



State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives

**ENON PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
(SHELBYVILLE, TENN.)
RECORDS,
1821-2008**

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:

Enon Primitive Baptist Church (Shelbyville, Tenn.)

Inclusive Dates:

1821-2008

Scope & Content:

The Enon Primitive Baptist Church Records span the period 1821-2008. The collection is composed of constitutions, membership materials, and minute books.

The constitutions (Box 1, f. 1) include bylaws, constitutions, names of deceased church members, articles of faith, and some conference minutes. A statement of faith, dated 1869, for the members of Mount Olivet Baptist Church in Lincoln County, Tennessee, is also included with the constitutions.

The membership materials (Box 1, f. 2) contain membership lists, letters of transfer, and disputes. One page of meeting minutes from 1858 is also included.

The minutes (Box 1, f. 3-Box 2, f. 4) include minute books, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and printed booklets. The printed booklets (Box 2, f. 4) are titled: "Minutes of the Fountain Creek Association of Primitive Baptists" (dated 1874), "Minutes of the Cumberland Association of the Primitive Order of Baptists" (dated 1886), "Minutes of the Cumberland Association of the Primitive Order of Baptists" (dated 1896), "Minutes of the One Hundred-Fourteenth Annual Session of the Cumberland Association of Primitive Baptists" (dated 1916), and "Minutes of the One Hundred Ninety-Seventh Annual Session of the Cumberland Association of Primitive Baptists" (dated 1999). In keeping with the original arrangement of the collection, loose items have remained in place where they

occur in the minute books. Dates described in the container list reflect dates of minute books and loose materials. The actual date ranges of the minutes are 1821-1857 (Box 1, f. 3), 1865-1885 (Box 2, f. 1), 1886-1919 (box 2, f. 2), 1938-1989 (Box 2, f. 3), and 1989-2008 (Box 2, f. 4).

Physical Description/Extent:

Microfilm reel, 35mm

Accession/Record Group Number:

Mf. 1999

Language:

English

Permanent Location:

Mf. 1999 (available only on microfilm)

Repository:

Tennessee State Library and Archives, 403 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee, 37243-0312

Administrative/Biographical History

The Enon Primitive Baptist Church was established in 1794 in what was then North Carolina (now Shelbyville, Bedford County, Tennessee). James T. Byler donated the land that the first church building was built on. The land was originally from a land grant issued by the Federal Government. The first building was built around 1800. The church was constituted in August 1821 and received its first African American member ("Major Byler's Black Boy Emmanuel") in November 1823. In August of 1842, the church received a Sister Finny as a deaconess. Around 1902, the church began meeting in a new building. On October 16, 1915, the church ordained and gave credentials to Elder R. N. Graves. Graves became pastor of the church in 1916 and served the church in this capacity for forty years. On January 16, 1977, the church ordained Brother W. H. Reed, Jr. He served as pastor for twenty-six years. Other pastors of Enon Church include: Balaam Izzel, Lewis Heath, J. Stephens, Henry Walker, John Milton, R. W. Fain, John E. Frost, John W. Burge, T. J. Taylor, T. M. Ezell, J. K. Womack, W. J. Covington, S. L. Pettus, Thompson Wood, J. S. Read, H. R. White, and D. Stovall. The congregation is a member of the Cumberland Association of Primitive Baptists.

Source: Information in the biographical note was gleaned from various items within this collection and from the following source:

Read, James S. *History of Enon Church: Bedford County, Tennessee*.
Atwood, TN: Christian Baptist Publishing Company, 1978. Print.

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

The original order of the collection was maintained.

Conditions of Access and Use

Restrictions on Access:

No restrictions.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:

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Index Terms

Corporate Names/Organizations/Government Bodies:

Enon Primitive Baptist Church (Shelbyville, Tenn.)

Subjects:

Baptists -- Tennessee -- Bedford County

Document Types:

Bylaws (administrative records)
Constitutions
Membership lists
Minute books

Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition:

This collection was loaned to the Tennessee State Library and Archives by Brenda Lambert of Shelbyville, Tennessee, on June 28, 2011. The collection was microfilmed by TSLA and returned to the donor.

Processing and Administrative Information**Preferred Citation:**

Enon Primitive Baptist Church Records, 1821-2008, Tennessee State Library and Archives

Processing Information:

The collection was reviewed and prepared for microfilming by Jody Trisdale and Lori D. Lockhart, April 9, 2012.

Existence and Location of Originals:

Held privately.

Electronic Location and Access:

<http://www.tennessee.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/findingaids/mf1999.pdf>

DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

CONTAINER LIST

| Contents/Item Title | Date | Box | Folder |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Constitution | 1858-1893, n.d. | 1 | 1 |
| Membership materials | 1828-1874, 1920-1939, n.d. | 1 | 2 |
| Minutes | 1821-1857 | 1 | 3 |
| Minutes | 1865-1885 | 2 | 1 |
| Minutes | 1886-1939, 1964 | 2 | 2 |
| Minutes | 1918-1989, n.d. | 2 | 3 |
| Minutes | 1874-2008, n.d. | 2 | 4 |