

## Information Sheet

**R**      **Beaver Creek United Baptist Church (Phelps County, Mo.).**  
**219**      **Records, 1866-1888.**  
            **Two volumes.**

### **MICROFILM**

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri). If you would like more information, please contact us at [shsresearch@umsystem.edu](mailto:shsresearch@umsystem.edu).

These are minutes of meetings and membership records of the Beaver Creek Baptist Church in Phelps County, Missouri. The church was founded in 1866 as Willow Spring Baptist Church, and was relocated and renamed in 1874.

Eleven charter members organized the Willow Spring Baptist Church after a protracted meeting on Little Dry Fork Creek near Rolla, 13-25 August 1866. George Sturdivant was the first pastor. The congregation met at different locations, including the homes of its members. In January 1874 the members voted to move the meeting place westward to Beaver Creek, and in June 1874 they reorganized as the Beaver Creek United Baptist Church. The designation as "United" appears to have lapsed into disuse by 1875, the same year in which the congregation dedicated its church building.

The church was affiliated with the Bourbois Baptist Association until 1877, when it transferred to the Dixon Baptist Association.

The record books of the Willow Spring and Beaver Creek churches were in the long-time possession of James S. Spencer (1838-1927), an early member, clerk, and deacon of the church. Printed minutes of the annual meetings of the Bourbois Baptist Association, 1877, and the Dixon Baptist Association, 1884, have been removed from these volumes and have been cataloged separately. James S. Spencer was Beaver Creek's delegate to those meetings.

*r298*              *16 July 1985*              *Mary Morris*              *Loaned for microfilming*

### Shelf List

These are minutes of meetings and membership records of the Beaver Creek Baptist Church in Phelps County, Missouri. The church was founded in 1866 as Willow Spring Baptist Church, and was relocated and renamed in 1874.

Volume 1: Willow Spring Baptist Church (Phelps County, Mo.), record book, 1866-1874 (57 pp.).

Pages 03-12	Minutes of organizational and regular meetings, 13 August 1866 to 9 December 1866
Pages 13-15	Roll of members, 13 August 1866 to 2 May 1874.
Pages 16-24	Blank or missing.
Pages 25-57	Minutes of regular meetings, 8 June 1867 to 5 April 1874.
Enclosure	Advertisement for church record books and forms, Graves & Mahaffy, Memphis, Tennessee, n.d.

Volume 2: Beaver Creek United Baptist Church (Phelps County, Mo.), record book, 1874-1888  
(101 pages).

- [No numbers] Roll of members, 1 June 1874 (9 pages and typescript).
- Pages 01-10 Church covenant, 6 June 1874.
- Pages 11-12 Rules of Decorum, 4 July 1874.
- Pages 13-92 Minutes of meetings, 2 May 1874 to 29 June 1888.
- Enclosure Arthur D. Brown, Garfield (Ark.), to James S. Spencer, Rolla (Mo.), 19 November 1888.
- Enclosure "Subscription to support a Pastor," n.d.

r298

16 July 1985

Mary Morris

Loaned for microfilming

**Index Cards**

Beaver Creek Baptist Church (Phelps County, Mo.).  
Beaver Creek United Baptist Church (Phelps County, Mo.).  
Bourbois Baptist Association (Mo.).  
Brown, Arthur D.  
Church records and registers—Missouri—Phelps County.  
Churches—Missouri—Phelps County.  
Churches, Baptist—Missouri—Phelps County.  
Dixon Baptist Association (Mo.).  
Phelps County (Mo.).  
Rural churches—Missouri—Phelps County.  
Spencer, James S., 1838-1927.  
Watts, John J., 1839-1912.  
Willow Spring Baptist Church (Phelps County, Mo.).