Baptist Voices in Civil War Arkansas
Little Rock church, est. 1824

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
Typical church building

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
Typical church

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
Baptizing, 1912
North Fork, Ouachita River
Garland County Historical Society
Associations, 1850
• State convention
• Associations
• Churches
• Individuals

BAPTIST VOICES
the more hearty co-operation of our brethren throughout the State—
they would suggest that at least two missionary mass meetings be held
during the coming Spring. That the Officers of this Convention, and
Delegates that were elected, be requested to attend these meetings,
also, that the Churches not represented here, be affectionately urged
to send delegates to the mass meetings, to unite with all our good
brethren in restoring the primitive apostolic spirit of missions and
rebuilding the desolations in our denomination.
Whereas, This Convention has, by the late disastrous war, lost the prospective endowment fund of seventy-five thousand dollars, ($75,000) which had been secured for the establishment of a Baptist
Minutes
of the
nineteenth annual session
of the
Red River Baptist Association.
decl with the
Ozan Church, Hempstead Co., Ark.
September 21, 22, and 23, 1867.

Officers:
Elder Henry Haynes, Moderator.
T. A. Reed, Clerk.

Memphis:
Southwestern Publishing House.
1867.
REPORT ON DESTITUION.

We, your committee on destitution, would make the following report: That we have carefully had the same under consideration, and find that there are large districts where there is no stated ministry of the word. There are but few ministers of the gospel within our limits, and they are poor, and the calls of their families upon their labors are such that they are necessarily confined to their own neighborhoods. Your committee would respectfully recommend that the brethren of the different churches would exert themselves for the better support of their ministers at home, that the word of God may be carried into the destitute places.

We would further recommend that the fund already collected be appropriated to the relief of these destitute places. And we would further recommend that the deacons take the matter under their consideration, and raise whatever amount they can for the benefit of their ministers of the several churches.

J. A. FORTSON, Chairman.
IMPORTANT FROM THE SOUTH.

Jeff. Davis Appoints March 27 as a Day of Fasting and Prayer.

REBEL REPORTS FROM VICKSBURGH.

An Attack by Gen. Grant’s Forces Believed to be Imminent.

New York Times March 4, 1863
"As requested by President Davis"

Mount Olive Baptist Church (Ashley County) 1863

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
“Pretty much under military law”

New Hope Baptist Church (Lawrence County) 1862

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
Second. Resolved that we will meet on tomorrow at half after 10 o'clock and engage in fervent prayer for a permanent peace once more to our destitute country. 5th. moved 4th. Second. that a
“They stand as dead or excluded”

New Hope Baptist Church, December 1865

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
"Preach to the army"

El Dorado Baptist Church, October 1863

Arkansas History Commission
After services by Bro. J. B. Browning at the front, an opportunity offered for members to be a servant of Bro. W. Dickinson and Jim and Lucy Lewis of W. Davis. Made application for membership by offering and baptism, and were received. J. B. Browning Clark.
Fourth Sabbath in May 1863 after Divine Service by Bro. John Benington the Door of the Church was opened for reception of members when Miss Bearden was received as a candidate for Baptism. Also Sister a servant of Rev. J. M. Beal. Made application for membership she having previously belonged to the Baptist Church beingDIS>-se-d for by Bro. D. See. Dickinson she was received into the fellowship of the church. The congregation refused to the water when the ordinance of Baptism was administered to Sister Bearden Ann Lue. Sep. 1, 1863.
Opened the door for general business.
As the church is satisfied that Dan, a son of the widow J. Dickinson has run away and joined the Federals, it was resolved we withdraw fellowship from the said Bro. Dan.
Resolved that we withdraw fellowship from John Barrar, J P Longley, and Nancy Longley for having gone to the Federals; Nancy Longley being with her husband in the Federal lines.

Appointed J B Daniel and W H Maynard as a committee to wait on Sister Eliza and Susanna Hawkins to report at next conference.

“Having gone to the Federals”

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church records (Clark County)

November 1864

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
On motion resolved that we withdraw fellowship from Bro. Edward Nation and J.W. Roden for not taking Gospel steps in settling the difficulty between them.

Resolved the committee appointed to labor with Bro. Ester Nation—Bro. John A. Bafo added to the committee.

Resolved that we rescind the act excluding Bro. J.B. Langley and his wife also Bro. John Harper.

G.W. Wells, Pres.
J.H. Browning, Clerk

“Rescind the act . . .” October 1865
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church records (Clark County)
Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
“Politics shall not be made a test”

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, April 1869

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
Oak Grove Baptist Church

(Jefferson/Lincoln County)

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
“Ever ready to bleed for his country”

County Line Baptist Church, March 1862

Arkansas History Commission
“Truharted sun of the south”

Bethel Union Baptist Church (Clark County) January 1863

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
“Patriots and Christians”

Mount Bethel Baptist Church, 1862

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
Mount Bethel Baptist Church (Clark County)

1865

[Handwritten text image]
“They acted bravely”

Mount Bethel Baptist Church, 1865

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
“The ladies gave a supper for the benefit of the Baptist church house, which has been seriously damaged by the Federals during their occupancy of Pine Bluff”

1866
Organized just before the civil war began. Revilee just above the banner of enlistment. We raised it to quit holding services.
“From prevalence of war”

Oak Grove Baptist Church, 1863

Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
On motion it was resolved that Christ Church, having been two years without any meetings on account of the presence of war in our midst, will hereafter resume its regular meetings at the adopted times, the third Sabbath in each month and Saturday before.

“War in our midst”
Oak Grove Baptist Church, October 1865
Ouachita Baptist University Archives and Special Collections
In as much as our last church meeting was on Saturday before the first Sunday in August, 1861, the church agreed to make statement as to set forth the cause why the church has not met in conference. The cause was on the account of a horrid and bloody war in our land and county so it was dangerous for a congregation to assemble during the time of vacation, four years and five months.”
“God knows my heart”
Thomas H. Compere to Harris Flanagin, 1863
Arkansas History Commission
do good. We cannot ask your aid. Help us in this thing. You, God save andHumatics take out of your own
Entertain and save our country. I love the blood of his family
of our country. I have a contempt for the uncommon. Thats will work to the injury of others. Going nationally
in your cause.

“Save our country”
Thomas H. Compere to Harris Flanagin, 1863
Arkansas History Commission
“Catholics and Yankees too”
Letter from David O. Dodd, 1862
Arkansas History Commission
“I would like to see you all before I die, but let God’s will be done, not ours. I pray God to give you strength to bear your troubles while in this world. I hope God will receive you in heaven; there I will meet you. Mother, I know it will be hard to give up your only son, but you must remember that it is God’s will . . .”

“Let God’s will be done”
David O. Dodd, January 1864
Arkansas History Commission