

Information Sheet

**R 730 First Congregational Church (Neosho, Mo.).
Manual, 1868.
One folder.**

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

This is the *Manual of the First Congregational Church of Neosho, Missouri*, printed by E. Skewes & Co. of Neosho, Newton County, Missouri, in 1868. It includes a brief history of the congregation, which was organized in 1866.

Congregationalism came to Neosho on 12 August 1866, at a public meeting called to organize a Congregational Church in the community. There were eight original members, including E. H. Benham, E. Skewes, James R. Woolfenden, N. H. and Carrie P. Dale, and Andrew M., Sarah S., and Rhoda Stewart. The Rev. Heaton Hill began monthly services in October 1866, and a year later the Rev. C. S. Shattuck was engaged as the permanent pastor. As of 1 January 1868 the congregation had 22 members.

This twenty-page booklet has sections entitled "Organic Principles," "History," "Articles of Faith," "Covenant," "Constitution," "Rules of Business at Meetings," "Invitation to Communion," "Discipline," and "Form of Church Letter." The covers to the booklet have been lost.

Also included in the collection is the *Manual of the Principles, Doctrines and Usages of Congregational Churches, Compiled for Use in the Organization of Churches in Missouri* (Second Edition, St. Louis: E. P. Studley & Co., 1868). This booklet outlines in some detail the beliefs and practices of Congregational churches.

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