

**GILBERT KEARNIE KEEGAN COLLECTION**

**AR 795-178**



**SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES**

**2024**

## GILBERT KEARNIE KEEGAN COLLECTION

AR 795-178

### Summary.

Main entry: Keegan, Gilbert Kearnie, 1907-1960

Date Span: 1909-1967

Abstract: The collection documents the life and work of Kearnie Keegan, Baptist clergyman and denominational Baptist student leader. Collection chronicles his work as pastor with extensive information on the churches he served. The material also tells the story of the student program of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. Collection includes extensive sermon outlines and notes of Keegan and of Ezra K. Shultz, a Kentucky minister. Clipping scrapbooks detail the ministry of Keegan from 1938 to 1952.

Size: 8 linear ft. (17 document boxes 2 oversized boxes)

Collection #: AR 795-178

**Biographical sketch:** Gilbert Kearnie Keegan was born on January 31, 1907 in Bunkie, Louisiana. The family eventually moved to Natchitoches, Louisiana. He was converted to faith in Christ and joined the First Baptist Church, Natchitoches in 1919. He graduated from Northwestern College in Natchitoches in 1927 with his A.B. degree. He taught school several years before enrolling at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth. He completed his seminary degree in 1933. He served as pastor to several churches in the area during his seminary days. In 1932, he accepted the call as pastor to his home church, First Baptist Church, Natchitoches, Louisiana. From 1935 to 1941 he served in several positions in the Louisiana Baptist Convention, including Educational Secretary and director of the Louisiana Baptist Assembly. From 1938 to 1945 he served as a trustee for the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In 1937, Keegan returned to the pastorate when he became pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist Church in Alexandria, Louisiana. From 1941 to 1945 he served as pastor to the First Baptist Church, Longview, Texas. During this period, he directed a campaign to raise money for the Truett Memorial Building on the campus of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. From 1945 to 1950 he served as pastor to the Temple Baptist Church in Los Angeles, California.

Keegan was active in the Baptist World Alliance, attending many meetings and was involved in work of the BWA's youth department. Keegan's work with youth and students attracted the attention of the Sunday School Board in Nashville. He was selected to serve as head of the Student Department at the Board in 1950. He would serve in that role until his death on September 13, 1960. He was buried in Woodlawn Memorial Park in Nashville.

A more extensive biographical note is found in the Collection File in the Archives.

**Scope and content note:** The collection includes correspondence, topical files, material related to churches served by Keegan, and files linked to his work with the Louisiana Baptist Convention, in

particular the Mandeville Assembly. The collection documents his travel and involvement in the Baptist World Alliance. The scrapbooks chronicle his ministry with churches and the Sunday School Board. The most prominent parts of the collection are sermons, sermon notes, and outlines. Approximately 1000 sermon outlines and notes by Keegan are in the collection. When possible, these have been sorted by topic or subject. Only a few sermons include the full text of his sermons. Also included in the collection are the sermons of Ezra K. Shultz, a Kentucky minister. These sermons are numbered with some arranged by number and some are slotted by sermon topic. The collection also records the activities and ministry of the Student Department of the Sunday School Board through meetings and events.

Although the correspondence is not extensive, it does include letters with prominent Southern Baptist leaders, including, Clifton J. Allen, P. E. Burroughs, J. B. Cranfill, W. A. Criswell, J. M. Dawson, J. D. Grey, Jacob Gartenhaus, E. D. Head, E. E. Lee, T. B. Maston, Pat Neff, L. R. Scarborough, B.W. Spilman, and George W. Truett.

**Arrangement:** Folders are arranged in alphabetical order by folder title.

**Provenance:** Transferred from the Dargan Library, 1991. Originally donated by Marian Keegan, 1967.

**Preferred citation:** Gilbert Kearnie Keegan Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

**Access restrictions:** None

**Subject terms:**

Keegan, Gilbert Kearnie, 1907-1960

Shultz, Ezra K.

Baptist World Alliance

Brandon Baptist Church, Brandon, Texas

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Alexandria, Louisiana

First Baptist Church, Longview, Texas

Louisiana Baptist Convention

Mandyville Assembly (Louisiana)

Sermons - Baptists

Southern Baptist Convention. Sunday School Board

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Sunday schools.

Temple Baptist Church, Los Angeles, California

## Container list:

### Box 1

- 1.1 Addresses, 1948-1958
- 1.2 Baptist Beliefs and History – Clippings and articles, 1945-1948
- 1.3 Baptist Jubilee Advance, 1964
- 1.4 Baptist schools, 1939-1940
- 1.5 Baptist Student Convention, 1950
- 1.6 Baptist Student Retreat – International Guest – Photographs, 1959
- 1.7 Baptist Student Union – Keegan notes
- 1.8 Baptist World Alliance, 1937-1961
- 1.9 Baptist World Alliance - Congress, 1939
- 1.10 Baptist World Alliance - Congress, 1947
- 1.11 Baptist World Alliance – Congress, 1947
- 1.12 Baptist World Alliance – Congress, 1955
- 1.13 Baptist World Alliance – Congress, 1960

### Box 1A

- 1A.1 Baptist World Alliance – Youth Conference, 1953
- 1A.2 Baptist World Alliance – Youth Conference, 1953
- 1A.3 Baptist World Alliance – Youth Conference – Correspondence, 1953
- 1A.4 Baptist World Alliance – Youth conference, 1958
- 1A.5 Bible Study – Philippians
- 1A.6 Biographical Information – Keegan
- 1A.7 Book – Your next big step, 1961
- 1A.8 Brandon Baptist Church, Brandon, Texas, 1930-1960
- 1A.9 Buttons and Badges, 1935-1957
- 1A.10 Calendars/Appointment Books, 1936-1945

### Box 2

- 2.1 Calendars/Appointment Books, 1950-1956
- 2.2 Calendars/Appointment Books, 1957-1960
- 2.3 California Baptist Seminary, 1949
- 2.4 Cameron, W. J. – Pamphlets, 1934-1936
- 2.5 Carrbon, M. Arnold – “I saw it first” – Bombing of Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941
- 2.6 Challenge of Youth – Convention, 1946
- 2.7 Class Papers – Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
- 2.8 Clippings – Keegan, Kearnie, 1925-1960
- 2.9 Communist Infiltration in the United States, 1946
- 2.10 Correspondence, A-B, 1941-1950
- 2.11 Correspondence, C, 1942-1950
- 2.12 Correspondence, D, 1942-1950
- 2.13 Correspondence, E-F, 1937-1950
- 2.14 Correspondence, G, 1943-1962

- 2.15 Correspondence, H, 1935-1950
- 2.16 Correspondence, Hoover, J. Edgar, 1943
- 2.17 Correspondence, I-J-K, 1941-1950
- 2.18 Correspondence, L-M-N, 1945-1964
- 2.19 Correspondence, O-P, 1941-1950
- 2.20 Correspondence, R, 1941-1950
- 2.21 Correspondence, S, 1941-1960
- 2.22 Correspondence, T, 1933-1950
- 2.23 Correspondence, U-Z, 1940-1960
- 2.24 Correspondence – Condolences – A, 1960
- 2.25 Correspondence – Condolences – B, 1960

**Box 3**

- 3.1 Correspondence – Condolences – C-D, 1960
- 3.2 Correspondence – Condolences – E-G, 1960
- 3.3 Correspondence – Condolences – H-J, 1960
- 3.4 Correspondence – Condolences – K-L, 1960
- 3.5 Correspondence – Condolences – M-P, 1960
- 3.6 Correspondence – Condolences – R-S, 1960
- 3.7 Correspondence – Condolences – T-Z, 1960
- 3.8 “Crisis in our ministry to students” – Keegan, 1959
- 3.9 Dodd, M. E. – “Lovely Louisiana” – pamphlet, 1937
- 3.10 Emmanuel Baptist Church, Alexandria, Louisiana – Church bulletin, 1937-1939
- 3.11 Emmanuel Baptist Church, Alexandria, Louisiana – Church bulletin, 1939-1941

**Box 4**

- 4.1 Emmanuel Baptist Church, Alexandria, Louisiana – Pastorate, 1937-1950
- 4.2 Engagements – Speaking – Clippings, 1943-1960
- 4.3 Engagements – Speaking – Programs, 1938-1960
- 4.4 Executive Committee, SBC, 1938-1940
- 4.5 First Baptist Church, Longview, Texas, 1941
- 4.6 First Baptist Church, Longview, Texas, 1942-1944
- 4.7 First Baptist Church, Longview, Texas, 1942-1960
- 4.8 First Baptist Church, Longview, Texas – Church Bulletin, 1941-1942
- 4.9 First Baptist Church, Longview, Texas – Church Bulletin, 1943-1944

**Box 5**

- 5.1 First Baptist Church, Natchitoches, Louisiana, 1944-1964
- 5.2 Funeral Record Book – Texas and Louisiana, 1941-1947
- 5.3 Hawaii, University of – BSU – Trip, 1948
- 5.4 Illustrations, Jokes, and Stories
- 5.5 Invitations to speak, 1940-1941
- 5.6 Keegan, Kearnier – Death clippings, 1960
- 5.7 Keegan Memorial Scholarship Fund, 1960-1967

- 5.8 Louisiana Baptist Convention, 1939-1941
- 5.9 Louisiana - Baptist Student Work, 1933-1948
- 5.10 Louisiana – Baptist Student Work – Correspondence, 1935
- 5.11 Mandeville Assembly- Drowning of camper and shooting of Keegan, 1938
- 5.12 Mandeville Southeast Baptist Assembly, Mandeville, Louisiana, 1909-1961
- 5.13 Many High School, Many, Louisiana – Photograph
- 5.14 Music

#### **Box 6**

- 6.1 National Baptist Student Union – Directory and Guide, 1960
- 6.2 Notebooks, 1956, 1959
- 6.3 Notes (undated)
- 6.4 Orient Trip, 1959
- 6.5 Orient Trip – Correspondence, 1959
- 6.6 Orient Trip – General Information, 1959
- 6.7 Orient Trip – Japan, 1959
- 6.8 Orient Trip – Photographs, 1959
- 6.9 Pastor Search Committee – Correspondence, 1937-1954
- 6.10 Pastoral Record Book, 1943-1944
- 6.11 Personal, 1941-1960
- 6.12 Photographs – Foreign Mission Banquet – St. Louis, 1953
- 6.13 Photographs – Keegan, Kearnie
- 6.14 Photographs – Louisiana work
- 6.15 Poetry

#### **Box 7**

- 7.1 Prayer
- 7.2 President of the United States – Correspondence, 1945-1946
- 7.3 Radio devotionals (undated)
- 7.4 Recordings and singing – Correspondence, 1961-1962
- 7.5 Religious Education
- 7.6 Revival – New Orleans, 1948-1949
- 7.7 Rotary Club, 1958-1961
- 7.8 Sermons – Acts
- 7.9 Sermons – Addresses
- 7.10 Sermons – Anniversaries
- 7.11 Sermons – Assurance
- 7.12 Sermons – Baptism/Lord’s Supper
- 7.13 Sermons – Baptist Hospital
- 7.14 Sermons – Baptist Hour (various speakers)
- 7.15 Sermons – Beatitudes/Bible
- 7.16 Sermons – Bible
- 7.17 Sermons – Bible Characters
- 7.18 Sermons – Biography

- 7.19 Sermons – Blood/Atonement
- 7.20 Sermons – Capital and Organized Labor
- 7.21 Sermons – Character
- 7.22 Sermons – Christ
- 7.23 Sermons – Christian Home
- 7.24 Sermons – Christmas, Thanksgiving, New Year
- 7.25 Sermons – Church
- 7.26 Sermons – Church Music

**Box 8**

- 8.1 Sermons – Citizenship related
- 8.2 Sermons – Commandments
- 8.3 Sermons – Consecration
- 8.4 Sermons – Conventions
- 8.5 Sermons – Convictions
- 8.6 Sermons – Creation, Heaven, Rewards
- 8.7 Sermons – Cross and Crucifixion
- 8.8 Sermons – Denomination Related
- 8.9 Sermons – Discipleship
- 8.10 Sermons – Doubt
- 8.11 Sermons – Encouragement
- 8.12 Sermons – Esther
- 8.13 Sermons – Evangelistic
- 8.14 Sermons – Exodus
- 8.15 Sermons – Ezra
- 8.16 Sermons – Faithfulness
- 8.17 Sermons – Falls Creek Assembly – Audio tape recordings, 1960

**Box 9**

- 9.1 Sermons – Fathers, Mothers, Youth
- 9.2 Sermons – Fear, Despair and Suffering
- 9.3 Sermons – Freedom
- 9.4 Sermons – Funerals
- 9.5 Sermons – General
- 9.6 Sermons – General
- 9.7 Sermons – General
- 9.8 Sermons – General
- 9.9 Sermons – General
- 9.10 Sermons – General

**Box 10**

- 10.1 Sermons – God
- 10.2 Sermons – Gospel
- 10.3 Sermons – Grace

- 10.4 Sermons – Gratitude
- 10.5 Sermons – Growth
- 10.6 Sermons – Happiness and Hope
- 10.7 Sermons – Heaven
- 10.8 Sermons – Hell/Satan
- 10.9 Sermons – Heresies
- 10.10 Sermons – Holy Spirit
- 10.11 Sermons – Humility
- 10.12 Sermons – Hypocrisy
- 10.13 Sermons – Influence
- 10.14 Sermons – Israel (nation and people)
- 10.15 Sermons – Jealousy
- 10.16 Sermons – Job
- 10.17 Sermons – Jonah
- 10.18 Sermons – Judgement
- 10.19 Sermons – Julianel, Lewis J.
- 10.20 Sermons – 1 Kings
- 10.21 Sermons – Last sermon preached by Keegan, August, 1960
- 10.22 Sermons – Liquor/ Temperance
- 10.23 Sermons – Lordship of Christ
- 10.24 Sermons – Lot
- 10.25 Sermons – Love
- 10.26 Sermons – Ministry
- 10.27 Sermons – Miracles
- 10.28 Sermons – Missions
- 10.29 Sermons – Model Girl
- 10.30 Sermons – Obedience
- 10.31 Sermons – Parables
- 10.32 Sermons – Peace
- 10.33 Sermons – Power
- 10.34 Sermons – Prayer
- 10.35 Sermons – Printed – Various ministers, 1940-1960
- 10.36 Sermons – Prohibition
- 10.37 Sermons – Promises
- 10.38 Sermons – Proppe, Harold L. – First Baptist Church of Hollywood, 1947-1948

**Box 11**

- 11.1 Sermons – Psalms
- 11.2 Sermons – Purpose and hope
- 11.3 Sermons – Race relations and equality
- 11.4 Sermons – Regeneration and salvation
- 11.5 Sermons – Responsibility
- 11.6 Sermons – Resurrection
- 11.7 Sermons – Revelations

- 11.8 Sermons – Revival/Soul winning
- 11.9 Sermons – Ruth
- 11.10 Sermons – Sabbath keeping
- 11.11 Sermons – Salvation
- 11.12 Sermons – Second coming
- 11.13 Sermons – Service
- 11.14 Sermons – Sin
- 11.15 Sermons – Stewardship
- 11.16 Sermons – Success
- 11.17 Sermons – Sunday school
- 11.18 Sermons – Sunday School Board
- 11.19 Sermons – Text of sermons, 1945-1948
- 11.20 Sermons – Trust and faith
- 11.21 Sermons – V-J Day schedule, 1945
- 11.22 Sermons – Vision/Choice
- 11.23 Sermons – War in Europe
- 11.24 Sermons – Wisdom
- 11.25 Sermons – Worldliness
- 11.26 Sermons – Young Men’s Christian Association

**Box 12**

- 12.1 Sermon List – Shultz, Ezra K.
- 12.2 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – 1-50
- 12.3 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – 51-100
- 12.4 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – 101-150
- 12.5 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – 151-200
- 12.6 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – 201-300
- 12.7 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – 301-400
- 12.8 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – 401-500
- 12.9 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – 501-600
- 12.10 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – 601-650
- 12.11 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – 651-750

**Box 13**

- 13.1 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Amos
- 13.2 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Baptist Doctrines
- 13.3 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Benevolence
- 13.4 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Bible
- 13.5 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Christmas
- 13.6 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Church
- 13.7 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Commandments
- 13.8 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Creation
- 13.9 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Cross and Crucifixion
- 13.10 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Dancing

- 13.11 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – David and Psalms
- 13.12 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Deacons
- 13.13 Sermons - Shultz, Ezra K. – Discipleship
- 13.14 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Evangelism
- 13.15 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Exodus
- 13.16 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Fanny Crosby Service
- 13.17 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Gambling
- 13.18 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – God
- 13.19 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Holy Spirit
- 13.20 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Jesus
- 13.21 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Leviticus
- 13.22 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Lord’s Supper
- 13.23 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Manhood
- 13.24 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Marriage
- 13.25 Sermons - Shultz, Ezra K. – Masons and secret orders
- 13.26 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Missions
- 13.27 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Prayer
- 13.28 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Romans
- 13.29 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Salvation
- 13.30 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Sermon on the Mount
- 13.31 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Service
- 13.32 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Social Concerns
- 13.33 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Sunday school
- 13.34 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Temptation
- 13.35 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Thanksgiving
- 13.36 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Womanhood
- 13.37 Sermons – Shultz, Ezra K. – Unsorted and unnumbered
- 13.38 Shultz, Ezra K. – Miscellaneous items
- 13.39 Shultz, Ezra K. – Correspondence – Alien immersion, 1914
- 13.40 Southern Baptist Convention, 1920
- 13.41 Southern Baptist Convention – Youth night, 1951
- 13.42 Southern Baptist Convention – Youth night, 1951- Tape recording
- 13.43 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary – Alumni Group, 1946
- 13.44 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary – Lacy, Rogers – Correspondence, 1945-1949

**Box 14**

- 14.1 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
- 14.2 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary – Truett Memorial Building
- 14.3 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary – Truett Memorial Building, 1944-1945
- 14.4 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary – Truett Memorial Building, 1944-1945
- 14.5 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary – Truett Memorial Building –Correspondence, 1944-1950
- 14.6 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary – Truett Memorial Building- Photographs

- 14.7 Student Department – Articles and clippings, 1938
- 14.8 Student Department – Correspondence, 1950-1959
- 14.9 Student Department – Reports, 1950-1951
- 14.10 Student Night at Christmas, 1966
- 14.11 Student Retreats – Glorieta, 1953-1957
- 14.12 Student Retreats – Ridgecrest – Photographs, 1953-1954
- 14.13 Student work – Sunday School Board – Programs, 1942-1960

**Box 15**

- 15.1 Sunday School Board – Congratulation Letters on being named as Secretary for Student Department (A-I), 1950
- 15.2 Sunday School Board – Congratulation Letters on being named as Secretary for Student Department (J-ZI), 1950
- 15.3 Sunday School Board – Photograph Album, 1959
- 15.4 Sunday School Board Report, 1960
- 15.5 Temple Baptist Church – Los Angeles, California, 1944-1945
- 15.6 Temple Baptist Church – Los Angeles, California, 1945-1950
- 15.7 Temple Baptist Church – Los Angeles, California, 1947-1950
- 15.8 Temple Baptist Church – Los Angeles, California – Funeral Record, 1947-1950
- 15.9 Temple Baptist Church – Los Angeles, California – Letters of welcome, 1945
- 15.10 Temple Baptist Church – Los Angeles, California – Letters on leaving, 1950

**Box 16**

- 16.1 Temple Baptist Church – Los Angeles, California – Ministerial record book, 1947-1950
- 16.2 Temple Baptist Messenger, 1945
- 16.3 Temple Baptist Messenger, 1946
- 16.4 Temple Baptist Messenger, 1947
- 16.5 Temple Baptist Messenger, 1948

**Box 17**

- 17.1 Temple Baptist Messenger, 1949
- 17.2 Temple Baptist Messenger, 1950
- 17.3 Truett, George W. – Clipping, 1944
- 17.4 Weddings – Record book, 1938-1949
- 17.5 World Missions Conference, 1956
- 17.6 Writings, 1951-1965
- 17.7 United States – House of Representatives – Prayer, October 21, 1943

**Box 18 Oversized**

- 18.1 Audio recording – Keegan address to students at University of Hawaii, April 1, 1954
- 18.2 Hello, First Baptist Church, Longview, Texas – Newsletter, 1942-1944
- 18.3 McKinney, B. B. – Oversized photograph

- 18.4 Motion Picture Films – 16 mm
  - 1. "The P.V. & T Railroad "Casey Jones" Keegan at the throttle, New Orleans, LA, May, 1949
  - 2. Keegan in Honolulu, Hawaii, in film with Keegan, E. H. Westmoreland and C. K. Dozier, 1948
- 18.5 Scrapbook, 1938-1941 (mostly clippings)

**Box 19 Oversized**

- 19.1 Scrapbook, July 1942-July 1943
- 19.2 Scrapbook – Longview - August 1944-February 1945
- 19.3 Scrapbook – January 1945-July 1947
- 19.4 Scrapbook – May 1947-November 1948
- 19.5 Scrapbook – December 1948-December 1949
- 19.6 Scrapbook – 1950-1952
- 19.7 Sheet music