



*Special Collections/Archives Department  
John B. Coleman Library  
Prairie View A&M University*

MSS0027

The Center Hill Primitive Baptist Church Collection

Compiled by Idalia Avezuela, March 2024

## **The Bethlehem United Methodist Church Finding aid**

### **Collection Overview**

**Creator:** The Center Hill Primitive Baptist Church Staff

**Title:** The Center Hill Primitive Baptist Church Collection

**Dates:** 1986 – 1989, Undated

**Bulk Dates:** 1986 – 1989, Undated

**Quantity:** .5 linear feet (1 box)

**Abstract:** The Center Hill Primitive Baptist Church Collection contains documents about the congregation's history, a service bulletin, and a photo of Rev. Richard Hayes.

**Identification:** MSS0027

**Use Restrictions:** Before publishing quotations, excerpts, or images from any materials in this collection, written permission must be obtained from the Special Collections/ Archives Department and all relevant rights holders. The items are housed with eight other Waller County Churches collections until unique accommodations become necessary.

**Language:** The materials are in English.

**Repository:** Prairie View A&M University

**Biographical Note:** On October 7, 1882, the Center Hill Primitive Baptist Board of Trustees finalized the acquisition of an acre of land off Highway 6 to develop what would be the institution's house of worship. The congregation gathered for many decades in the building with limited resources, out of which the lack of electricity stood out. In 1978, under the helm of Prairie View A&M Alum Rev. Richard D. Hayes, the congregation began fundraising efforts to purchase generators and run electrical wiring through the church after decades of lighting the evening services and activities with kerosene lamps. Fundraising also funded a well for running water and restroom facilities inside the church. Rev. Hayes is listed as the current pastor.

### **Sources:**

The Center Hill Primitive Baptist Church Collection, MSS0027, Special Collections/Archives Department, John B. Coleman Library, Prairie View A&M University

Waller County Historical Survey Committee (1973). A history of Waller County, Texas. Waco: Texian Press.

**Scope and Contents Note:**

The collection is arranged chronologically in the order in which the items were created. No series was needed since the items relate to the history of the Center Hill Primitive Baptist Church. The collection consists of 5 folders, mostly of church history documents, a bulletin, and a photograph of one of the officiants.

**Administrative Information****Preferred Citation:**

The Center Hill Primitive Baptist Church Collection, MSS0017, Special Collections/Archives Department, John B. Coleman Library, Prairie View A&M University

**Related Material:**

Black Churches in Texas Collection, MSS0016, Special Collections/Archives Department, John B. Coleman Library, Prairie View A&M University

Inventory of the Clyde McQueen Papers, Cushing Memorial Library and Archives, Texas A&M University

Waller County Historical Survey Committee (1973). *A history of Waller County, Texas*. Waco: Texian Press.

**Index Terms:**

African American churches--Gulf Coast--Texas--History.

African American churches--Texas, Central--History.

Waller County (Tex.)--History.

**Inventory**

Box #	Folder #	Title/Description	Date	Location
1	1	The Standard Newsletter and news article photocopy (unknown publication)	Summer 1986/Undated	R3/C4/R5
1	2	Sunday Service Bulletin	07/31/1988	R3/C4/R5
1	3	Hand-written History	01/17/1989	R3/C4/R5
1	4	Hand-drawn map with Directions to Church	Undated	R3/C4/R5
1	5	Photo -Richard D. Hayes	Undated	R3/C4/R5