The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries, Union Theological Seminary, New York

Union Theological Seminary Archives 1

Finding Aid for

Edwin Oliver Kennedy Papers, 1956 – 1981

ANOTHER DECADE - 1971-81

Continuing "The Days of My Years"

Edwin O. Kennedy

FOREWORD

With the passing of another ten years, a greater perspective has given me a better chance to realize the contrasts between my early days and the contemporary world. Some of the changes have been reassuring, others terrifying. The development of nuclear power has been a boon to power-hungry nations but also an overshadowing threat of annihilation by deadly bombs. A prominent minister remarked recently that long ago the New England preacher, Jonathan Edwards, talked about "sinners in the hands of an angry God". "Today", the minister commented, "we have to worry about the power of God in the hands of angry sinners".

The Days of My Years, UTS: Edwin O. Kennedy Papers, 1856-1981, box 1, folder 2, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Finding Aid prepared by: Erin Campbell, November 2015 with financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation. Revised by Leah Edelman, February 2020.

Summary Information

Creator:	Edwin Oliver Kennedy, 1900-1997
Title:	Edwin Oliver Kennedy Papers
Inclusive dates:	1956-1981
Bulk dates:	1956-1966, 1971-1981
Abstract:	Union Theological Seminary alum, pastor and professor of practical
	theology. Collection contains correspondence and personal writings.
Size:	1 boxes, 0.25 linear feet
Storage:	Offsite storage
Repository:	The Burke Library
	Union Theological Seminary
	3041 Broadway
	New York, NY 10027
	Email: burkearchives@library.columbia.edu

Administrative Information

Provenance:	Exact provenance unknown. The Days of My Years: An Autobiography,
	1971 was donated by the Mohonk Mountain House Archives and added to
	the collection in 2020.
Access:	Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by
	appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email to
	burkearchives@library.columbia.edu, or by postal mail to The Burke Library
	address on page 1, as far in advance as possible
	Burke Library staff is available for inquiries or to request a consultation on
	archival or special collections research.
Access Restrictions	: The collection is unrestricted to readers. Certain materials, however, are in
	a fragile condition, and this may necessitate restriction in handling and
	copying. Please note that boxes are held in Offsite storage and will require
	48 hours' notice in response to a weekday request for retrieval.
Preferred Citation:	Item description, UTS: Edwin O. Kennedy Papers, 1956-1981, box #, folder
	#, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in
	the City of New York.

Biography

Edwin Oliver Kennedy was born in New York City on January 31, 1900. He attended Union College then went on to Union Theological Seminary from 1921–1924 to earn a Bachelor of Divinity before being ordained by the Presbytery Church of Albany on April 18, 1924.

Edwin O. Kennedy served as pastor of the Ridgeview Community Presbyterian Church in West Orange, New Jersey from 1924–1934. He worked as associate professor of practical theology as well as Secretary and President of the Alumni Association at Union Theological Seminary from 1952 until his retirement in 1966. Union College and Carroll College both awarded him an honorary Doctorate in Divinity and he retired from ministry in 1984.

He died on October 3, 1997 in Washington Township, New Jersey.

Sources:

"Edwin O. Kennedy, 97, Pastor And a Professor at a Seminary." The New York Times. October 26, 1997. Accessed November 10, 2015. http://www.nytimes.com/1997/10/27/nyregion/edwin-o-kennedy-97-pastor-and-a-

professor-at-a-seminary.html.

The Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York; Alumni Directory, 1836-1958. New York: Alumni Office, 1958.

Collection Scope and Content Note

The collection includes two types of materials containing personal writings and correspondence. The first is correspondence between Union Theological Seminary and Fordham University while Edwin O. Kennedy served as the secretary of the Seminary. The second is a two-part personal essay of a biographic nature written while Kennedy was in his 70s. Part two, added first, is

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entitled *The Days of My Years: Another Decade 1971 – 1981.* Part one, added later, is entitled *The Days of My Years: An Autobiography.*

Processing

Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes.

Contents list

Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	Correspondence between Union Seminary and Fordham University
1	2	The Days of My Years: Another Decade, 1971 – 1981
1	3	The Days of My Years: An Autobiography, 1971