

Congregational Library & Archives

Kenosha, Wis. First Congregational Church records, 1862-2008.
RG5212

Summary

Creator: First Congregational Church (Kenosha, Wis.)

Title: Kenosha, Wis. First Congregational Church records, 1862-2008.

Dates: 1862-1871, 1900-2008

Extent: 2 document cases (0.64 cubic feet)

Collection ID Number: RG5212

Language: English

Abstract: First Church was established in 1838 when the area was called Pike Creek until 1850 when Kenosha superseded. The collection consists of ledgers that have meeting minutes and vital statistics; membership books and lists; historical sketches; undated photographs.

Collection History and Status

Acquisition Information: Donated by Christ the King Church, current church building owners, September 2014.

Repository:

Congregational Library & Archives

14 Beacon Street

Boston, MA 02108

617-523-0470

<http://www.congregationallibrary.org>

Processing Information: Processed by Jessica Steytler, November 2014, using DACS Second Edition.

Accessing and Using the Collection

Conditions Governing Access: This collection is unrestricted and open to the public.

Copyright: Items in this collection are subject to U.S. Copyright Law. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine the copyright status of collection items and to secure any permissions necessary for their reproduction and publication. Requests for permission to publish material must be discussed with the archivist or librarian.

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of item], in the Kenosha, Wis. First Congregational Church records, 1862-2008, RG5212. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

Description

Historical Note: First Church was established in 1838 when the area was called Pike Creek until 1850 when Kenosha superseded. The congregation built their first meeting house in 1844, which served until it was replaced in 1875. In 1913, church and society reorganized and became incorporated. During the debates in the 1950s regarding the Evangelical & Reformed and Congregational Christian denominational merger, First Church opposed the merger and remained unaffiliated until they joined the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches in 1963. The decision was a contentious one and former members established the Plymouth Congregational Church. While the church counted 1500 members in the 1950s, the church membership declined and the congregation chose to disband in 2013. The building was purchased by an independent

CrossWay group, which formed the Christ the King Church. Several of the original First Church members were welcomed into the new church.

Scope of Collection: The collection consists of ledgers that have meeting minutes and vital statistics; membership books and lists; historical sketches; undated photographs. Vital statistics include baptisms, membership, deaths, and occasionally marriages. There are no original records dating to the earliest years of the church, however a member transcribed baptisms back to 1840 in the mid-20th century; it is not a complete list, however it's the most complete list available.

Further Searches

Subject Headings:

First Congregational Church (Kenosha, Wis.)
 Church records and registers - Wisconsin - Kenosha.
 Baptism.
 Kenosha (Wis.) - Church history
 Church buildings - Wisconsin - Pictorial works
 Church membership.
 Congregational churches - Wisconsin - Kenosha.
 Marriage records - Wisconsin - Kenosha.

Related Materials:

Kenosha, WI : First Congregational Church. (17.11.1 K41.28 FIRCC)

Arrangement: Materials are arranged topically.

Contents

	Date	Box 1
Church records	1900-1947	B1/V1
Church records	1947-1960	B1/F1
Church records	1961-1965	B1/V2
Vital statistics	1862-1871	B1/F3
Vital statistics	1951-1959	B2/V3
	Date	Box 2
Vital statistics	1959-1971	B2/V1
Vital statistics	1991-2008	B2/V2
Membership lists and baptism list	1954-1955	B2/F1
Baptism records, transcribed 1840-1892, 1913-1959, 1977-1979	1954	B2/F2
Membership directories	1954, 1960s	B2/F3
Membership directories	1977, 1979, 1983, 1984	B2/F4
Historical sketches	1938-1988 (gaps)	B2/F5
Photographs	undated	B2/F6