing the spirit, the structure and the format of retreats

Title: Documents describing the spirit, the structure and the format of retreats

ID: 1-1-4

Date: 1981, 1988, 2010 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of documents regarding the organisational structure of the Faith and Sharing Federation, the spirit of the Faith and Sharing movement and a guide describing the format of the Faith and Sharing retreats. The majority of the documents are in two sets of the documents, one written in French and the other in English. Only a French copy of the 2010 Faith and Sharing Organization Structure was provided at the time of donation.

Physical description: 2.1 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the sub-series. Original reference FP 44 (C 1.1 - C 1.7), F 84 F.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Subseries: 1-1-5 - Documents related to the incorporation of Faith and Sharing

Title: Documents related to the incorporation of Faith and Sharing

ID: 1-1-5

Date: 1979-1984 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of documents relating to a request from the Faith and Sharing Federation to the Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Canada to become officially incorporated as a registered charity.

Physical description: 1.5 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the sub-series. Original reference FP 44 (D 1.1 - D 1.10).

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Subseries: 1-1-6 - Documents related to the organization of North American Annual Meetings

Title: Documents related to the organization of North American Annual Meetings

ID: 1-1-6

Date: 1972-1998 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of correspondence from the Secretary of the Faith and Sharing Federation to members of the North American Committee regarding the organization of annual meetings, including agendas, expenses and minutes of meetings.

Physical description: 3.5 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the sub-series. Files have been arranged chronologically. Original reference FP 44 (E 1.1 - E 1.12).

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Subseries: 1-1-7 - Minutes of the North American Executive Committee

Title: Minutes of the North American Executive Committee

ID: 1-1-7

Date: 1979-1998 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of minutes of the annual meetings of the North American Executive Committee from 1979 to 1998.

Physical description: 7.75 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the sub-series. Files have been arranged chronologically. Original reference FP 44 (F 1.1 - F 1.39).

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Subseries: 1-1-8 - Personal reflections on Faith and Sharing

Title: Personal reflections on Faith and Sharing

ID: 1-1-8

Date: 1974-1984 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of documents written by members of the North American Committee on their personal reflections and experiences of Faith and Sharing.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the sub-series. Original reference FP 44 (G 1.1 - G 1.8).

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Subseries: 1-1-9 - Annual reports on the Regions

Title: Annual reports on the Regions

ID: 1-1-9

Date: 1995-2002 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Sub-series consists of annual reports from Region 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7. Also includes pamphlets regarding local retreats and meetings and a booklet celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Faith and Sharing community in the Quebec region.

Physical description: 3 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the sub-series. Sub-series has been divided into regions and then arranged chronologically. Original reference FP 44 (H 1 - H 7).

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Subseries: 1-1-10 - Biographical documents celebrating the lives of Father Louis Raby, the Bishop of Edmundston and Father Gaston Croteau.

Title: Biographical documents celebrating the lives of Father Louis Raby, the Bishop of Edmundston and Father Gaston Croteau.

ID: 1-1-10

Date: 1968, 1975, 1978, 1994-1995 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Subseries consists of biographical documents celebrating the lives of Father Louis Raby, the Bishop of Edmundston and Father Gaston Croteau

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the sub-series. Original reference FP 44 (H 2.1 - H 2.2).

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Subseries: 1-1-11 - Histories of Regional Faith and Sharing Retreats

Title: Histories of Regional Faith and Sharing Retreats

ID: 1-1-11

Date: 1997-1998 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Brief life stories of the regions of Faith and Sharing put together by the regional co-ordinators in 1997 and 1998 on the request of Madeleine S

Physical description: 1.5 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the sub-series. Original reference FP 44 (J 1 - J 15).

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Series: 1-2 - Documents of the Secretary, North American Committee

Creator: Séguin, Madeleine

Creator: Faith and Sharing Federation

Title: Documents of the Secretary, North American Committee

ID: 1-2

Date: 1993-1994 (date of creation)

Date: 1993, 1994, 2004 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series consists of a copy of the original list of the Faith and Sharing Federation fonds produced by Madeleine Seguin, August 15, 1994. Also includes documents relating to the deposit of records to Archives Deschalets, Ottawa, in 1993-1994 and the donation of the records to University of St. Michael's College in 2004.

Physical description: 0.5 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Original classification number FP 50.

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the series.

Physical condition:

Good.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
 - Ottawa (place)
-

Series: 1-3 - Correspondence of the North American Committee

Creator: Faith and Sharing Federation

Title: Correspondence of the North American Committee

ID: 1-3

Date: 1979-1997, 2002, 2008-2010 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series consists of correspondence related to the organization of meetings of the North American Committee and the organizational structure for the North American Committee. Also includes letters of invitation to Bishops in the regions of North America to join the Committee and their replies, as well as letters on financial matters including requests for donations from the Faith and Sharing communities.

The correspondence of the North American Committee starts in 1979 and not in 1972. The North American Committee was formed in 1972 but it was not until 1978 when the Executive Committee was formed that there was visible leadership in the Faith & Sharing Federation. In the series entitled 'Correspondence of the Regional Delegates' there are documents which list the members of the

North American Committee dating from 1973. However in a letter from December 1978 in the series 'Documents related to the North American Annual Meetings', there is a list of the members of the North American Committee and a plan to form the Executive Committee in order to meet the expressed need for visible leadership. This suggests that up until that date the North American Committee did not have a visible leadership. This also explains why there was a limited amount of correspondence kept by the Secretary of the North American Committee up until that date. The correspondence from 1999 to 2001 which appears in the original list produced by Séguin is not available in the archive and may have been kept by the Faith & Sharing Federation.

Physical description: 3.35 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Original classification number FP 54

Note [generalNote]:

Title based on contents of the series.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Series: 1-4 - Documents related to participation in the Canadian Conference of Catholic Lay Associations

Creator: Faith and Sharing Federation

Title: Documents related to participation in the Canadian Conference of Catholic Lay Associations

ID: 1-4

Date: 1983-1993 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series consists of documents collected by Madeleine Seguin related to Faith and Sharing's membership in the Canadian Conference of Catholic Lay Associations. The records include reports, memos and agendas regarding meetings, bulletins and other news updates, and a copy of the Charter of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Lay Associations written in French.

Physical description: 3.5 cm of textual records

Language of the material:

English

French

Note [generalNote]:

Original classification number FP 58.

Access points:

- Ottawa (place)
-

Series: 1-5 - Faith and Sharing Bulletins

Creator: Faith and Sharing Federation

Title: Faith and Sharing Bulletins

ID: 1-5

Date: 1977-2012 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series consists of Faith and Sharing bulletins for the years 1977 to 2012. The bulletins generally contain a short letter of introduction by the Secretary and the Co-ordinator of the Faith and Sharing Federation, agendas for retreats and lists of participants. After 1979 the newsletters contain the minutes of meetings for the Executive Committee. The bulletin often features letters written by attendees of the retreats regarding their experiences, regional news items and copies of letters written by Jean Vanier and other members of the Faith and Sharing Federation regarding their experiences and reflections on the work of the Faith and Sharing Federation and the L'Arche communities. Also included in the series are reports of accounting balance sheets for the bulletins for the years 1997 to 2011.

Physical description: 26.25 cm of textual records

Access points:

- L'Arche International
 - Vanier, Jean (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
-

Series: 1-6 - Financial Files

Creator: Faith and Sharing Federation

Title: Financial Files

ID: 1-6

Date: 1970-2004, 2011-2012 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of annual and monthly financial reports of Faith and Sharing (later the Faith and Sharing Federation), including statements of income and expenditure, and income tax reports.

Physical description: 18.1 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Original classification number FP 84.

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
-

Series: 1-7 - Sound recordings of Retreats

Creator: Faith and Sharing Federation

Title: Sound recordings of Retreats

ID: 1-7

Date: 1971, 1972, 1974, 1978, 1979, 1982, 1984-1989, 1991, 1993 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series consists of sound recordings of Faith and Sharing retreats throughout North America between 1971 and 1993. The majority of the recordings feature retreat talks given by Jean Vanier, but contributions made by other Faith and Sharing members appear throughout.

Physical description: 189 audio cassettes (205.5 hrs)

Note [generalNote]:

Original reference FP 134.

Note [generalNote]:

The majority of speeches are bilingual, but as indicated by the titles of the speeches given at file-level, some speeches are in French and others are in English.

Note [generalNote]:

A detailed content list of the tapes and talk titles compiled by the Faith and Sharing Federation is available in the Archives.

Note [generalNote]:

Several audio and video recordings of Faith and Sharing retreats that are not part of this series can be found in the L'Arche International fonds. See series 17.3 for more details.

Access points:

- Vanier, Jean (subject)
 - Sound recording (documentary form)
-

Series: 1-8 - Secondary resources collected by Madeleine Sguin, Secretary of the North American Committee, related to Jean Vanier

Creator: Séguin, Madeleine

Title: Secondary resources collected by Madeleine Sguin, Secretary of the North American Committee, related to Jean Vanier

ID: 1-8

Date: 1972-1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series consists of monographs (in the form of letters) written by Jean Vanier regarding his work with L'Arche 1972-1979, correspondence regarding the financing of Faith and Sharing retreats 1972, and articles and newspaper clippings from Canadian newspapers on Jean Vanier and his work with the Faith and Sharing Federation 1972-1974.

Physical description: 5 cm of textual records

Note [generalNote]:

Original reference FP 134 / FP 164.

Access points:

- L'Arche International
 - Vanier, Jean (subject)
 - Textual record (documentary form)
-