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Emington, Ill. Emington Congregational Church records, 1875-2021. RG5433

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Congregational Library & Archives

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Summary Information

Repository:	Congregational Library & Archives
Title:	Emington, Ill. Emington Congregational Church records, 1875-2021.
ID:	RG5433
Date [inclusive]:	1875-2021
Physical Description:	5.98 Cubic Feet (7 boxes)
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	The Emington Congregational Church in Emington, Illinois, was established on March 23, 1875. The church building was moved from farmland to the center of Emington in 1881. A new church was built on the same location between 1905 and 1906 to accommodate the growing congregation. The church shared ministry with the Dwight Congregational Church briefly in 1931 and more permanently with the Odell Congregational Church starting in 1955. The church joined the United Church of Christ in 1964 and closed in 2021. This archival collection contains records which document the operation of the church as well as records which document the activities of the members of the church. The collection includes meeting minutes, auxiliary group records, financial records, and vital membership records.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], in the Emington, Ill. Emington Congregational Church records, 1875-2021, RG5433. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

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Historical Note

The Emington Congregational Church was established on March 23, 1875, though some of the the initial members of the church had been worshipping together since at least 1868. The original church building had been an unused church at Cedar Point. The building was

disassembled and then reassembled at a farm outside Emington. In 1881 the building was moved once again into the center of Emington where the Emington Congregational Church would remain until its eventual closure.

By 1905, the church community had outgrown their edifice and decided to build a new building. Construction began in 1905 and was completed in 1906. A fire damaged part of the roof of the church in 1927. A parsonage was built on the church's land in 1929. The Emington Congregational Church temporarily shared a minister with the Dwight Congregational Church starting in 1931. A more permanent shared ministry with the Odell Congregational Church was begun in 1955 with Rev. Esra Vornholt serving as pastor of both churches. The church joined the United Church of Christ on January 28, 1964. The church closed in 2021.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains the records of the Emington Congregational Church in Emington, Illinois and includes records which document the operation of the church as well as records which document the activities of the members of the church. The records include meeting minutes, financial records, building records, annual reports, and various versions of the church's by-laws and constitutions. The collection has extensive records relating to the church's Sunday School as well as the church's Ladies Aid Society. In addition to these two groups, the collection contains records for various church auxiliary groups. The records also include membership records and lists, baptismal records, photographs of the church building, people, and events, guest books, and member memorials.

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Arrangement

This collection has been arranged into the five series listed below. Within each series, materials have been arranged into chronological order by start date.

Series 1: Administrative records, 1875-2021

Series 2: Membership records, 1888-2019

Series 3: Sunday school records, 1893-1996

Series 4: Ladies aid society records, 1902-2007

Series 4: Programs and auxiliary group records, 1903-2015

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

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Restrictions on Use

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Acquisition Information

Materials were donated to the Congregational Library & Archives by the Emington Congregational Church in March 2022; 2022-06.

Processing Information

Processed by Zachary Bodnar, November 2024, using Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

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Bibliography

The First 100 Years: Emington Congregational Church (United Church of Christ) of Emington, Illinois. 1975.

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Collection Inventory

Administrative records, 1875-2021

Physical Description: 11 Volumes

Physical Description: 29 Folders

Scope and Contents

This series contains records related to the administration and operation of the Emington Congregational Church. The records include church meeting minutes, annual reports, board of trustees minutes, financial records, pastoral reports and communications, correspondence, constitutions and by-laws, and yearbook reports.

Title/Description	Instances	
Legal recordsI, 1875-1992	box 2	folder 1
Church records, 1887-1900, 1918	box 1	volume 1
Church records, 1901-1957	box 2	volume 1
Financial records, 1905-1907	box 1	volume 6
Financial statements, 1909, 1922-1924	box 6	folder 3
Financial records, 1910-1964	box 2	folder 2
Financial records, 1929-1958	box 2	volume 9
Search committee report, 1933	box 6	folder 19
Yearbook reports, 1938-1972	box 6	folder 5
Pastor's reports, 1940-1941	box 6	folder 6
Miscellaneous meeting minutes, 1940-1948	box 6	folder 7
Letters, 1953-2021	box 6	folder 8
Esra R. Vornholt communications and reports, 1955-1959	box 6	folder 9
Conference communications, 1957-1958	box 6	folder 12

Drawings, 1957, 1982, undated	box 2	folder 9
Financial records, 1960-1962	box 1	volume 7
Church records, 1960-1983	box 1	volume 2
Board of trustees records, 1962-1970	box 1	volume 3
Annual reports, 1962-1971	box 1	folder 1
Financial records, 1963-1966	box 1	volume 8
Miscellaneous reports, 1964, undated	box 6	folder 13
Organ certificate, 1967	box 2	folder 12
Financial records, 1967-1970	box 1	volume 9
Constitution, by-laws, and job descriptions, 1969	box 6	folder 15
Board of trustees records, 1969-1974	box 1	volume 4

Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

Loose materials were removed from this volume and placed into the folder labeled "Board of trustees records, 1973-1975" to assist in the preservation of those materials.

Deacons, 1972-1973	box 6	folder 16
Board of deacons and deaconesses records, 1972-1974	box 6	folder 17
Annual reports, 1972-1981	box 1	folder 2
Board of trustees records, 1973-1975	box 1	folder 7

Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

These loose materials were removed from the "Board of trustees records, 1969-1974" for preservation purposes.

Board of trustees records, 1975-1991	box 1	volume 5
Annual reports, 1982-1991	box 1	folder 3
Church meeting minutes, 1983-1989	box 1	folder 8
Constitution and by-laws, 1988	box 6	folder 18
Church meeting minutes, 1990-1996	box 1	folder 9
Annual reports, 1992-2001	box 1	folder 4
Church meeting minutes, 1997-2008	box 6	folder 20
Annual reports, 2002-2011	box 1	folder 5

Constitution, by-laws, and statement of faith, 2009	box 6	folder 22
Annual reports, 2012-2021	box 1	folder 6
Yoked parish agreement, undated	box 6	folder 27

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Membership records, 1888-2019

Physical Description: 3 Volumes

Physical Description: 14 Folders

Scope and Contents

This series contains vital membership records and records related to the general activities of members of the Emington Congregational Church. The records include birth and baptismal records, family records, membership records and lists, newspaper clippings, remembrances and memorials, and photographic materials.

Title/Description	Instances	
Family records, 1888-1986	box 6	folder 1
Vital member records, 1890-1961	box 1	volume 10
Birth records, 1915-1923	box 1	volume 11
Miscellaneous vital records, 1925-1984	box 2	folder 4
Baptismal and membership certificates, 1939-1943	box 2	folder 5
Clippings, 1940-1995	box 2	folder 6
Remembrances, 1944-1995	box 2	folder 7
Service certificates, 1946, 1949	box 2	folder 8
Membership list, 1957	box 6	folder 11
Vital member records, 1962-2007	box 1	volume 12
Dedication for memorials, 1965	box 6	folder 14
Centennial photographs, 1975	box 7	folder 3
Guest book, circa 2018-2019	box 6	folder 23
Church bulletins, undated	box 6	folder 25
People and event photographic materials, undated	box 7	folder 4
Church building photographic materials, undated	box 7	folder 5
Glass plates, undated	box 7	folder 6

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Sunday school records, 1893-1996

Physical Description: 66 Volumes

Physical Description: 5 Folders

Scope and Contents

This series contains records related to the Sunday School at the Emington Congregational Church. The records include teacher's records, attendance records, and meeting minutes.

Title/Description	Instances	
Sunday school teacher info cards, 1893-1958	box 7	folder 1
Sunday school records, 1893-1896	box 5	volume 1
Sunday school records, 1900-1901	box 5	volume 2
Sunday school records, 1902-1904	box 2	volume 3
Sunday school records, 1905-1910	box 2	volume 4
Sunday school class books, circa 1905-1970	box 5	folder 2
Sunday school records, 1906	box 5	volume 3
Sunday school class books, 1906-1958	box 5	folder 3
Sunday school records, 1911-1919	box 4	volume 1
Sunday school records, 1918	box 5	volume 4
Sunday school records, 1921	box 5	volume 5
Sunday school records, 1921-1922	box 5	volume 6
Sunday school records, 1921-1923	box 2	volume 5
Sunday school secretary book, 1923-1924	box 4	volume 2
Sunday school secretary book, 1924	box 4	volume 3
Sunday school secretary book, 1925	box 4	volume 4
Sunday school secretary book, 1926	box 4	volume 5
Sunday school secretary book, 1927	box 4	volume 6
Sunday school secretary book, 1928	box 4	volume 7
Sunday school secretary book, 1929	box 4	volume 8
Miscellaneous Sunday school records, 1929-1973	box 5	folder 1
Sunday school secretary book, 1930	box 4	volume 9
Sunday school secretary book, 1931	box 4	volume 10
Sunday school secretary book, 1932	box 4	volume 11
Sunday school secretary book, 1933	box 4	volume 12

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Sunday school secretary book, 1934	box 4	volume 13
Sunday school secretary book, 1935	box 4	volume 14
Sunday school secretary book, 1936	box 4	volume 15
Sunday school secretary book, 1937	box 4	volume 16
Sunday school secretary book, 1938	box 4	volume 17
Sunday school secretary book, 1939	box 4	volume 18
Sunday school secretary book, 1940	box 4	volume 19
Sunday school secretary book, 1941	box 4	volume 20
Sunday school secretary book, 1942	box 4	volume 21
Sunday school secretary book, 1943	box 4	volume 22
Sunday school secretary book, 1944	box 4	volume 23
Sunday school secretary book, 1945	box 4	volume 24
Sunday school secretary book, 1946	box 4	volume 25
Sunday school secretary book, 1947	box 4	volume 26
Sunday school secretary book, 1948	box 4	volume 27
Sunday school secretary book, 1949	box 4	volume 28
Sunday school secretary book, 1950	box 4	volume 29
Sunday school secretary book, 1951	box 4	volume 30
Sunday school secretary book, 1952	box 4	volume 31
Sunday school secretary book, 1953	box 4	volume 32
Sunday school secretary book, 1954	box 4	volume 33
Sunday school secretary book, 1955	box 5	volume 7
Sunday school secretary book, 1956	box 5	volume 8
Sunday school secretary book, 1957	box 5	volume 9
Sunday school secretary book, 1958	box 5	volume 10
Sunday school secretary book, 1959	box 5	volume 11
Sunday school secretary book, 1960	box 5	volume 12
Sunday school secretary book, 1961	box 5	volume 13
Sunday school class books, 1961-1970, 1995-1996	box 5	folder 4
Sunday school secretary book, 1962	box 5	volume 14
Sunday school secretary book, 1963	box 5	volume 15
Sunday school secretary book, 1964	box 5	volume 16

Sunday school secretary book, 1965	box 5	volume 17
Sunday school secretary book, 1966	box 5	volume 18
Sunday school secretary book, 1967	box 5	volume 19
Sunday school secretary book, 1968	box 5	volume 20
Sunday school secretary book, 1969	box 5	volume 21
Sunday school secretary book, 1970	box 5	volume 22
Sunday school secretary book, 1971-1972	box 5	volume 23
Sunday school secretary book, 1972-1973	box 5	volume 24
Sunday school secretary book, 1973-1974	box 5	volume 25
Sunday school secretary book, 1975	box 5	volume 26
Sunday school secretary book, 1976-1977	box 5	volume 27
Sunday school secretary book, 1977-1978	box 5	volume 28
Sunday school secretary book, 1979-1980	box 5	volume 29
Sunday school secretary book, 1980-1981	box 5	volume 30

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Ladies aid society records, 1902-2007

Physical Description: 18 Volumes

Physical Description: 8 Folders

Scope and Contents

This series contains records related to the Ladies aid society of the Emington Congregational Church. The records include the meeting minutes for the auxiliary group as well as financial records, correspondence, and an early copy of the group's by-laws.

Title/Description	Instances	
Ladies aid society records, 1902-1910	box 2	volume 2
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		
Separated Materials		
Loose materials were removed from this volume and placed into the folder labeled "Ladies aid society by-laws, 1914" to assist in the preservation of those materials.		
Ladies aid society records, 1911-1919	box 3	volume 1
Ladies aid society by-laws, 1914	box 3	folder 1
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		

Separated Materials

These loose materials were removed from the "Ladies aid society records, 1902-1910" for preservation purposes.

Ladies aid society records, 1919-1923	box 3	volume 2
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Ladies aid society records, 1924-1932	box 3	volume 3
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

Loose materials were removed from this volume and placed into the folder labeled "Ladies aid society correspondence, 1933-1940" to assist in the preservation of those materials.

Ladies aid society records, 1933-1939	box 3	volume 4
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Ladies aid society correspondence, 1933-1940	box 3	folder 2
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

These loose materials were removed from the "Ladies aid society records, 1924-1932" for preservation purposes.

Ladies aid society records, 1939-1943	box 2	volume 6
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Ladies aid society records, 1943-1946	box 3	volume 5
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Ladies aid society records, 1947-1950	box 3	volume 6
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Ladies aid society records, 1950-1954	box 3	volume 7
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

Loose materials were removed from this volume and placed into the folder labeled "Ladies aid society reports, 1951-1953" to assist in the preservation of those materials.

Ladies aid society reports, 1951-1953	box 3	folder 3
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

These loose materials were removed from the "Ladies aid society records, 1950-1954" for preservation purposes.

Ladies aid society records, 1954-1958	box 3	volume 8
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

Loose materials were removed from this volume and placed into the folder labeled "Ladies aid society treasurer reports, 1955, 1957" to assist in the preservation of those materials.

Ladies aid society treasurer reports, 1955, 1957	box 3	folder 4
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

These loose materials were removed from the "Ladies aid society records, 1954-1958" for preservation purposes.

Ladies aid society records, 1958-1964	box 3	volume 9
Ladies aid society collections book, 1959	box 3	volume 14
Ladies aid society records, 1960-1966	box 3	volume 15
Ladies aid society records, 1965-1968	box 3	volume 10
Ladies aid society financial records, 1967-1975	box 3	volume 16
Ladies aid society records, 1969-1972	box 3	volume 11
Ladies aid society records, 1973-1975	box 3	volume 12
Ladies aid society financial records, 1976-2008	box 3	volume 13
Ladies aid society records, 1980-1988	box 3	folder 5
Ladies aid society records, 1989-2007	box 3	folder 6
Ladies aid society financial records, 1990-1998	box 3	folder 7
Ladies aid society financial records, 1995-2003	box 3	folder 8

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Programs and auxiliary group records, 1903-2015

Physical Description: 7 Volumes

Physical Description: 16 Folders

Scope and Contents

This series contains records related to various auxiliary groups at the Emington Congregational Church as well as programs and events held by the church. The records include Christian Endeavor records, Little Six Pilgrim League records, Study guild minutes, Pilgrim fellowship records, Men's fellowship records, Memorial and Historical committee records, a book related to the mother-daughter banquet held at the church, records and programs related to church anniversaries, Happy hour study group records, and Friendship circle records.

Title/Description

Instances

Christian Endeavor booklet, 1903	box 6	folder 2
Christian Endeavor Society records, 1903-1907, 1913	box 2	volume 7
Christian Endeavor Society records, 1917-1925	box 2	volume 8
Congregational Education Society certificate, 1925	box 2	folder 3
The Little Six Pilgrim League records, 1937-1940	box 6	folder 4
Study guild minutes, 1954-1973	box 3	folder 9
Anniversaries, 1955-2015	box 6	folder 10
Pilgrim fellowship records, 1961-1963	box 3	folder 10
Pilgrim fellowship records, 1962-1970	box 3	volume 17
Men's Fellowship book, 1962-1967	box 2	folder 10
Vacation Bible school records, 1962-1975	box 7	folder 2
Memorial fund book, 1963-1974	box 2	folder 11
90th anniversary guest book, 1965	box 2	volume 10
Mother-daughter banquet book, 1969-1973	box 2	folder 13
Memorial committee records, 1971-1975	box 3	folder 11
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		
Separated Materials		
A 1974 letter was removed from the very front of the "Memorial committee records, 1974-1983" volume and placed into this folder for preservation purposes.		
Memorial committee records, 1974-1983	box 3	volume 18
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		
Separated Materials		
A 1974 letter was removed from the very beginning of this volume and placed into the folder labeled "Memorial committee records, 1971-1975" to assist in the preservation of that item.		
Historical committee records, 1975-1976	box 3	volume 19
Happy hour study group records, 1980-1985	box 3	volume 20
<u>Separated Materials:</u>		
Separated Materials		
Loose materials were removed from this volume and placed into the folder labeled "Happy hour study group records, undated" to assist in the preservation of those materials.		
Friendship circle, 2007-2013	box 6	folder 21

Happy hour study group records, undated	box 3	folder 12
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Separated Materials:

Separated Materials

These loose materials were removed from the "Happy hour study group records, 1980-1985" for preservation purposes.

List of filmstrips, undated	box 6	folder 24
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Program evaluation questionnaire, undated	box 6	folder 26
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Pilgrim fellowship constitution, undated	box 6	folder 28
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