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Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church records

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository	Arkansas State Archives
Title	Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church records
Date [inclusive]	1864-1999
Extent	3.8 Cubic feet 5 boxes
Language	English
Language of Materials	Materials entirely in English.

Preferred Citation

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church records, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Biographical/Historical Note

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist was an African American church established in 1888 with Reverend Wesley Gains as its first pastor. The church is located in the Pilgrim Community of Solgohachia, Conway County, Arkansas. It started as a brush arbor, before a building was constructed. Although, the first structure was destroyed by fire, the congregation eventually rebuilt. It is the second building that is believed to be standing today. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist was a part of the Cypress Creek District of the Regular Missionary Baptist Convention, associated with the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Incorporated.

African American families migrated to the area from South Carolina. However, due to an eventual decline in population, neighboring communities comprised of Pilgrim, Bethlehem, and Pisgah later consolidated to form North View Community. Over the years, children were educated at Pilgrim School which began in the church before a story-story school was built. They later attended North View School (1932-1961), a four room Rosenwald (now North View Community Center), and Conway County Training School (renamed East Side High School), in Menifee, Arkansas.

As people moved away, and death claimed many of the elders, the congregation of Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church dwindled to only four members. Pilgrim closed its doors in December 1998 with Reverend H.J. Heaggans serving as its last pastor. The four remaining members transferred to Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, in Springfield, Arkansas. A local cemetery preservation group was established in 2007 to maintain the cemetery located across the road from the church on two acres of land. The cemetery with over 125 known burials is still in use by the community.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains church records and personal documents of long-time residents of the community. It also contains school and educational material, including journals of the Arkansas Teachers Association (A.T.A.).

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Arkansas State Archives 1/14/2011

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use)

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Rita Galloway, Sologohachia, Arkansas, 2009.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church records, T2009.0009

Separated Materials

Photographs transferred to the general photograph file [###]

Artifacts transferred to museum collection(Julienne)

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

Collection Inventory

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

Box

1

1. "A comprehensive history of Negro Baptists in Arkansas, 1867-1939, golden jubilee minute, 1938," Baptist State Convention [photocopy, partial]

2. Church fans

3. Church letter of dismissal, draft copies, 1940s

4. Church programs, 1947-1998 [by item]

The Pilgrim Baptist Church, 20th anniversary of our pastor, Reverend J.R. Jamison, 1939 June 23-25

Program of the 28th anniversary of pastor J.R. Jamison, fourth Sunday, 1947 November

Program to be rendered at Union Baptist Church on August 1, 1948, sponsored by Mildred Donald, student of the National Baptist Training School, Nashville, Tennessee, 1948 July 23

"Leadership conference for ministers, laymen, women, and young people," Morris-Booker Memorial College, Dermott [Arkansas], circa 1950s February 13-15

Program, 33rd anniversary of the pastor, J.R. Jamison, 1951 October 27-28

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

Program of the 2nd annual Women's Day at the Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1953 May 24; financial expenses on back

Program, first annual Youth's Day, Bethlehem Baptist Church, Springfield, Arkansas, 1953 June 14 [2 copies]

Program of the fourth anniversary of the pastor, Reverend W.C.T. Alexander, New Prospect Missionary Baptist Church, 1953 June 19-21

Coming the famous choir of St. Peter's Rock Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas (flyer for musical concert), Union Baptist Church, Morrilton, Arkansas, 1955 May 22

Program of the first annual Women's Missionary Society, Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1959 April 26

Program, first anniversary of Rev. W.C. Jones, Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1964 September 13; backside, financial expenses, 1965 September 19

Program, first homecoming, members and former members, Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1982 June 26-27

Program, twenty-second anniversary of Reverend and Mrs. W.C. Jones, Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1983 October 2

Program, second homecoming, members and former members of Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1988 June 12

Deacon's ordination, Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, 1989 March 26

Men and Women's Day program, Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, 1991 March 3

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

Annual Men and Women's Day program, Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1994 March 6

Annual Men and Women's Day program, Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1996 March 3

Program, annual Men and Women's Day, 1997 March 2

Program, Family Day program, Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1998 September 6

Order of service programs, undated

5. Church welcome address (back side includes financial report of rally night), 1950

6. Correspondence: Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, 1950s-1960s

7. "Higley's Sunday school lesson commentary," The Higley Press, Butler, Indiana, 1958

8. "Holy Bible," red letter edition, presented to Pilgrim Baptist Church by Women's Local, 1969 [2 copies]

9. "I Am Going," poem by A.W. Burrough

10. Jamison, J.R., news clipping, undated

11. Minutes, ledger book, 1937 March 26-1937 November 27

12. Minutes and finance reports, ledger book, 1944 December 23-1947 October 25

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

13. Minutes and finance reports, ledger book, 1947 November 22-1952 April 26

14. Minutes and finance reports, composition book, 1948 June 26-1949 September 18

15. Minutes, The Pilgrim Baptist Deacon Council, 1953 (including loose receipts and financial reports)

16. Minutes, and finance reports, ledger book, 1957 January 26-1968 December 20 (inside dated 1956, includes loose notes)

17. Minutes, Women's Missionary Society, 1959 January 29-1959 November 15 (includes Bible study outline notes)

18. Minutes and finance reports, record book, 1969 January 24-1987 June 14

19. Minutes, and finance reports, record book, 1972 January 23-1975 August

20. Minutes, notes, and history, 1982-1984 March 4 (includes congress at Holly Spring, and the association at Solomon Grove, 1982), [spiral composition; no front cover]

21. Minutes, business meeting, binder, 1987 November 14-1988 July 10

22. Minutes and receipts, loose, 1929-1984

23. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, general (includes notebook, 1939; usher badge; news clippings, etc.)

24. "Primary Bible lessons," Sunday School Publishing Board, National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Incorporated, Nashville, Tennessee, 1962 July-September

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

25. "Sacred sunbeams," McCrary, Reverend I.H., Center Ridge, Arkansas, 1948 [booklet of original poem, song, religious thought]

26. Sunday school teacher's class book (class number two; E.M. Archie, teacher), circa 1950s

27. "The annual messenger" (publication of the Pilgrim Rest Number 2, Bethlehem, and Pilgrim Baptist Churches) volume 9, number 1, 1953 January; back includes minutes of the Pilgrim Baptist Deacon Council, 1953 June 27

28. "The colored Baptist family tree, a compendium of organized Negro Baptists church history," Moses, W.H., The Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., 1925

29. "The Sunday school informer, a journal of Christian education," Sunday School Publishing Board, National Baptist Convention, 1942 April and May

30. "The Sunday school informer, a journal of Christian education," Sunday School Publishing Board, National Baptist Convention, 1944 March and May

31. "The Sunday school informer, a journal of Christian education," Sunday School Publishing Board, National Baptist Convention, 1944 July and August

32. "The Sunday school informer, a journal of Christian education," Sunday School Publishing Board, National Baptist Convention, 1944 September and October

33. "The Sunday school teacher," 1919 November

34. Warranty deed, Special School District Number 10, Conway County, Arkansas to Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, 1948 May 8

Sunday school minutes, Pilgrim Baptist Church

35. "Women's work in the church," McNeil and Bronson, Department of Christian Education, Sunday School Publishing Board, National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., Nashville, Tennessee, 1954

36. "World comrades," 1943 May and August

Sunday school minutes, Pilgrim Baptist Church

Box

37. Sunday school minute and record book, 1926 February 21-1927

2

38. Sunday school minute and record book, 1928 February 26-1930 February 15

39. Sunday school minute and record book, 1952 January 6-1953 March 1

40. Sunday school minute and record book, 1954 July 11-1955 August 21

41. Sunday school minute and record book, 1955 September 4-1956 December 30

42. Sunday school minute and record book, 1957 January 7-1958 January 12 (includes loose notes)

43. Sunday school minute and record Book, 1958 February 16-1959 March 29

44. Sunday school minute and record book, 1964 November 8-1966 January 2

45. Sunday school minute book, spiral composition, 1975 December 14-1986 October 12

46. Sunday school minute and roll book for secretaries, binder, 1977 November 6-1982 January 24

Cypress Creek District Association

47. Sunday school minutes, the general session, loose records, 1999 May 23-1999 December 26

Cypress Creek District Association

48. "75th diamond jubilee anniversary," Cypress Creek District Missionary Baptist Association, New Prospect Missionary Baptist Church, Cleveland, Arkansas, souvenir journal, 1996

49. Cypress Creek District Association programs, 1944-1998

Program of the 23rd annual session of the C.C. District Women's association and the 52nd annual session of the Cypress Creek District Sunday School Convention, Mt. View Baptist Church, Clinton, Arkansas, 1944 October 5-8

Program of the extended session of the fifty-fifth annual session of the Cypress Creek District Association, Friendship Baptist Church, Center Ridge, Arkansas, 1947 April 11

Program of the extended session of the 61st annual session of the Cypress Creek District Baptist Association and Auxiliaries, Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1953, March 27

"Program of the Singing Union Auxiliary to the Cypress Creek District Baptist Association," Sweet Home Baptist Church, Center Ridge, Arkansas, 1953 April 18-19

"Program of the 245th session of the Cypress Creek District Church Union," Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1953 August 29-30

"Program of the sixty-second annual session of the Cypress Creek District Association and the thirty-second annual session of the Cypress Creek District Woman's Association," Solomon Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Damascus, Arkansas, 1953 September 24-27

Cypress Creek District Association

“Program Of the sixty-fourth semi-annual session of the Cypress Creek District,” Norris Chapel Missionary Baptist Church 1953 October 9-11; (back side, minutes of Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, dated 1953 September 9)

“Program of the 95th session of the singing union,” Friendship Baptist Church, Center Ridge, Arkansas, 1960 Mary 14-15

“Program of the 12th anniversary of the Cypress Creek District Usher Union,” Pilgrim Baptist Church, Solgohachia, Arkansas, 1968 August 25

Program of the 359th session of the Cypress Creek District Missionary Baptist Church Union, Mt. Grove Baptist Church, Greenbrier, Arkansas, 1981 August 29-30

Cypress Creek District honors Reverend and Mrs. W.C.T. Alexander, Solomon Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Damascus, Arkansas, 1986 April 26

“Program of the one hundred and third session of the Cypress Creek District Singing Union,” Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1995 February 25-26

“Program of the two hundred and twelfth session of the Cypress Creek District Singing Union,” Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, Solgohachia, 1998 August 15-16

The twenty-sixth annual session of the Cypress Creek District Singing Convention, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 1993 November 13-14

50. “Here,” Archie, Elvin R. (history of Cypress Creek District Woman’s Association), 1921-1958

51. “History of Cypress Creek District Woman’s Missionary Association: Mrs. M.A. Vaughn, first president,” circa 1970

National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Incorporated

52. "Minutes of the fifty-second annual session of the Cypress Creek District Baptist Association and third annual session of the B.T.U. Convention," Zion Hill Baptist Church, 1943 September 23-16

53. Minutes of the twenty-eighth annual session, Cypress Creek District Sunday School, Baptist Training Union, Musical and Usher Board Congress, New Prospect Baptist Church, Hattieville, Arkansas, 1972 July 12-16

54. "Program and minutes of the one hundredth annual session and the centennial celebration of the Cypress Creek District Missionary Baptist Association," Solomon Grove Baptist Church, Damascus, Arkansas, 1991 September 19-22

National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Incorporated

55. The record of the 87th annual session of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Incorporated and the Woman's Auxiliary, Denver, Colorado, 1967 September 5-10

56. The record of the 89th annual session of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Incorporated and the Woman's Auxiliary, Kansas City, Missouri, 1969 September 9-14

57. Woman's Convention Auxiliary, National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Incorporated, registration form for annual meeting, 1961

Community

Box

58. Archie family (correspondence and documents)

3

59. Brown, Joyce (document)

Community

60. Campbell, Sabi and Harriet (documents)

61. Cooper family

62. Franklin, Fred (“You and Winrock Farms,” employee handbook, Morrilton, Arkansas)

63. Franklin, Lola Inez (perfect attendance award, Crompton-Arkansas Mills, Incorporation, 1977 March 12; “You and Winrock Farms,” employee handbook, Morrilton, Arkansas)

64. Hemphill, Little (document)

65. Hervey family (letters to Santa from Dwight L. Hervey and Clarence McGee, appearing in newspaper, circa 1955)

66. Lyon, J.M. and Pauline Toombs (documents)

67. Pledger family (written family memories of Zenette Pledger Grunnels), undated

68. Richardson family correspondence: Louise Woods, Blytheville, Arkansas to Mrs. R.A. Richard[son], 1943 December 11; Harris [? Surname], March Field, California to Mrs. R.A. Richardson, Solgohacia, Arkansas, 1944 November 30

69. Toombs, Arthur and Opal Laverne Brown (documents, news clipping)

70. News clippings: Includes, James C. Arnold (“Coastal journal,” Virginia Beach, Virginia, 1996 September 4); Sarah E. Clark; A.F. Cunningham; Alicestine Dalton, William and Ruby Gunnels; and community column by A.F. Cunningham, 1944 May 4

Community

71. Funeral programs, 1958-2008

Archie, Edward William, 1984 August 23

Archie, Elvin Mae, 1974 July 24

Arnold, Emmerlene, 1988 March 27

Arnold, James, 1977 January 4

Brown, Harold D., 1972 June 21

Brown, Isaac Jefferson, 1994 March 19

Brown, Ruby Faye, 2008 June 7

Dalton, Horce I., 1981 November 7

Hardiman, Ruby Lee, 1996 February 23

Jones, Alicestine Dalton, 1993 December 11

Marshall, Inez J., 1974 February 9

Marshall, William E., 1971 January 20

Richardson, Harry Phillips, 1990 February 16

Community

Sullivan, Mamie, 1977 July 16

Toombs, Arthur, 1980 November 22

Toombs, Kenneth R., 1991 March 30

Toombs, Opal Lavern, 2000 December 9

Vample, Ivery, 1966 December 11

Vample, James, 1958 November 23

72. "20th Special U.S. Naval Construction Battalion, the manus review, 1943-1945," Owen, Don

73. Art prints issued by Conoco Service Station, number 2, "Tucuman farm scene" by John Schmitz-Lohm, 1963; and number 7, "Rue norvins" by P.G. Hubert, 1967

74. Community, miscellaneous

75. Cooking pamphlets, "A guide to Royal success in baking," Royal Baking Powder; and "KC Cook's book," KC Baking Powder

76. Envelopes: The U.S. Christian Commission, posted Little Rock, Arkansas, sends soldiers message to his home, Geo. S. Sawyer to S.S. Sawyer, Waukesha, Wisconsin, 1864 November 21 [photocopy]; and Ault and Hawkins, Cedarglades, Montgomery County Arkansas to Housley Brothers, Hot Springs, Arkansas, 1904 August 19 [2 photocopies]

77. Friendship community

Schools and education

78. "Negro digest" magazine, John H. Johnson, publisher, 1945 August; 1946 September; 1947 December

79. Northview community (mortgage with power of sale for Northview Community Center, 1970 July; reunion 1981; and news clippings)

80. Pilgrim community (news clippings)

81. Quilt patterns from the "The Weekly Kansas City Star," Kansas City, Missouri, 1935-1938

Schools and education**Box**

82. "Blue horse composition book number 518," Montag Brothers, Incorporated, Atlanta, Georgia, 1953 [2]

4

83. Conway County, Arkansas, School District Forty-five, eighth grade report card of Elva Richardson, 1928-1929

84. Conway County Training and East Side High School reunions, Menifee, Arkansas: Class of 1955 held 1971 June 19; and the eleventh tri-annual reunion held 2004 July, programs

85. Conway County Training and East Side School, Menifee, Arkansas, news clippings, 1944-1960s

86. Conway County Training School, Menifee, Arkansas, commencement exercise program, 1955 May 27

Schools and education

87. Conway County Training School, Menifee, Arkansas, commencement exercises, announcements: Ollie Mayfield, 1960 May 26; Charles E. Marshall, 1962 May 23; Glenn Ray Brown, 1965 May 26; Mary L. Harris, 1966 May 24; and Isaac Lee Wells, Jr., undated

88. Conway County Training School, Menifee, Arkansas, correspondence, Douglass, J.L. to Elvin Archie, 1953 September 8

89. Conway County Training School, Menifee, Arkansas, "East side journal" newsletter, 1954 January

90. East Side High School, Menifee, Arkansas, commencement exercises, announcements: Janice Faye Brown and Dwight L. Hervey, 1967 May 24; Pauline Louise Toombs, 1968 May 21; Jerry Brown, 1969 May 27; and Linda K. Brown, 1971 May 25

91. J.C. Corbin High School, A.M.and N. College, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, Class of 1940 commencement exercises, 1940 May 23

92. Menifee High School, Menifee, Arkansas, news clipping, 2002 June 26

93. North View School, Solgohachia, Arkansas: Receipt of closing exercises, hand-written, 1941 May 9; North View Junior High School, program of the closing exercises, 1941 May 2-9

94. North View School, Solgohachia, Arkansas "New Webster speller," grade 8, Webster Publishing Company, 1940

95. North View School, Solgohachia, Arkansas, "Our country: Our developing civilization," Beeby, Hanna, McClure, Laidlaw Brothers, 1946

96. North View School, Solgohachia, Arkansas, "Webster's Shorter School dictionary, American Book Company, 1933

Arkansas Teachers Association, "The Bulletin"

97. Pilgrim School, Solgohachia, Arkansas (photocopies of photographs)

98. Sullivan High School, Morrilton, Arkansas, "Black schools, New Farmers of America, Chapter Number 81," 1938 [photocopy]

Arkansas Teachers Association, "The Bulletin"

Box

99. 1941 March

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100. 1943 March

101. 1943 June

102. 1943 December

103. 1944 January-March

104. 1944 April-June

105. 1945 January-March

106. Program of the forty-third annual convention of the Arkansas Teachers Association, A.M. and N. College, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, 1941 April 17-19