

**REV. JAMES EARL STALLINGS COLLECTION**  
**BAPT MSS #16**  
**FINDING AID**

**INTRODUCTION:** This collection was given by Rev. Stallings son, Jim in the fall of 2007. It is Accession #B07-05.

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 4 Boxes / 113 Monographs

**HISTORICAL / BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:** (Attachment accompanying Alumni Relations email "2002-03 Alumni Awards")

"Native of Durham, North Carolina

Wife of 64 years, Ruth Langston McMahan Stallings, deceased April 2001

Education:

- Harrison Chilhowee Academy, 1939
- Bachelor of Arts, Carson-Newman College, 1943
- Master of Theology, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1947
- Honorary Doctorate, Samford University, 2001

Forced into the workforce by the Great Depression, Rev. Stallings returned to high school at age 21 and graduated at 23. Upon graduation from Harrison-Chilhowee Academy, he entered Carson-Newman where he majored in history, was named to Who's Who and was active in forensics, debate, Columbians, Ministerial Association, and Alpha Phi Omega.

Professional Development, Experience and Activities:

- 1940 Buffalo Grove Baptist Church, Jefferson City (quarter time student pastor)
- 1947-51 Dumplin Creek Baptist Church, Jefferson City (half time student pastor)
- 1947-51 Ridgedale Baptist Church, Chattanooga
- 1951-62 First Baptist Church, Ocala, FL
- 1962-65 First Baptist Church, Birmingham, AL
- 1965-77 First Baptist Church, Marietta, GA
- 1977-85 SBC Home Mission Board, Director of Christian Ministries, Arizona SBC

As a member of Birmingham, Alabama's Reconciliation Committee, Rev. Stallings was one of eight white, progressive ministers who called on the city's white and black communities to work for racial harmony during the drama of the Birmingham civil rights demonstrations. In 1963, as pastor of the Birmingham First Baptist Church whose covenant was to greet all who came to worship, Rev. Stallings greeted three black visitors (including future U.N. Ambassador, Andrew Young). In the ensuing weeks from the pulpit, he boldly "transcended the confines of the basic

salvation message and encouraged churchgoers to make a deeper spiritual commitment to justice, brotherhood, and equality.” (S. Jonathan Bass, *Blessed Are the Peacemakers*, p. 215) Subsequently, he endured threats and continual harassment for the next several years. Yet he persisted in acting on his convictions while never losing sight of his pastoral responsibilities to his congregation. In 2001, he was awarded the honorary doctorate by Samford University as a tribute for having done the right thing and facing the consequences that came with it.

His forthrightness earned him a fame he did not seek. A picture of him shaking hands with the visitors ran in the *New York Times*, and he was the only member of the Reconciliation Committee who Dr. Martin Luther King commended by name for his righteous and courageous behavior in warmly welcoming the visitors. Blasted by both segregationists and integrationists, and praying that his stand would serve as “a witness” to further the kingdom of God, Stallings has said, “ ‘It ultimately came down to the fact that I had to make a stand in Birmingham, because of the values that I learned in my life.’ Those ideals included honesty, personal integrity, a willingness to assume responsibility, and respect for the dignity of all humankind, regardless of race.” (S. Jonathan Bass, *Blessed Are the Peacemakers*, pp. 72-73)

**INCLUSIVE DATES:** 1947-2003

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTES:** The collection consists mainly of sermons given by Rev. Stallings during the latter half of his ministry. These files are labeled by number, book of the Bible, or topic. Sermons are dated as to when they were given. Included are copies poems that he regularly read during his sermons. There are a few files dealing with Senior Adult ministry. One folder includes correspondence and clippings related to Carson-Newman and his being named Distinguished Alumnus for 2002-03. 113 monographs span his ministry, beginning with his seminary days. There are three sets of index cards, listing sermons by topic, book of the Bible, and various prayers.

**SERIES DESCRIPTION:**

Correspondence

Monographs

Notes

Poems

Sermons

**CONTAINER LISTS:**

**Box 1**

Index cards listing sermons by topic, book of the Bible, and various prayers.

**Box 2 Sermons**

- Folder 1 SF 1-10
- Folder 2 SF 11-20
- Folder 3 SF 21-30
- Folder 4 SF 31-40
- Folder 5 SF 41-60
- Folder 6 SF 61-70
- Folder 7 SF 71-80
- Folder 8 SF 81-90
- Folder 9 SF 91-100
- Folder 10 SF 101-110
- Folder 11 SF 111-120
- Folder 12 SF 121-140
- Folder 13 SF 141-160
- Folder 14 SF 161-180
- Folder 15 SF 181-200
- Folder 16 SF 201-210
- Folder 17 SF 211-220
- Folder 18 SF 221-240
- Folder 19 SF 241-249
- Folder 20 SF 250-260
- Folder 21 SF 261-270
- Folder 22 SF 271-280
- Folder 23 SF 281-287
- Folder 24 SF 288-300
- Folder 25 SF 301-310
- Folder 26 SF 311-320
- Folder 27 SF 321-329
- Folder 28 SF330-340

**Box 3 Sermons**

- Folder 1 SF 341-350
- Folder 2 SF 350-360
- Folder 3 SF 361-370
- Folder 4 SF 371-380
- Folder 5 SF 381-390
- Folder 6 SF 391-400
- Folder 7 SF 401-420
- Folder 8 SF 421-430
- Folder 9 SF 431-440
- Folder 10 SF 441-450
- Folder 11 SF 451-460

Folder 12 SF 461-470  
Folder 13 SF 471-480  
Folder 14 SF 521-533  
Folder 15 SF 534-540  
Folder 16 SF 541-544  
Folder 17 SF 545-550  
Folder 18 SF 551-556  
Folder 19 SF 557-560  
Folder 20 SF 561-565  
Folder 21 SF 566-570  
Folder 22 SF 571-574  
Folder 23 Exodus  
Folder 24 Psalms 1 of 2  
Folder 25 Psalms 2 of 2  
Folder 26 Jeremiah

**Box 4 Sermons / Cambridge Studies / Senior Adult Ministry / 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church, Birmingham /  
College Related**

Folder 1 Matthew  
Folder 2 Mark  
Folder 3 Acts  
Folder 4 Ephesians  
Folder 5 Philippians  
Folder 6 Colossians  
Folder 7 I&II Timothy  
Folder 8 James  
Folder 9 I,II,III John  
Folder 10 (Christmas)  
Folder 11 Crucifixion  
Folder 12 "Pastor"  
Folder 13 "When the Children Leave Home"  
Folder 14 "Sermons / Sermon Material" 1 of 3  
Folder 15 "Sermons / Sermon Material" 2 of 3  
Folder 16 "Sermons / Sermon Material" 1 of 3  
Folder 17 Poems 1 of 2  
Folder 18 Poems 2 of 2  
Folder 19 Cambridge Studies Notes  
Folder 20 Senior Adult Ministry  
Folder 21 Senior Adult Ministry  
Folder 22 Senior Adult Ministry  
Folder 23 Senior Adult Ministry  
Folder 24 Senior Adult Ministry



The Great Texts of the Bible (St. Matthew) ed. by James Hastings (1914)  
Greek New Testament ed. by Eberheard Nestle (1936)  
Guilt and Grace by Paul Tournier (1962)  
Hammer and Sparks by William Franklin Anderson (1943)  
A Harmony of the Gospels For Students of the Life of Christ by A. T. Robertson (1922)  
The History of Israel by Martin Noth (1972)  
I Quote by Virginia Ely (1947)  
If With All Your Heart by Roy O. McClain (1941)  
Illustrations From Art by William E. Biederwolf (1930)  
The Interlinear Greek-English New Testament by Alfred Marshall (1966)  
Into the Holiest by William L. Pettingill (1939)  
Is This Divorce Really Necessary? by R. Lofton Hudson (1983)  
Ivanhoe by Sir Walter Scott (u.d.)  
Just As I Am by Billy Graham (1997)  
The Lamb, the Woman and the Dragon by Albertus Pieters (1937)  
Lamps of Gold by Samuel Judson Porter (1928)  
Lectures on Christian Theology by R. Lofton Hudson (1977)  
Practical Lectures on Daniel by J. Frank Norris (u.d.)  
Letters From Mother by Billie McMurry Emmons (1967)  
A Little Book of Friendship ed. by Joseph Morris and St. Clair Adams (1925)  
Livingstone the Liberator by James I. Macnair (u.d.)  
The Local Church in Ministry by William M. Pinson, Jr. (1973)  
Love and Marriage by R. Lofton Hudson (u.d.)  
Love With No Strings by Elaine Selcraig Furlow/Photos by Don Rutledge (1977)  
A Manual of Ecclesiology by H. E. Dana (1944)  
Marriage by William Lyon Phelps (1943)  
Masterpieces of Religious Verse ed. by James Dalton Morrison (1948)  
The Mighty Savior by Arthur J. Moore (1952)  
More Prayers for the Plain Man by William Barclay (1965)  
The Name Above Every Name by Robert G. Lee (1938)  
New Testament Evangelism in the Christian Life by C. B. Jackson (u.d.)  
Notes on the New Testament by Albert Barnes Vol. V Corinthians (u.d.)  
On Being Fit to Live With by Harry Emerson Fosdick (1946)  
On Death and Dying by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross (1969)  
The Parables of Our Saviour by William M. Taylor (1891)  
The People Called Baptists by George W. McDaniel (1919)  
Poems For Father A Loving Heritage (2001)  
The Poetical Works of Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1900)  
The Practice of the Presence of God by Brother Lawrence (1958)  
A Homiletic Commentary on the Book of Genesis by J. S. Exell (u.d.)  
The Problem of Pain by John Edgar McFadyen (u.d.)  
The Prophecies of Isaiah by T. K. Cheyne Vol. I (1886)

The Prophet by Kahlil Gibran (1965)  
Proximities of Calvary by Robert G. Lee (1940)  
The Religion of a Sound Mind by R. Lofton Hudson (1949)  
Roget's Thesaurus (1940)  
The Romance of a Pioneer Baptist Church by Glenn A. Toomey (1947)  
Rubble and Roseleaves by f. W. Boreham (1923)  
Seven Promises of A Promise Keeper (1994)  
Seven Simple Sermons on the Saviour's Last Words by W. Herschel Ford (1953)  
Soul Consciousness After Death by Len G. Broughton (1924)  
Spiritual Life Development by Mildred McMurry (1964)  
The Splendor of God (1960)  
The Student's Milton ed. by Frank Allen Patterson (1936)  
Studies in Hebrews by Herschell H. Hobbs (1954)  
Studies in Life From Hebrew Proverbs by W. A. L. Elmslie (u.d.)  
Studies on Isaiah by J. Frank Norris (u.d.)  
The Things Which Shall Be Hereafter by Russell Bradley Jones (1947)  
Thoughts God Gave to Me by Louise Drake Arnold (1970)  
Truman by David McCullough (1992)  
Why Not Just Be Christians? By Vance Havner (1964)  
Won By One by Clyde Merrill Maguire (1958)  
Your Life and Your Church by James L. Sullivan (1951)

Works by F. W. Boreham

The Crystal Pointers (1925)  
The Golden Milestone (1920)  
The Home of the Echoes (1921)  
Mountains in the Mist (1921)  
Mushrooms on the Moor (1920)  
The Nest of Spears (1927)  
The Other Side of the Hill and Home Again (1917)  
The Silver Shadow (1918)  
A Tuft of Comet's Hair (1926)  
The Uttermost Star (1919)  
Wisps of Wildfire (1924)

New Testament KJV [\*Given to Gregory Paul Bishop by Rev. Stallings Mar 7, 1974]  
The Covenant of God's Love (1998) [\*Given to Rev. Stallings by Vernon ? May 24, 2001]  
New King James New Testament (1990)  
Carson-Newman College 150 Years of Faith and Excellence 1851-2001 (2002)