

HOLY GROUND, INC.
Holy Ground Inc. records, 1993-2009.

Emory University
Pitts Theology Library
1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560
Atlanta, GA 30322
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Holy Ground, Inc.
Title: Holy Ground Inc. records, 1993-2009.
Call Number: Record Group No. 061
Extent: 7 cubic feet (15 boxes)
Abstract: Contains the organizational records for Holy Ground, Inc., a non-profit center for spiritual retreat, religious exploration, and interfaith dialogue.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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Source

Gift.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Holy Ground, Inc. records, RG 061, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Elizabeth Arnold and Brandon Wason, July 2016.

Collection Description

Historical Note

Holy Ground, Inc. was founded in 1993 by Sandra Smith and Dorri Sherrill, two graduates of Candler School of Theology at Emory University. Both wanted to recreate the theologically

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diverse, pro-woman environment for religious and spiritual inquiry they experienced in seminary. They established Holy Ground, Inc. in Asheville, North Carolina as a center for spiritual retreat, religious exploration, and interfaith dialogue—all with an eco-feminist foundation.

Over the next fifteen years, Holy Ground hosted speakers ranging from distinguished biblical scholars to various artists to prominent religious figures. The center facilitated educational seminars on topics including ethics, social justice, political activism, self-care, and creative living. Retreats included a yearly mother-daughter weekend, labyrinth meditation walks, guided hikes in the Blue Ridge Mountains, and silent retreats on solstice days.

Holy Ground, Inc. dissolved in 2009 as the result of the economic hardships for non-profit organizations during recession years and the resignation of inspirational executive director Sandra Smith. The organizational records were returned to Candler School of Theology, the conceptual birthplace of Holy Ground, Inc.

Scope and Content Note

Holy Ground, Inc. records features both the public promotional materials, records, and literature along with the internal correspondence, planning, and organizational materials. Also included are financial and administrative records, board minutes, and legal documents designating both their corporate and non-profit status.

Arrangement Note

The collection is organized into five series: (1) administrative records, (2) correspondence, (3) financial records, (4) publications, and (5) workshops, seminars, and events.

Series 1—Administrative records: Encompasses board minutes, articles of corporation, dissolution materials and documents, and non-profit status records.

Series 2—Correspondence: Includes letters from encouragement and contribution, planning for various speakers/presenters, and follow-up correspondence for various topics and events.

Series 3—Financial records: Consists of budget records, fundraising materials, and grant applications.

Series 4—Publications: Entails newsletters, scrapbook materials, an academic paper detailing the organization's narrative, and a cookbook published by Holy Ground.

Series 5—Workshops, seminars, and events: Records community and organizational activities promoted and facilitated by Holy Ground.

Container List

Administrative Records

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	501c Documents, 1994
1	2	Articles of Incorporation, 1994
1	3	Board Minutes, 1994-1996
1	4	Board Minutes, 1997-1998
1	5	Board Minutes, 1999
1	6	Board Minutes, 2000 February
1	7	Board Minutes, 2000 June
1	8	Board Minutes, 2000 September
1	9	Board Minutes, 2001 February
1	10	Board Minutes, 2001 June
1	11	Board Minutes, 2001 September
1	12	Board Minutes, 2002
1	13	Board Minutes, 2003
2	1	Board Minutes, 2004-2005
2	2	Board Minutes, 2006
2	3	Board Minutes, 2007
2	4	Board Minutes, 2008-2009
2	5	Charitable Solicitation Licensure
2	6	Dissolution Legal Documents, 2009
2	7	Fundraising and Strategic Planning

Correspondence

3	1	"Contemplation and Activism," 2004-2005
3	2	Letters of Support
3	3	Potential Speakers, 2001-2005
3	4	Simple Living Workshop, 2002

Financial Records

3	5	10th Anniversary Speaker and Budget, 2004
3	6	Board Notebook Records--Minutes and Finances, 2008
4	1	Faith Community Companions, 2001-2005
4	2	Finances, 1994-1999
4	3	Finances, 2000-2004
4	4	Finances, 2005
4	5	Finances, 2006-2007
4	6	Finances, 2008-2009

4	7	Funding Sources, 1993-2009
5	1	Grant Applications, 1994-2009
5	2	Mother's and Father's Day Fundraiser, 2001-2006
5	3	Soul Circles: Spiritual Resource Project Sponsors, 2005-2008
5	4	Valparaiso Grant Application, 2005

Publications

5	5	"At the Intersection of Sacred Circles and Public Squares: The Story of Holy Ground"
5	6	<i>Feasting on Food and the Enneagram</i> (cookbook), 2005
6	1	Newletters, 1994-1997
6	2	Newletters, 1998-2001
6	3	Newletters, 2002-2005
6	4	Newletters, 2006-2009
6	5-6	Scrapbook, Vol.1
6	7-8	Scrapbook, Vol.2

Workshops, Seminars, and Events

7	1	10th Anniversary Art Exhibit and Silent Auction, 2004
7	2	"Activism and Spiritual Life" Project Descriptions, 2004
7	3	Advent Retreat with Fred Craddock, 1998
7	4	Amy-Jill Levine Lecture, 2002
7	5	Barbara Hughes Art and Healing Event, 2007
7	6	Book Discussions, 2002
7	7	Buddhism and Christianity Seminar, 1998
7	8	"Call of the Wild" Journaling Seminar, 2008
7	9	Carol Newsom "Grace in Ruth and Babbette's Feast," 2001
8	1	"Confessions of a Deacon's Wife," 2008 April
8	2	"Creating Beloved Community" with bell hooks, 2001
8	3	Creativity-Centered Hike and Play Events, 2003
8	4	Dissolution Materials and Closing Ritual, 2009
8	5	Diversity Conversations, 2005-2007
8	6	"Drawing Deeply: Writing Over 70" Workshop, 2008
8	7	Earth Religions Workshop Materials, 2007
8	8	Eco-Feminism and Militarism Seminar, 2004
8	9	"Encountering the Religious Other" with Thomas Thangaraj, 1995, 2002
8	10	Enneagram Course, 2000-2004
9	1	Enneagram Workshop Series, 2006-2008
9	2	Environmental Seminar with Terry Tempest Williams, 2001
9	3	Feminism Course Materials, 2001

- 9 4 Feminist Bible and Forgiveness Event Records, 2008
- 9 5 Feminist Ethics and Beverly Wildung Harrison Conference, 2007
- 9 6 Feminist Leadership and Ethics, 2000-2001
- 9 7 "Feminist Spirituality" with Sister Miriam Therese Winter, 1999
- 9 8 "Festive and Frugal" Holiday Workshop, 2004
- 9 9 "Food as Sacred" Weekend Seminar with Sr. Miriam MacGillis, 2003
- 9 10 Forgiveness Retreat with Luther Smith, Jr.
- 9 11 "Forgiving Those Who Have Hurt You," with Sophy Burnham, 2008 November
- 9 12 Freeing Your Natural Voice
- 10 1 Healing and Hope Quilt Group, 2004-2005
- 10 2 Healing Service, 2004
- 10 3 Heart Listening Retreat with Dr. Elizabeth Canham, 2005
- 10 4 Holiday Art Exhibit, 2006
- 10 5 Holy Ground Anniversary Celebration, 2004
- 10 6 Holy Ground Art Exhibit Records, 2008
- 10 7 "In the Image of God" Feminist History and Language Seminar with Sara Evans, 2005
- 10 8 "Inquiry is Freedom" Workshop with Georgette Cressend, 2007 March
- 10 9 Interfaith Seder, 2007-2009
- 10 10 Interfaith Sharing Event, 2002
- 10 11 Introduction to Sufism with Dr. Neil Douglas-Klotz, 2005
- 10 12 Jan Richardson Art and Faith Retreat, 2001
- 10 13 Kind Communication Seminar with Cathy Holt, 2006
- 10 14 "Language of the Dream" Seminar
- 10 15 Laughter Yoga, 2008 October
- 10 16 Laybrinth Walk, 2001-2005
- 11 1 Laybrinth Walk, 2006-2008
- 11 2 Lectures with Roberta Bondi, 1994, 2002
- 11 3 Lesbian Spirituality, 2004
- 11 4 LGBT Educational Discussion
- 11 5 "Light in the Darkness" Epiphany Retreat, 2008 January
- 11 6 "Love's Long Uprising" Singing with Carolyn McDade, 2006
- 11 7 Luncheon Conversations, 1995-1999
- 11 8 Luncheon Conversations, 2000-2004
- 11 9 "Mary Magdalene" (Women in New Testament)
- 11 10 Men and Spirituality Brainstorming Records
- 11 11 Mindfulness Workshop, 2004
- 11 12 Mother-Daughter Retreat, 1998-2002
- 12 1 Nature Photography as Spiritual Connection Workshop, 2005
- 12 2 "Oikos" Workshop with William Everett, 2008 October

- 12 3 Old Growth Walk, 2007-2008
- 12 4 Outreach to Clergywomen, 2008
- 12 5 *People's History of the US* Book Discussion, 2007
- 12 6 Politics in Worship Workshop with Dr. William Everett, 2004
- 12 7 Prayer and Meditation Seminar, 2007
- 12 8 Progressive Islam Seminar with Ebrahim E.I. Moosa, 2006
- 12 9 Publicity
- 12 10 "Radical Gratitude" Workshop with Robin Carnes, 2007 November
- 12 11 Reclaiming our Sexual Lives Seminar with Rita Nakashima Brock, 2000
- 12 12 Religion and Peace: A Post 9/11 Response, 2002
- 12 13 "Resting in Our Deeper Selves" Workshop, 2006
- 12 14 Ritual Retreat with Gene Rollins, 1996
- 12 15 "Sabbath" Workshop, 2007
- 12 16 Sacred Circles Women's Spirituality Groups, 1999
- 12 17 Sara Jenkins Book Signing, 2008
- 13 1 Saving Jesus Seminar with Dr. Carter Heyward, 1997
- 13 2 Seasons of Contemplation and Inquiry Sessions, 2005
- 13 3 "Share Your Woman's Voice" Workshop, 2007
- 13 4 Shrine Art Project, 2006
- 13 5 Shrine Art Project, 2007
- 13 6 Silent Winter Retreat, 2002-2003
- 13 7 Simple Dying Seminar, 2008
- 13 8 Simple Living Workshop, 2002-2007
- 13 9 Simplicity Materials
- 14 1 Sister Helen Prejean Event, 1999
- 14 2 Solstice and Equinox Silence Retreats, 2008
- 14 3 Soul Circles: Spiritual Renewal for Healthcare Professionals, 2008
- 14 4 "Soul Work in the Second Half of Life" Workshop, 2006-2007
- 14 5 "Soulful Embodiment" Intensive Conference with Paula Reeves, 2008 September
- 14 6 "Soulful Embodiment" Seminar, 2007-2009
- 14 7 "Speak for Yourself" Weekly Workshop, 2006
- 14 8 Spiritual Activism Workshop with Claudia Horwitz, 2004
- 14 9 Spiritual Dimensions of Death and Dying Workshop, 2005-2006
- 14 10 Spiritual Resources for Community Leaders, 2007
- 14 11 "Spiritual Resources," 2005
- 14 12 Spirituality in the Second Half of Life Retreat with Dr. Maria Harris, 1997
- 14 13 "Stroll for your Soul", 2008
- 14 14 Summer Silence Retreat Notes, 2008 June
- 14 15 "The Art of Feeding the Spirit" with Jeanette Stokes

- 15 1 *The Inverted Crow* Booksigning and Discussion, 2006
 - 15 2 "The Sacred Feminine in Mexican Culture" with Patricia Ortega, 2006
 - 15 3 Urban Development/Asheville Demonstration
 - 15 4 Various Hike Records, 2006-2008
 - 15 5 Vision Quest Retreat, 2008
 - 15 6 "Who is Jesus?" Seminar with John Dominic Crossan, 2000
 - 15 7 Wiccan Religion Workshop, 2007 October
 - 15 8 "Wick of Desire" Singing Event with Carolyn McDade, 2008 March
 - 15 9 "Woman to Woman" Mentoring Series, 2006
 - 15 10 Women in Islam Workshop, 2005
 - 15 11 Women in the Old Testament Class, 2003
 - 15 12 Women's Interfaith Seder, 2003-2005
 - 15 13 Women's Meal Gatherings, 2000
 - 15 14 Women's Seder, 2007
 - 15 15 Women's Studies Promotion Seminar, 2008
 - 15 16 "Writing from the Gut" Workshop, 2009 January
 - 15 17 Writing the Spiritual Life Workshop, 2006
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