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Summit, Ill. First Congregational Church of Argo records, 1912-2010. RG5561

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Congregational Library & Archives

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Summary Information

Repository:	Congregational Library & Archives
Creator:	First Congregational Church of Argo (Summit, Ill.)
Title:	Summit, Ill. First Congregational Church of Argo records, 1912-2010.
ID:	RG5561
Date [inclusive]:	1912-2010
Physical Description:	0.35 Cubic Feet (1 box)
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	The First Congregational Church in Argo, Illinois, was gathered in 1913 and construction on its church building was completed in 1916. The church underwent renovations in 1938 and in the 1960s with an addition to the church built in 1960. The church joined with the United Church of Christ. The church likely closed sometime between 2011 and 2018. This collection contains membership records, including baptismal and marriage records, as well as early records related to the formation of the church and the construction of its building.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], in the Argo, Ill. First Congregational Church records, 1912-2010, RG5561. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

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Historical Note

The Ladies Society of Argo was founded, with help from the Congregational Sunday School and Publishing Society, on May 5, 1911. From its formation, the goal of the Ladies Society was to form a church in the Argo community, which by 1911 had been annexed by the city of Summit. That effort had multiple starts but eventually resulted in the gathering of the First

Congregational Church of Argo in 1913. Construction on a church building began in 1915 and the church dedication took place on May 7, 1916.

The church grew during the 1920s and by 1934 the mortgage for the building was paid off. The church building was renovated in 1938. The church underwent another renovation in the early 1960s and an addition to the church to support educational and recreational purposes was completed on November 6, 1960. The church joined with the United Church of Christ after the denomination's formation in 1957. The church likely closed sometime between 2011 and 2018.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains both administrative and membership records for the First Congregational Church in Argo, Illinois. The records include marriage records, baptismal records, membership records, remembrances, building records, an account book, a year book from the Women's Association, a church constitution, and a document declaring the formation of the church.

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Arrangement

This collection has been arranged in chronological order by start date.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

Access to this collection is unrestricted and open to the public.

Restrictions on Use

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.

Acquisition Information

Materials were donated to the Congregational Library & Archives by the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ in December 2024; accession number 2024-46.

Custodial History

The materials in this collection were given to the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ, likely around the time of the church's dissolution. There is no further documentation on how the materials arrived at the Illinois Conference.

Processing Information

This collection was processed by Zachary Bodnar, December 2025, according to the rules of Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Baptismal records.
- Church buildings.
- Church membership.
- Church records and registers.
- Marriage records.
- First Congregational Church of Argo (Summit, Ill.)
- Summit (Ill.) -- Church history.

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Declaration of church formation, 1912	box 1	folder 1
Account book, circa 1912	box 1	folder 2
Building records and deeds, 1912-1967	box 1	folder 3
Constitution and by-laws, circa 1913	box 1	folder 4
Church register, 1955-1993	box 1	volume 1
Women's association year book, 1958	box 1	folder 5
50th anniversary program, 1963	box 1	folder 6
Marriage records, 1985-2007	box 1	folder 7
Baptismal records, 1985-2010	box 1	folder 8
Membership records, 1988-2010	box 1	folder 9
Remembrances, 1996-2001	box 1	folder 10