



Southwest Missouri Church Records (SP0123)

Collection Number: SP0123

Collection Title: Southwest Missouri Church Records

Dates: 1839-1991

Creator: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Abstract: The Southwest Missouri Church Records is an artificial collection combining acquisitions related to various churches and individuals, focusing on church records such as record books, minutes, marriage records, and church histories. The collection features the counties of Barry, Christian, Greene, Newton, Ozark, and Webster.

Collection Size: 0.5 cubic foot
(16 folders)

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](#). 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 may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Rights & Reproductions](#) on the Society's website for more information and about reproductions and permission to publish.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Southwest Missouri Church Records* (SP0123); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Springfield].

Donor Information: Please see the administration folder for donor information. Further accruals are expected.

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Southwest Missouri Church Records can be found in the following collections:

[*Renshaw and McLin Family Papers*](#) (SP0087)

[*St. Paul Methodist Church, Springfield, Missouri, Newsletter*](#) (R0886)

[*Southwest Missouri Collection*](#) (SP0017)

[*Missouri Church Records*](#) (C0558)

[*Southern and Central Missouri Collection*](#) (R1442)

[*Robert S. Wiley Collection*](#) (R0521)

[*Greene County Baptist Association Minutes*](#) (R1034)

Processed by: Processed by Elayna Eastin, May 28, 2026

Historical Note:

See the administration folder for the historical note on this collection.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following 6 series:

Barry County, Missouri
Christian County, Missouri
Greene County, Missouri
Newton County, Missouri
Ozark County, Missouri
Webster County, Missouri

Scope and Content Note:

Barry County, Missouri

This series contains materials related to the Mars Hill Church and Cemetery of Barry County, Missouri. The church booklet, published in 1969, includes a comprehensive history of the church and its role within the county through the years, as well as the early settlers of both the church and the cemetery. This series has been kept in its original order.

Christian County, Missouri

This series consists of materials pertaining to the Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church of Christian County, Missouri. The Mt. Sinai Church booklet, dated 1957, includes a history of the church, details on the centennial celebration, sketches of early church minutes, and a record of all church pastors since 1891. This series has been kept in its original order.

Greene County, Missouri

This series contains the records of multiple Greene County, Missouri churches, as well as the marriage records of officiant Edward Buttram through the Church of Christ. The Bois D'Arc Baptist Church register includes handwritten notes on the church denoting its 109 members, its 58 converts to the church, and a list from a public offering held, which also includes the amount in tithe paid by each person listed.

The marriage records of Edward Buttram, minister of the Church of Christ in Greene County, Missouri, include both an index of the marriages he officiated and photocopies of the marriage certificates, dating from 1919 to 1973. While multiple Missouri counties are included within these records, such as Christian and Douglas counties, they predominately highlight the Greene County area, so they have been placed here within this series.

This series also includes the histories of the First Congregational Church, the Saint Paul Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Wade Chapel Cemetery, all of Greene County, Missouri. The First Congregational Church booklet details the history of the church from 1869 to 1969, its role in the founding of Drury College, now known as Drury University, and the many locations the church inhabited over the decades. It also gives an overview of the Women's Organizations and their traditions, including the annual Goose Supper and their passed-down recipes. The Saint Paul Methodist Episcopal Church history, dated 1904, details a brief history of the church from 1831 to 1904, including charter members and an account of what happened to the church during the American Civil War. The Wade Chapel Cemetery booklet, dated 1967, details the history of the cemetery beginning in 1854 and includes a photograph of the William Penn Cabin, Dade County's first courthouse.

The Prospect Baptist Church record book includes two photocopies of the church's record book. These records contain the articles of faith, rules of order, register, and church minutes from both 1840 to 1877 and 1892 to 1937.

The photocopies of the Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church record book include the minutes of the church, dating as early as 1839 to 1874, and the birth and baptismal records of its members. There are also photocopies of Reverend George A. M. Renshaw's diary which includes daily entries from 1844 to 1845 and a short excerpt from 1848.

The Sacred Heart and St. Joseph's Churches official service book includes church service information for both churches of Greene County, Missouri. Dating from 1916 to 1921, the booklet includes a historical, biographical sketch of both the Sacred Heart Parish and their reverends, as well as a historical overview of and service guidelines for the St. Joseph's Church. The front and back of the booklet include advertisements for various businesses around Springfield, Missouri, including banks, florists, clothing companies, and more.

The directories of the Saint Paul Methodist Episcopal Church and South Street Christian Church include the names and addresses of their church members. The Saint Paul Methodist Episcopal Church directory, dating from both 1914 to 1915 and 1925 to 1926, also includes the financial statements of the members, detailing the amounts they paid towards the church's salaries, incidentals, and conference collections. The South Street Christian Church directory, dated 1913,

includes member lists of the church's officers, committees, organizations, members, and a brief history of the church. This series has been arranged in alphabetical order by church and then chronological order.

Newton County, Missouri

This series contains photocopies, made in 1989, of the Richland Creek Church of Regular Baptists record book. The records contain the rules of decorum, articles of faith, and meeting minutes from the church's beginning in 1842 to 1859. This series has been kept in its original order.

Ozark County, Missouri

This series contains the record book of the Oak Dale Sunday School, including the register of officers, classes, scholars, and pupils, brief minutes of the Sunday school, detailing the opening and closing of the school each day, and the school's attendance. The record book predominately focuses on 1905 but also includes records from 1910 to 1911 and 1918. This series has been kept in its original order.

Webster County, Missouri

This series contains the marriage record book of the officiant Frederick Miller. The book, dating from 1912 to 1914 and 1923, includes the marriage certificates and records of Webster County, Missouri, witnessed and officiated by Mr. Miller. This series was kept in its original order.

Container List:

Barry County, Missouri

Box 001 f. 1 Mars Hill Church and Cemetery history, 1969

Christian County, Missouri

f. 2 Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church booklet, 1957

Greene County, Missouri

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 f. 4 Edward Buttram Marriage records, 1919-1976
 f. 5 First Congregational Church history, 1969, 1991
 f. 6 Prospect Baptist Church record book, 1840-1877, 1892-1937
 f. 7 Mt. Zion Presbyterian Church records, 1839-1874
 f. 8 Reverend George A.M. Renshaw diary, 1844-1845, 1848
 f. 9 Sacred Heart and St. Joseph Churches service book. 1916-1921
 f. 10 Saint Paul Methodist Episcopal Church history, 1904
 f. 11 Saint Paul Methodist Episcopal Church directories, 1914-1925

- f. 12 South Street Christian Church directory, 1913
 f. 13 Wade Chapel Cemetery history, 1967

Newton County, Missouri

- f. 14 Richland Creek Church of Regular Baptists record book, 1842-1861

Ozark County, Missouri

- f. 15 Oak Dale Sunday School records, 1905-1918

Webster County, Missouri

- f. 16 Frederick Miller marriage records, 1912-1914, 1923

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Index Terms	Folder	Image
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