



Good Hope Church, Webster County, Missouri Records (SP0112)

Collection Number: SP0112

Collection Title: Good Hope Church, Webster County, Missouri Records

Dates: 1859-1901

Creator: Good Hope Church (Webster County, Mo.)

Abstract: The Good Hope Church, Webster County, Missouri Records contains a volume of the church's records, including membership lists, the articles of faith, rules of decorum, meeting minutes of the church leaders, and letters of fellowship and good standing. This collection also includes handwritten notes and transcriptions completed on the volume.

Collection Size: 0.5 cubic foot
(1 folder, 1 volume)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research but may be stored offsite. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield](https://www.shsmo.org/research-center-springfield). If you would like more information, please contact us at springfield@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: Materials in this collection are in the public domain.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Good Hope Church, Webster County, Missouri Records* (SP0112); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Springfield].

Donor Information: The records were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by the Ozarks Genealogical Society on October 2, 2024 (Accession No. SPA0143).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Good Hope Church, Webster County, Missouri Records can be found in the following collections:

[*Webster Baptist Association of Missouri Booklets*](#) (R1201)

[*Ozark Association of Primitive Baptists Missouri Minutes*](#) (R0995)

[*Osage River Association of Regular Baptists Records*](#) (R0285)

Processed by: Processed by Elayna Eastin, January 9, 2026

Historical Note:

Good Hope Church, also known as Good Hope Baptist Church, is considered one of the oldest Baptist churches of Webster County, Missouri. Located in Marshfield, the church was organized in 1845 and transferred in name from the Baptist Church in Christ to Good Hope Church after 1858. The leaders of the church began ledgering minutes in 1858 and bought land in Webster County in 1861. Within the same time frame, the church also joined the county's Zion Association, a Baptist fellowship connecting the churches in the area.

Arrangement:

The collection has been kept in its original order.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains both a folder of notes and transcription work and a volume of Good Hope Church's records. Written by Connie Hutchins, the folder of notes and transcription work offers a brief overview of the church in its founding years, a membership list of the church from 1865-1955, including dates of baptisms, deaths, and letters of transfer to another church, and a summary of the church's minutes with page numbers. The photocopied pages of member lists originally included with these notes have been placed in the administration folder of the collection and can be viewed upon request. There is no date, however, for when the notes or transcriptions were completed.

The volume of the church's records, ranging from 1858 to 1901, contains membership lists of both the female and male members of the church, the articles of faith, rules of decorum, meeting minutes of the church leaders, and letters of fellowship and good standing for members transferring to another church. The minutes of the church leaders detail the goings-on of the church beginning in 1858, recording various votes, monthly reports, new and old business within the church, charges brought against members, and even community reports. In one entry, they describe how the members were unable to meet on October 3, 1864, due to Price's Raid, also known as Price's Missouri Expedition, a Confederate calvary raid through Arkansas, Missouri, and Kansas during the Civil War. The volume also contains the letters of transfer for members seeking membership within a new church, including the name of the person, their standing with the church, and where they are transferring to. These letters, often submitted by the pastor, were used as verification that the member seeking transfer was active and in good standing within the church, committed to their faith, and ensured the integrity of the new membership. This collection has been kept in its original order.

Container List:

Records

OS Box 001	f. 1	Transcription notes, no date
	v. 1	Records, 1859-1901

Index:

Index Terms	Folder	Mediums
Baptist church--Missouri	1	v. 1
Good Hope Church (Webster County, Mo.)	1	v. 1
Hutchins, Connie	1	
Marshfield (Mo.)	1	v. 1
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865	1	v. 1
Webster County (Mo.)	1	v. 1