

Pictures of the Spring Creek Baptist Church
 that used to be called the Twelve Corners United Baptist Church
<http://www.ajlambert.com>



On what is now the Dodson's Branch Road, the congregation of the Twelve Corners United Baptist Church gathers on a cold January day in 1915 in their bonnets, shawls, hats and coats to pose for the photographer - July 12, 1998 - Herald Citizen newspaper.



Spring Creek Baptist Church
 Marker
 Marker located about six to eight miles North of Cookeville, TN on State Hwy. 135, generally known as Dodsons Branch Rd.

Minutes of the Spring Creek Baptist Church of Jackson and Overton Counties Tennessee
 1802 – 1868 (excluding the Civil War years)
 Transcribed by: Jane K. Wall & J. Hobart Bartlett
 Purchase book from: UCGA – Box 575, Cookeville, TN 38503-0575 - \$10.00 postpaid.

There is some possibility that these minutes were originally in the possession of Daniel Morgan Morgan, who was a Clerk and later a Moderator of the Spring Creek Church for 1836 to 1868. The records later fell into the hands of his grandson, Lewis Kerry Smith, whom he helped to raise because of the death of his father. At the death of Lewis Kerry Smith the records remained in the home of his widow, Lenore Byrom Smith. When she died her son, Sanford Byrom Smith, received them, where they are now located at his home in Hockessin, Del. It is the opinion of the transcribers that the “pencil notes” scattered throughout this record were probably made by Austin Hawkins Morgan, a son of Job Morgan, and a brother of Daniel Morgan.

Spring Creek Baptist Church
 Located on Hwy. 135 in Jackson Co., TN just north of the Putnam Co. line.



Spring Creek Baptist Church Organized July 7, 1802 by Samuel McGee and Joseph Coons with Thomas McBride as the first moderator, the church was established by members from the Roaring River Baptist Church. The original church was located approximately one mile north of this location and was sometimes referred to as Blackburn's Fork Baptist Church. The church began in the Green River Association but transferred to the Stockton Valley Association in 1805. Spring Creek is currently in the Union Association of the Baptist.

The last log structure was built in 1867 and was known as "Twelve Corners". The log structure was torn down in 1912 and a new, framed church was built in the exact location and stood until 1938. At this time the structure was dismantled and the lumber donated to the Mount Union Methodist Church. The Baptist and Methodist shared the new church until 1953, the date the present church was erected.

This monument was dedicated July 14, 2002 commemorating Two Hundred years of service to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



My ggggrandfather **Thomas Shirley Anderson** who md **Judith Robinson** attended this church when it was the Spring Creek Baptist Church of Jackson and Overton Counties of Tennessee. He is listed on pgs. 19,20,25,28,29,30,31,33,35,38 of the book, Minutes of the Spring Creek Baptist Church of Jackson and Overton Counties Tennessee 1802 – 1868 (excluding the Civil War years) Transcribed by: Jane K. Wall & J. Hobart Bartlett.

My ggggrandfather **Joel Henley** who md **Mary Horne** attended this church when it was the Spring Creek Baptist Church of Jackson and Overton Counties of Tennessee. He was a ordained minister of this church and is listed on pgs. 35 – 45 and 47 – 60 of the book, Minutes of the Spring Creek Baptist Church of Jackson and Overton Counties Tennessee 1802 – 1868 (excluding the Civil War years) Transcribed by: Jane K. Wall & J. Hobart Bartlett.

My ggggrandfather **Laban Loftis** who md **Elizabeth Holcombe** attended this church when it was the Spring Creek Baptist Church of Jackson and Overton Counties of Tennessee. He is listed on pgs. 52 – 54 and 56 - 61 of the book, Minutes of the Spring Creek Baptist Church of Jackson and Overton Counties Tennessee 1802 – 1868 (excluding the Civil War years) Transcribed by: Jane K. Wall & J. Hobart Bartlett.

*See Chapter 3 for Thomas Shirley Anderson and family.

*See Chapter 7 for Joel Henley and family.

*See Story of Joel Henley – Ordained Baptist Minister.

*See Chapter 12 for Laban Loftis and family.

Ancestors of Audrey June (Denny) Lambert.



Lee Grimsley, 78, Cookeville, carefully measures for final touches to the Twelve Corners Church model he built to preserve the church's history. It was located about six miles from Cookeville. He is assisted by his wife.

Spring Creek Baptist Church was organized July 7, 1802 in Jackson County, TN. According to a letter from Mr. L.K. Smith of Carrollton, GA, written in 1944 "The old church was located near where Rufe Allen sold goods – It was the Sion Johnson place Sallie Morgan and Brother Washington Morgan are buried there." The church was generally know as the **TWELVE CORNERS CHURCH** and the State of TN has placed an historic marker near the location with the heading **TWELVE CORNERS CHURCH**. Minutes of the Spring Creek Baptist Church 1802 – 1868 (excluding Civil War years) were transcribed by Jane K. Wall and J. Hobart Bartlett.

Source: <http://www.timbertrux.com>

Alphabetized list of rivers, streams, creeks, roads, caves, cemeteries, towns, landings, hollows, and land marks taken from the 18 USGS Topographical 7.5 minute maps covering Jackson and Clay Counties. Listing also includes land marks from Chancery Court opinions, History of Jackson County by Kim Young, 1832 Map by Matthew Rhea, USGS 1911 Map, and other miscellaneous records as noted.

Twelve Corners Church: Lat: 361647N Long: 0853126W Quad: Dodson Branch Description: Church

Twelve Corners Cemetery: Lat: 361704N Long: 0853134W Quad: Dodson Branch Description: Cemetery

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
OF JACKSON AND OVERTON COUNTIES, TENNESSEE**

1802-1868 (Excluding Civil War Years)

Transcribed by Jane K. Wall and J. Hobart Bartlett

There is some possibility that these minutes were originally in the possession of Daniel Diorgan Morgan, who was a Clerk and later a Moderator of the Spring Creek Church from 1836 to 1868. The records later fell into the hands of his grandson, Lewis Kerry Smith, whom he helped to raise because of the death of his father. At the death of Lewis Kerry Smith the records remained in the home of his widow, Lenore Byrom Smith. When she died her son, Sanford Byrom Smith, received them, where they are now located at his home in Hockessin, Delaware.

It is the opinion of the transcribers that the "pencil notes" scattered through out this record were probably made by Austin Hawkins Morgan, a son of Job Morgan, and a brother of Daniel Morgan Morgan.

PRINCIPLES OF UNION OF OLD BAPTIST

1st We believe in one true and living God the father the word and Holy ghost And these three are one

2nd We believe in the fall of man And that he has become a depraved Creature in all his parts

3rd We believe in the Salvation of our Souls and bodies only through The merits of our lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

4th We believe that the benefits of Redemption is applied by the Holy ghost

5th We believe that the Scriptures of the old and new testament are the word of god and the only rule of faith and practice

6th We believe that the Saints will persevere through grace and that not one of them Shall be lost

7th We believe the visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful persons who have given themselves to the Lord and one another having agreed to keep up a godly discipline according to the rules of the gospel

8th We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church and that the government thereof is with the body

9th We believe that baptism and the Lords supper are ordinances of the Lord and to be continued by his church till his second coming

10th We believe that true believers are the only fit subjects of baptism and immersion the only gospel mode

11th We believe that we have no right to admit any but regular Baptist church members to commune with us at the Lords table

12th We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead and a general or universal judgement and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal

Church Records

We the under names was constituted July 7 1802 by Samuel Megee and Jacob Coons presbytery:

1. Thos. McBride Nancy McBride

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|--------------------|
| 2. | John Russel | Nancy Gear |
| 3. | George Geer | Sarry Williams |
| 4. | Thos. Williams | Elizabeth Williams |
| 5. | Aaron Williams | Mary Burlison |
| 6. | Jacob Francisco | Elizabeth Burlison |
| 7. | Henry Lowrey | Nancy Burlison |
| 8. | John Miller | Sary Lowrey |
| 9. | James Waldren | Rebecca Miller |
| 10. | Rhodah Lowrey loftis | |
| 11. | Dolley Russel | |
| 12. | Elizabeth Russel | |
| 13. | Sarah Prier | |
| 14. | Rebecca Francisco | |

7th July 1802:

Church met after worship proceeded to business, Chose Brother Thos. McBride Moderator.

*Transcriptions for **Thomas Shirley Anderson** and **Laban Loftis**. To view the all of the pages for the Minutes of the Spring Creek Baptist Church go to <http://www.ajlambert.com> for the file: **Minutes of the Spring Creek Baptist Church with images**.

THOMAS SHIRLEY ANDERSON: He is listed on pp. 19,20,25,28,29,30,31,33,35,38 of the UCGA bulletin. Pages in the original minutes in parentheses. *Spellings as in written in the minutes.*

Pg. 19, (27): September the first *Saturdy* 1813. The Church met after worship proceeded to business then Recd Brother **Thomas Anderson** by Experience. Second then Recd Sister Elizabeth Walker by Experience.

Pg. 20, (29): #15 **Thos. Anderson**

Pg. 25, (40): May the fourth Saturday 1824. No. of Brethren: #3 **Thomas Anderson**.

Pg. 28, (46): January the fourth Saturday 1829. The Church met and after sermon *proceded* to business. 1st *nomanated* brethren Benjamin *Mehanny* and brother Thomas Anderson and sister *Mchanay* to go and talk with sister Sally Jackson and report the same to the next meeting in Course.

Pg. 29, (47): July the fourth Saturday 1829. The church met and after sermon proceeded to business. 1st chosen our beloved *brothren deligates* to the association to wit: Benjamin *Mehanay*, **Thomas Anderson** & Joseph Hawkins. Brother Joseph Hawkins to write the church letter the *assaciation* against the next meeting in *couse*.

Pg. 30, (48): May the fourth Saturday 1830: The church met and after *prayr* proceeded to business 1st appointed brother moderator 2nd appointed brethren Benjamin *Mehanay* and **Thos. Andersen** to write to Brother Henly of come and preach for us or any other good sound preacher of our order.

Pg. 31 (50); February the first Saturday 1832. The church met and after *prayr* proceeded to business. Brother George Hern charged with going out of his house * into Drucilla *Robisons* House in the Silent Hours of the night with only his shirt on got on the bed and under the cover with her and when charged with the same denied it to **Thomas Anderson** and Benjamin *Mehanay* and said it was not the truth it was false and when he was talked to about the report by two members *ownd* to it after denying to the first two that *talkd* with him about the report and when dealt with by the church *ownd* that he did go to bed with the said *Drucella* Robinson with only his shirt on got on the bed with her and nearly under the cover. (51); therefore brother George Hern excluded from our Christian fellowship for the above charges.

Pg. 31 (51): February the 4th 1832: Members Names #2 **Thomas Anderson**.

Pg. 33, (54) February the third Saturday 1834. The Church met and after worship proceeded to business 1st appointed brethren Benjamin *Meahany* brother Job Morgan to go and ask brother Ellis his reason for Joining of another order and *leaveing* his own church 2nd appoint brother **Thomas Anderson** brother William Allen to go and See Sister Sally Dennis and know her reason for leaving the church and Joining another order and make report to the april meeting.

Pg. 35, (57): November the third *Satureday* 1835. The church met and after worship *proceded* to business first *apointed* brother Joseph Hawkins *Modrater* 2nd agreed to lay over the Case of brother **Thomas Anderson** till the next meeting.

Pg. 35, (58): February the third Saturday 1835. The church met and after worship *proceded* to business first laid over the Case of brother Anderson till next meeting in Course 2nd Sister Then Hawkins went of without applying for a letter of *dismission* from the Church.

Pg. 35, (58): February the third Saturday 1836. The church met and after worship *proceded* to business. 1st Appointed brother **Joel Henly** moderator brethren *Mahanay*, Job Morgan & William Allen appoint to go and See brother & sister Bartlett & see if they have quit Spring creek church & report the next meeting in course. Brother **Anderson** restored.

Pg 38, (62): March the third Saturday & 17th day 1838. The church met and after worship proceeded to business. The Church agrees to send for brother **Thomas Anderson** to attend the next meeting.

Pg. 38, (63): April the third Saturday & 21st day 1838. The church met and after worship proceeded to business brother **Thos. Anderson** charged with *Drunkeness* is again to be cited to attend the next meeting. Brother Benj. *Mehany* to bear the message. **Joel Henly** modr. Danl. M. Morgan Clk..

Pg. 38, (63): May the third Saturday & 19th day 1838. The Church met and after worship proceeded to business the case of brother **Anderson** taken up and him excluded from the above *namd* Charge to wit: *drunkeness*, a *petitionary* letter received from Roaring River Church by brother Benton Bilbry which was read and the *rquest* Granted to wit: for our ministerial aid. Joel Henly Modr & Danl Ml Morgan Clk.

LABAN LOFTIS: He is listed on pp. 52 – 54 and 56 - 61 of the book of the UCGA bulletin. Pages in the original minutes in parentheses. Spellings as in written in the minutes.

Pg. 52, (91): 1852 September 3 Saturday the Spring *crek* Church met & after Worship *proceded* to business 1st opened the door for the reception of members and none came *foward* 2nd the Church *proceded* to appoint messengers to the Caney Fork Association viz Elders Joel Henly Daniel M. Morgan and Robotus Vick & Wm. Lacey 3rd the Church Agreed To Send 50 cts to defray The printing of the *minets* on Sabath the Church met & after worship *proceded* to Business 1st opened the door For the reception of members & **Labourn Loftes** came Forward & Related what the Lord had done for his soul And was Received. Wm. Lacey Clk & Joel Henly, Md

Pg. 53, (92): 1853 Aug. 3 Saturday the Spring Creek Church met and after worship *procedd* To business 1st opened the door for the reception of members and none came *foward* 2nd we agree to Choose our messengers to the association viz Elders Joel Henly Daniel M Morgan and brethren Curry Lea **Labourn Loftes** Robartus Vick we send 50 cts *contrabution* 3rd the Church Agree to send for brother Wm. Posten to come to our next *meating* in course to answer to some reports that is ought out about him concerning his drinking to much liquor. Wm. Lacey Jr. Clk & Joel Henly Mod

Pg. 54, (93): 1853 Saturday the Spring Creek Church met at James Smith brother **Labourn Loftes** and after worship *proced* to *buisness*

Pg. 56, (99): 1857 Sept. 3 Saturday the Spring Creek Church met & after worship *procedd* to *buisness firs* opened the door for the reception of members & none came forward. 2nd the church agree to appoint *messengers* to the association viz Elders Joel Henly Daniel M Morgan & **breathren** John Terry **Labourn Loftis** & Robartes Vik. Wm Lchy Clk & Joel Henly M.

Pg. 56, (101) 1857 May 3 Saturday the Spring Creek Church met & after worship *proceeded* to *buisness* 1st opened the door for the reception of members none came *foward* 2nd lifted a charge against brother Robartis Vick for drinking to much as reported and agree that *breathren* **Labourn Loftis** & Wm R Webb See brother R. Vick & request him to at tend our next *meating* to answer to Said charge. Wm Lacy Clkk & Joel Henly Mod.

Pg. 57 (102) 1857 Aug. 3 Saturday the Spring Creek Church met & after worship *proseded* to *buisness* 1st opened the door for the reception of members & none came *foward* 2nd took up the case of brother Robartis Vick & after he being present & he acknowledged that he had drank to much Several times & he Said he would rather they would exclude him which was done *accordinly* 2nd the Church agree to appoint *hur dellegates* to the association & appoint *breathren* viz Joel Henly Wm R Webb & **Labourn Loftis** & then adjourned 3rd agree that brother John A Matheny write the association letter. John A Matheny Clk protem

Pg. 57 (104) 1859 May 3 Saturday & 21st day 1859 the Spring Creek Church met and after worship *proceeded* to open the door for the reception of members & none came *foward*. 2nd the reference called for & taken up & lade over till our next *meating* in *corse*. 3rd appointed brother Curry Lee & sister Lee & brother **Laborn Loftis** & **Sister Lofis** to meet with them & try to settle the difficulty between Sister Elizabeth Terry & brother Eden Terry (pg. 58) 4 brother Wm. B. Gordan & Brother Joel Henly *presberty* ordained brother **Labourn Loftis** **deacon** then adjourned. Wm Lacy Clk & Joel Henly Mod.

Pg. 58, (105) 1859 Aug. 3 Saturday the Spring creek Church met & after worship *proceeded* to *buisness* 1st opened the door for the reception of members Thomas R. Mathey Came forward & related the work of grace on his heart and was received 2nd *proceeded* to appoint delegates to the association & appointed elder Joel Henly & *breathren* **Laborn Loftis** & Samuel H, Matheny and agree to contribute 50 cts to defray the *expence* of printing the *minets* & then adjourned. Wm Webb Clk & Joel Henly Mod.

Pg. 59 (108) 1860 August the 19 1860, 3 Saturday Church met at Spring Creek and after worship *preceeded* to business, first; read and received a letter to send to the Association; second; opined a *dore* for *reseption* of members, and on Sabbath; Brother **Nimrod Hendly** and Sister Arrette Terry came *forrod* and related the work of grace on their heart, and on Monday ware *baptised*; for which the Church gladly *receved* then in *ful* fellowship; third; agreed to change the latter to represent two more members. S. H. Matheny (Clk) & Elder J. *Hendly* (Mod).

Pg. 60 (109) January 19 1861 – 3 Saturday Church met at Spring Creek after worship 1 *opied* the *dore* for reception of members *nun* came 2 Brother **Nimrod Hendly** called for a letter of *dismission* which was granted; & T R Matheny ordered to write the same. S H Matheny (Cl & Joel Hendly (Mod).

Pg. 60 (111) Third Saturday in September 866. the Church met and proceeded to business 1st Appointed our *deligates* to the association and appointed (viz) Brethren Joel Hendly D. M. Morgan William R. Webb & **Laban Loftis**. 2nd We declare an unfellowship against Keziah Vick and Morgan Smith for Joining the United Baptist. William R. Webb Clerk & Joel Hendly Modr.

Pg. 61 (111) August the Third Sunday & 16 day 1868 the Church met & after worship proceeded to business 1st opened a door 2nd Appointed *deligates* to the Association (Viz) Elder Danl., M. Morgan and Brethren **Laban Loftis** and William R. Webb 3rd Ordered that one Dollar be contributed for printing the minutes 4th and a letter be prepared to the Association by the next meeting in *couse*. William R Webnbb Clk & Danl M Morgan Moderator.

Pg. 61 (The following entries are found scattered in the back of the Spring Creek Baptist Church Record Book):

H. G. Loftis Was Born May 24th 1861

F. M. Loftis Was Born Aug 14th 1863

polinia Loftis was Born nov the 1 1859

Polley Loftis Departed this life March the 11 1885

H. G. Loftis Departed this life march the 20 1885

S. G. Loftis was Broned may the 24 1861
F. M. Loftis was borned August the 14 1864
Amany Loftis was borned May the 24 1867
Aunt Peggy Morgan Departed this life March the 24 1888

Source: Jackson County Tennessee Cemetery Inscriptions 1801 – 2003: Including Some Genealogy
By **Larry Earl Mabry & Reda Knight Bilbrey**: pg. 523

**OLD TWELVE CORNER CHURCH CEMETERY SPRING CREEK
BAPTIST CHURCH CEMETERY**

Spring Creek Baptist Church was known as Twelve Corner because the building had 12 corners to it. Located off (Hwy 135) Dodson Branch Road and on McGee Rd. Which is between the Zion Rd and McGee Rd. There is a Historical Plaque on the side of the Dodson Branch Hwy. Cemetery is in the woods. Deed calls for 2 acres. Included is the deed and a church minute published in the UCGA News letter (Upper Cumberland Genealogical Association). I was taken to the cemetery by Devern Rector. Copied March 1999.

We William P. Mabury & Sopeny B. Mabury
Joseph Robbards & Nancy Robbards

Have this day bargained and sold and do transfer and convey unto John P. Mabury and his heirs for ever for the consideration of sixty three dollars to us paid a certain track or parcel of land being in the State of Tennessee Jackson County District No. 10 of said county and name of the Hamon Land on the waters of Blackburns Fork of Roaring River containing by estimation Thirty five acres more or less and bounded as follows. Beginning on a Buckeye on the Spring Branch in Stanton Mabury's line running thence South 123 poles with a conditional line to a stake in J.E. Stults line thence East with said line 58 one half poles to a Chestnut in J.P. Mabury's thence North with Mabury's line 123 poles to a Blackgum the same being Stanton Mabury's East corner thence West with said Mabury's line 58 and one half poles to the beginning to have and to hold the same with the exceptions of two acres where the Spring Creek Church House now stands unto the said John P. Mabury his heirs forever we do covenant with the said John P. Mabury that we are lawfully seized of said land and have a good right to convey it and that the same is unencumbered we do further covenant and bind ourselves our heirs to warrant and defend the title to said land and every part therein with the above exception against the lawful claim of others what ever. This the 18th day January 1882.

Attest:

W.P. Mabury

His
Nathan X Judd

S.B. Mabury
Joseph Robbards

Mark
Nancy X Robbards
Mark
William _____

Only six graves are visible in this cemetery that dates back to the early 1800's. With the baby powder I could see the letters on two of the stones. Must go back with more equipment to clean stone better.

Roberts, Elizabeth - - - - field stone
Memory of
Has writing can't read

Three field marker with no names

(memorial made of wood with a message wrote with screws that say I Love You POWER SLAVE this one could be a pet)

After reading the minutes for the Spring Creek Baptist Church which was published in the Upper Cumberland Genealogical Society Newsletter. Original minutes are in the possession of Harold A. Hawkins, Cookeville, TN. There was a twelve corner church at this location. Also two in Overton Co., TN. There is a twelve corner near Poplar Springs and the other (Overton County) known as Roaring River Baptist Church. Rather than copy the list of members we have given the list of departed members. Many people are still trying to piece the membership list of these churches. Each church had a cemetery.

Spring Creek Baptist Church Deceased Members for this time. Certainly not a complete list.

Lacy, William Sr. departed this life 25 May 1856 at the age of 78 yrs. & 9 months

Terry, John departed this life 5 May 1859 at the age of 65 yrs.

Matheny, Thomas R. died in the Southern Army in Virginia 18 September 1861

Loftis, Polley departed this life 11 March 1885

Loftis, H. G. departed this life 20 March 1885

Morgan, Aunt Peggy departed this life 24 March 1888

Source: Siftings from Putnam County Tennessee by Mary Hopson, page 56:

At Twelve Corners was the first church to be established in Jackson County that we have any records recorded.

On July 7, 1802, Samuel McGee and Jacob Coons Presbyter, constituted by the signatures of twenty-three persons. They met for service once a month at neighborhood homes. Eight months later, "We as a church agree to pay Daniel Shipman three dollars to hew down our meeting house."

In 1805 the church paid to John Jackson, a blacksmith, ten shillings for shoeing a horse.

The church building at one time had twelve corners hence the name Twelve Corners. There was worship there from 1802 until 1938 when the building was torn down and a new one was erected at another site.

*See Spring Creek Baptist Church with images at:

<http://www.ajlambert.com>