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Cumberland Presbyterian Church records, 1906-1949

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Cumberland Presbyterian Church records

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Arkansas State Archives
One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, Arkansas, 72201
501-682-6900
state.archives@arkansas.gov

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Summary Information

Repository	Arkansas State Archives
Title	Cumberland Presbyterian Church records
Date [inclusive]	1906-1949
Extent	0.22 Cubic feet 1 box
Language	English
Language of Materials	Materials entirely in English.

Preferred Citation

Cumberland Presbyterian Church records, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Biographical/Historical Note

The Presbyterian Church formed the Cumberland Presbytery (covering Kentucky and Tennessee) in 1802. In 1812, the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination began sending missionaries to preach the Gospel and establish congregations on the Arkansas frontier. Members of those new congregations wrote to their friends and family in the east, encouraging them to come to Arkansas. Many came in response, especially from middle Tennessee. The first Protestant service ever heard in Arkansas was preached by John Carnahan in 1812. He continued to travel the frontier and preach for nine years. In 1823, Reuben Burrow and Robert D. King began making circuits on the White, Red, and Arkansas rivers. The Arkansas Presbytery was formed on the White River in Independence County in 1823. Nearly 300 Cumberland Presbyterian congregations have been organized in Arkansas and over 1,000 pastors have been ordained.

The records in this collection were found in the estate of Madge Thompson Hudgens, who was the only child of George William Thompson. He was a Presbyterian circuit preacher in Arkansas in the early to mid-1900s. George W. Thompson was born on December 8, 1873 in Batesville, Arkansas, and died in Fayetteville on August 7, 1953.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains records of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Synod of Arkansas, collected by George William Thompson. They include minutes and correspondence related to the Arkansas Synod, as well as material related to restoration of the Dwight Mission. The mission was established in 1821 to serve the Arkansas Cherokees. It was first located in Russellville, Arkansas, and then re-established near present-day Marble City, Oklahoma, after the Cherokees were required to move to Indian Territory in 1828.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Arkansas State Archives 7/2/2020

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Shiloh Museum of Ozark History, Springdale, Arkansas, 2020.

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
Dwight Mission, Committee on the Dwight Mission Restoration 1947-1949	1	1
Minutes of Porter Presbytery 1948-1949	1	2
Synod of Arkansas of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church early 1930s-1939	1	3
Proceedings of Eleventh Annual Convention of the Arkansas Synodic Missionary Society 1938	1	4
		Box
Minutes of the Arkansas Synod of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Roll of Presbyteries ledger 1906-1910		1