

Information Sheet

R Rock Springs Baptist Church (Barry County, Mo.).
397 Records, 1869-1990.
Four volumes.

MICROFILM

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These are records of the Rock Springs Baptist Church, a United Baptist congregation near Washburn in the southwestern quarter of Barry County, Missouri. The records include minutes of meetings, membership records, and statistical information.

Twenty-four United or Missionary Baptists organized the Rock Springs Baptist Church near Washburn, formerly Keetsville, on 1 March 1869. The Rogers, Roller, Seamster, and Sparkman families were among the early members. William Seamster was elected moderator and F. M. Seamster was elected clerk. Meetings were held in various locations during the early years of the church, including sites at Rock Springs and at the People's School in Washburn. There were also occasional joint meetings with the Mount Pleasant, New Salem, and Washburn Prairie Baptist churches. The congregation built its own church in 1896 on land deeded by J. A. Roller. The building continues in use to the present. Membership, which surpassed one hundred individuals by the 1940s, has declined in recent years. The church has been affiliated, in turn, with the Spring River, Shoal Creek, and Barry County Baptist Associations.

The records of the Rock Springs Baptist Church consist of four record books. Each contains minutes of monthly congregational meetings held to transact routine church business, which included the admittance and transfer of members, occasional expulsion of members for unchristian conduct, appointments of delegates to local association meetings, appointments of ministers and church officials, and maintenance of church property. The minutes of meetings are complete from 1 March 1869 through 11 March 1990.

Volumes 1-3 include membership records. The rosters were updated in 1913 and 1943, but are not entirely complete. Volume 3 includes statistical material on total membership and financial support of the church, ca. 1943-1970.

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Shelf List

These are records of the Rock Springs Baptist Church, a United Baptist congregation near Washburn in the southwestern quarter of Barry County, Missouri. The records include minutes of meetings, membership records, and statistical information.

- Volume 1: Record book, 1869-1896 (188 pages).
Minutes of meetings, March 1869 -- May 1896
Membership records, pages 19-20
- Volume 2: Record book, 1896-1939 (219 pages).
Membership records, 1913
Minutes of meetings, June 1896 -- August 1939
- Volume 3: Record book, 1939-1970 (approx. 190 pages).
Membership records, 1943

Minutes of meetings, September 1939 -- August 1970
Statistical information, ca. 1943-1970

Volume 4: Record book, 1970-1990 (150 pages).
Minutes of meetings, September 1970 -- March 1990

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Rock Springs Baptist Church

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