

## Preserving Your Church History Through the Oral Tradition

All churches, like people, have a story to tell. If your church is interested in preserving some or all of its history, one way is through the oral tradition. For millennia people have preserved their past through verbal communication. Long before human civilization figured out how to write, information was passed down by each generation verbally. It doesn't require expensive equipment, but it does require some legal forms to be completed by participants as to how their Oral History can be used. Most people conducting oral histories can use available equipment, like a smartphone or a laptop computer. If your church is interested in conducting an oral history they can contact:

David L. Dickey  
Oral Historian  
[dldhistorian@gmail.com](mailto:dldhistorian@gmail.com)  
573.450.1013

### Education

**Master of Arts in History, Southeast Missouri State University. 1988**

**Graduated with Academic Distinction.**

Teaching Assistant 1987 - 1988, Department of History.

Research Assistant 1985 - 1987, Center for Regional History.

**B.S. Business Administration, Southeast Missouri State University. 1979**

### Projects

**ORAL HISTORIAN – Cape Girardeau County Historical Society On-going**

Oral Histories of citizens of Cape Girardeau County, Missouri

**DIRECTOR, ORAL HISTORY PROJECT – Southeast Missouri State University 1989**

Compile and edit oral interviews for a book-length manuscript on the Cotton Industry of Scott County, Missouri.

**ORAL HISTORIAN - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wappapello, Missouri 1987**

Conducted an oral history of the Old Greenville area and helped establish an Oral History and Folklore Volunteer Program. As a result of the Oral History project we were able to identify, locate and plat businesses that had existed at the original town site before the construction of the dam and the city being moved to its current location.

**BOOK - Southeast Missouri State University**

**1989**

Compiled and edited oral interviews into a book entitled, **A Reminiscent History of Cotton in Scott County, Missouri.**

**VIDEO - Southeast Missouri State University**

**1988**

Produced a documentary video as a Creative Project in lieu of thesis entitled, **Portrait of a Bridge: The Construction of the Thebes Railroad Bridge, Thebes, Illinois.**

**Resume Provided Upon Request**