11-19-2009

Bethel Baptist Church - Allen County, Kentucky (MSS 256)

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Bethel Baptist Church is located approximately seven miles northeast of Scottsville, Kentucky, in the Gainesville community overlooking Big Difficult Creek. Jeremiah Stark donated the land and built the log church in 1811. Initially the church was called the Stark Meeting House and services were held under the auspices of Bethlehem United Baptist Church of Christ. In 1814, sixty-one members were dismissed from the Bethlehem Church to constitute Bethel United Baptist Church of Christ. The first pastor called to the church was Jesse L. Hickman. The church was initially a member of the Green River Association. The church has been a member of several associations, most recently the Allen Missionary Baptist Association. The church was a member of this Association from 1913 to 1990; it officially withdrew its membership in 1990. As of 2009, the church does not belong to an association.

The collection consists of the photocopied record books of Bethel Baptist Church, Allen County, Kentucky from 19 February 1842 to 18 December 1875. The church’s “Rules of Decorum” are included in the front of the minutes and the “Articles of Faith” are located on pages 22 and 23. The records include minutes of church meetings and provide brief business information related to the church, acts of church discipline, and notes when people were admitted to membership. A brief history written by church member Joyce Marr is included in Folder 1; it also contains a list of ministers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOX 1</th>
<th>Bethel Baptist Church</th>
<th>1842-1875</th>
<th>3 items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Inventory and brief history</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Folder 2  Record books  1842-1857  1 item  (p. 1-103)

Folder 3  Record books  1858-1875  1 item (cont’d)  (p. 104-219)

**BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD**

MSS  BETHEL Baptist Church –  1842-1875
256  Allen County, Kentucky

Record books of Bethel Baptist Church, Gainesville, Allen County, Kentucky. Includes brief business information about the church, acts of church discipline, and when people were admitted to membership. Also includes the church’s “Rules of Decorum” and “Articles of Faith.”

½ box. 3 folders. 4 items. Photocopies.

2009.147.1

**SUBJECT ANALYTICS**

Baptists – Allen County
Bethlehem Baptist Church – Allen County – Relating to Churches – Allen County
Religion – Allen County

**SEE  or SEE ALSO**

Bethel United Baptist Church of Christ – Allen County
See:
Bethel Baptist Church – Allen County

Starks Meeting House – Allen County
See:
Bethel Baptist Church – Allen County

Jeffrey  11/19/2009