



State of Tennessee  
Department of State  
Tennessee State Library and Archives

**SPRINGHILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
(DYER COUNTY, TENN.) RECORDS,  
1886-1959**

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**COLLECTION SUMMARY**

**Creator:**

Springhill Baptist Church (Dyer County, Tenn.)

**Inclusive Dates:**

1886-1959, bulk 1886-1918

**Scope & Content:**

The Springhill Baptist Church (Dyer County, Tenn.) Records span the period 1886-1959, with the bulk of the materials dating to 1886-1918. The collection is composed of letters related to membership transfers, notices of reception, two record books, and a legal history of the church.

The *Legal History of Springhill Baptist Church* (Box 1, f. 1) is a typescript history of the deed to the church property. It is dated November 22, 1959, and is signed by Edmund Tansil Palmer.

The membership transfers (Box 1, f. 2) are comprised of church letters, dismissal letters, and one piece of correspondence requesting a church letter for Mrs. Jocie Criswell Jackson. They extend over the period 1943-1945. Included among the materials are items related to Lenox Baptist Church (Dyersburg, Tenn.), Zion Hill Baptist Church (Guntown, Miss.), Parrish Chapel Baptist Church (Dyersburg, Tenn.), First Baptist Church (Dyersburg, Tenn.), and First Baptist Church (Maryville, Tenn.).

The notices of reception (Box 1, f. 3) contain notifications of acceptance into the church fellowship based on letters of transfer from other churches. They span the

period 1943-1946. Each notice is signed by the church clerk. Signatures include those of M. L. Ragsdale, Mrs. E. G. Sanders, and J. B. Williams. Individuals receiving notifications are: Blondell Thomas, Adron Presley, the Rev. M. E. Presley, Lizzie Presley, and Mr. & Mrs. Don McBride.

The record books (Box 1, f. 4-5) are composed of two volumes that contain minutes of the transactions and proceedings of the church. In addition to the minutes, the first volume (Box 1, f.4), dated 1886-1902, contains membership lists. The second tome (Box 1, f.5) is dated 1902-1918 and contains promissory inscriptions for members to pay the preachers' salary. Various examples of expelling people from the church can be seen in the volumes. The record from August 1890 (Box 1, f.4) mentions that "the church withdrew fellowship from sister Lori Garrison for joining the Campbellites," and minutes from December 1890 (Box 1, f.4) state that "the church withdrew fellowship from Burt Wilson for drunkenness." It might be noted that Bro. Wilson "was restored to full fellowship" in the September 1891 actions.

**Physical Description/Extent:**

0.25 linear feet

**Accession/Record Group Number:**

Mf. 2021

**Language:**

English

**Permanent Location:**

Mf. 2021 (available only on microfilm)

**Repository:**

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

## **Administrative/Biographical History**

Springhill Baptist Church in Dyer County, Tennessee, was founded on September 19, 1886. At the time of its organization, the church voted to petition for membership in the Friendship Baptist Association. On October 3, 1886, H. D. Clift was elected pastor and J. H. Crenshaw and John Palmer, Sr. were elected deacons. John Palmer donated the land for the church. On September 27, 1887, he gave his son, John T. Palmer, a 33-acre tract of land which excludes "two acres of land from the northwest corner of this 33 acre tract which I have heretofore

given to the Missionary Baptist for preaching purposes.” The church is currently a member of the Dyer Baptist Association of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Source: Information in the biographical note was gleaned from various items within the collection.

## **Organization/Arrangement of Materials**

The arrangement of the collection is alphabetical.

## **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:**

First Baptist Church (Dyersburg, Tenn.) -- History -- Sources  
First Baptist Church (Maryville, Tenn.) -- History -- Sources  
Lenox Baptist Church (Dyersburg, Tenn.) -- History -- Sources  
Parrish Chapel Baptist Church (Dyersburg, Tenn.) -- History -- Sources  
Springhill Baptist Church (Dyer County, Tenn.) -- Records and  
correspondence  
Zion Hill Baptist Church (Guntown, Miss.) -- History -- Sources

### **Subjects:**

Baptists -- History -- Tennessee -- Sources

### **Document Types:**

Membership lists  
Minute books

## **Acquisition and Appraisal**

### **Provenance and Acquisition:**

This collection was loaned to the Tennessee State Library and Archives by William Dudley of Houston, Texas, on September 26, 2012. The collection was microfilmed and returned to the donor.

## **Processing and Administrative Information**

### **Preferred Citation:**

Springhill Baptist Church Records (Dyer County, Tenn.), 1886-1959,  
Tennessee State Library and Archives

### **Processing Information:**

The collection was reviewed and prepared for microfilming by Lori D. Lockhart in October 2012.

### **Existence and Location of Originals:**

Held privately.

### **Electronic Location and Access:**

<http://www.tennessee.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/findingaids/mf2021.pdf>

## DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

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### CONTAINER LIST

<b>Contents/Item Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
<i>Legal History of Spring Hill Baptist Church</i>	1959	1	1
Membership transfers	1943-1945	1	2
Notices of reception	1943-1946	1	3
Record book	1886-1902	1	4
Record book	1902-1918	1	5