

Instructions for the 1858 to 1991 Index Methodist Appointments in Arkansas The Little Rock and Ouachita Conferences

The Little Rock Conference and Ouachita Conference Index is a 25 page document manually prepared around 1991 by Rev. Vernon and Eva Lee Paysinger and Archivist Mauzel Beal.

How to Use the following Index:

This index attempts to alphabetically list every pastor who was appointed to the Little Rock or Ouachita Conferences between 1858 and 1991. If your pastor's name is missing, he or she probably served in a different conference in Arkansas not yet on the internet.

For appointments since 1991, you can look in each individual Journal.

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TO FIND THE VARIOUS CHURCHES A PARTICULAR PASTOR SERVED:

1. Find your pastor's name in the Index and copy all the numbers beside their name. These are the page numbers on which your pastor's name appears in the 522 page Appointment Document.
2. As you find your pastor's name throughout the Appointment Document, you will want to list the year, church name, and the name of the district. Keep in mind that in the UMC local churches are grouped into districts, then districts are grouped into Conferences. You will find that some pastors served in the same church, or small groups of churches called circuits, for many years. Other pastors moved every one to two years. For your convenience we have handwritten the year at the top of every Appointment Document page.
3. In the Appointment Document, a parenthesis by your pastor's name, such as (2), indicates this pastor is beginning the second year in that appointment. If the index has accurately listed all the appointments for your pastor, the numbers should be in sequence, i.e. (1), (2), (3), (4) etc.

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TO FIND THE LIST OF PASTORS WHO SERVED A PARTICULAR CHURCH:

1. Begin in 1991, finding your district, and church listing.
2. Working your way backward through the years, find the district and church listing. Note that through the years the District names and boundaries have changed from time to time.
3. You will also notice that beginning about 1950, often only the "Circuit" name is listed, and not each individual church within that circuit. It is a challenge to the researcher to try to decide which Circuit each church was in each year.
4. You will also notices that it is common for there to be two churches named "Wesley" or "Salem" within the same district. Often we just have to go with what seems to make the most sense based upon other historical facts that you know about the church.

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If you have questions related to any of the material presented, you may contact the Arkansas Conferences at arkmethodist@hendrix.edu.