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Chicago, Ill. California Avenue Congregational Church records, 1887-1935. RG5253

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Congregational Library & Archives

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Summary Information

Repository:	Congregational Library & Archives
Creator:	California Avenue Congregational Church (Chicago, Ill.)
Title:	Chicago, Ill. California Avenue Congregational Church records, 1887-1935.
ID:	RG5253
Date [inclusive]:	1887-1935
Physical Description:	0.35 Cubic Feet (1 box)
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	The California Avenue Congregational Church was first gathered in 1883 and the church building was constructed in 1887. The church federated with the Monroe Street Church of Christ to form the Monroe Street Federated Church in 1918. The church dissolved in 1933. This collection primarily contains administrative and membership related records and includes vital membership records, church meeting minutes, a newsletter, and directory.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], in the Chicago, Ill. California Avenue Congregational Church records, 1887-1935, RG5253. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

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Historical Note

The California Avenue Congregational Church was first gathered in 1883. Construction on a brick church building, located at 101 S. California Avenue, was completed in 1887. Changing demographics in the East Garfield Park neighborhood meant that the congregation was struggling to maintain membership by the 1910s. In 1918, the church federated with the Monroe Street Church of Christ to form the Monroe Street Federated Church. The church dissolved in 1933.

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Scope and Contents

This collection primarily contains administrative and membership related records from the California Avenue Congregational Church in Chicago, Illinois. The collection includes church meeting minutes, vital membership records, including baptismal and marriage records, a 1918 edition of the church's newsletter, and a 1935 directory of the church's membership.

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Arrangement

Materials in this collection have 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

The "Church records, 1887-1891" record volume was donated to the Congregational Library & Archives by the Chicago Theological Seminary in April 2014; accession number 2014-100. All other materials were donated to by the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ in December 2024; accession number 2024-46.

Processing Information

This collection was initially sorted and described by Rachel Cohen, 2014. The collection was processed by Zachary Bodnar, April 2024, according to the rules of Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Baptismal records.
- Church membership.
- Church records and registers.
- Marriage records.
- Prohibition.
- World War, 1914-1918 -- Religious aspects.
- California Avenue Congregational Church (Chicago, Ill.)
- Chicago (Ill.) -- Church history.
- Monroe Street Federated Church (Chicago, Ill.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Church records, 1887-1891	box 1	volume 1
Church records, 1892-1911	box 1	volume 2

Chicago, Ill. California Avenue Congregational Church records, 1887-1935. RG5253

Church records, 1912-1917	box 1	volume 3
Our Greeting newsletter, 1918	box 1	folder 1
Member directory, 1935	box 1	folder 2
