
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH RECORDS AS GENEALOGY RESOURCES

MICHAEL ROBERTSON

COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY—PUBLIC SERVICES ARCHIVIST



C. BENTON KLINE, JR. SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

Our Mission

- To serve as the repository for the documentation of the Seminary's administrative activities and educational programs, its publications, memorabilia, photographic records, and the occasional memoirs and personal papers of the Seminary's faculty.
- To collect and care for personal and organizational materials relating to the activities of the "Southern Stream" of Presbyterianism. The "Southern Stream" of Presbyterianism includes PC (US) churches and presbyteries in the southeastern United States and significant historical events such as slavery, the civil war, and the evolution debate. In addition, Presbyterian women's histories from across the United States are collected and cared for in the archives.
 - We are the Southern counterpart of the Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia.

C. BENTON KLINE, JR. SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

What do we have here?

- Items on deposit
 - Congregational records (“church records”)
 - Presbytery records
- Items owned by CTS
 - Seminary historical records and memorabilia
 - Personal papers
 - Relatively small number of artifacts
 - E.g., Spence Cross Collection
 - Presbyterian Women’s Histories

LIMITATIONS ON ACCESS

- PC(USA) session or presbytery records from within last 50 years
 - Need permission from creating body
(through either congregation's clerk of session or presbytery's stated clerk)
- Brittle materials, other standard archival concerns
 - Case-by-case basis

SESSION MINUTES

Their clerk to Cite said Simpson & Davidson
& Isabella M. Elvean & such other persons as
either party direct to appear before Session at
this place on Thursday 15th Instant.

Jan^y 18th 1793 Session met Constituted by pro-
-er Moderator Rev^d William Williamson Elders
present John Davidson Hugh Means James Means
Robert Harris, The Clerk reports he Cited Wil-
liam Simpson & Thomas Davidson and conj^y
to cite Capt. John Stoney, & Sarah Lusk
M^{rs} M. Elvean was duly cited and appeared with refer
present William Simpson & Thomas Davidson
William Simpson saith on Oath himself & Wife w^o

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S HISTORIES

BIRTHS

April 9, 1989 - Austin Thomas Hendricks
Proud parents: Mike and Jackie Hendricks
Big brother: Morgan Hendricks

May 17, 1989 - Sarah Catherine Brandon
Proud parents: Mike and Patty Brandon
Big brother: James Howard Brandon II

October 20, 1989 - Matthew Ryan Young
Proud parents: Randy and Trish Young

November 8, 1989 - Joshua Robert Ingram
Proud parents: Bob and Terry Ingram

November 15, 1989 - Sarah Ann Wagon
Proud parents: Vic and Lori Wagon

DEATHS

February 28, 1989 - Mr. Howard Mitchell, passed away suddenly at home. A very faithful member. Mr. Mitchell was the husband of Mrs. Mildred Mitchell. He will be missed.

May 1, 1989 - Mrs. Nellie Austin, our oldest member of the church. She was a resident of Starcrest Nursing Home in McDonough.

August 4, 1989 - Mr. Harry Wilson, step-father of Mr. Paul Pickering.

September 29, 1989 - Mr. Richard N. Cooper, a long-time member of the church. He passed away after a long illness with lung cancer. Mr. Cooper was the husband of Mrs. Sarah Cooper. He will be greatly missed.

MARRIAGES

February 17, 1989 - Bill and Charisse Rhodes

May 13, 1989 - Craig Tuten and Tracey Willis

May 21, 1989 - Jack Asbell and Elizabeth Curran

June 3, 1989 - Rick and Mona Miller

November 14, 1989 - Gary McCurdy and Annette Barker

December 9, 1989 - David Mills and Carla Wood

BAPTISMS

February 5, 1989 - Mrs. Georgia Brown

May 14, 1989 - Jessica Elizabeth Jordan
Parents: Jim and Tina Jordan

May 14, 1989 - James Michael Jordan
Parents: Jim and Tina Jordan

May 21, 1989 - Austin Thomas Hendricks
Parents: Mike and Jackie Hendricks

August 20, 1989 - Sarah Catherine Brandon
Parents: Mike and Patty Brandon

December 17, 1989 - Mr. Randy Young

December 17, 1989 - Matthew Ryan Young
Parents: Randy and Trish Young

December 10, 1989 - Michelle Smith
Parents: David and Rose Smith

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTERS

CHRONOLOGICAL ROLL

This Chronological Roll of Active Members is to be continued without erasures or repetitions from year to year through the successive pastorates and vacancies. All names are to be entered in full at the date of reception, numbered consecutively and entered with their respective numbers in the Alphabetical Index. If a new pastor desires a roll of actual members, it should be kept in another book. (See Book of Church Discipline, Chapter II, Sec. 4)

NO.	NAME IN FULL	RECEIVED		IF BAPTIZED OR RECEPTION INDICATE HERE
		BY CERTIFICATE DATE	ON CONFESSION OR REAFFIRMATION DATE	
240	Cecilia Ngwa	1-5-97		
241	Kristen Swathway	2-16-97		
42	Peter P. Sol	6-22-97		
43	Abraham Lithol	6-22-97		
44	Arthur Straw	9-21-97	9-21-97	
45	Frederica Straw	9-21-97	9-21-97	
46	Sharon Rice		2-22-98	
47	Christie Cameron			4-26-98
48	Wylene Jackson		7-19-98	
49	Reborah Jackson		7-19-98	
50	Marva Boyce	11-8-98		
51	Joel Brodwin			
52	Harold Brodwin			
53	Patsy Meese (Nona)	11-8-98		
54	Geoffrey Wile	11-8-98		
55	Felicia Hedrick	11-8-98		
56	Sharon Jeffers		1-23-99	
57	Gibson Barika	1-23-99		
58	Tanya Ferguson	1-23-99	affiliate member	
59	Anna Nii	1-23-99		
60	Gregory Bryan		1-23-99	
61	Katie Calderon			4-4-99
62	Andrew Osouna			Profession of
63	Jemma Osouna	8-22-99		5-30-99
64	Malachi Odhiambo	8-22-99		
65	Anna Nii	8-22-99		

Called Session Meeting January 23, 1999

The meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Dr. Wendell Phillips, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was opened with prayer. The purpose of this called meeting was to receive Sharon Jeffers, Gibson Barika, and Tanya Ferguson into membership at MDPC.

Pastors Present: Dr. Wendell Phillips

Elders Present:

Lou Reaves	Steve Ewald
JoAnne Frith	Jeff Davis
Ron Johnson	Joan Everett

The moderator introduced Sharon, Gibson and Tanya. Sharon Jeffers comes to Stone Mountain from the Virgin Islands and is joining by reaffirmation of faith. Gibson Barika is joining by letter of transfer from the Anglican Church of Nigeria. Tanya Ferguson is a member of the Anglican Church of the Bahamas and seeks to join MDPC as an affiliate member. The moderator posed the required questions and a motion to joyfully receive Sharon and Gibson as members and Tanya as an affiliate member was approved without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted:
Steve Ewald, Clerk of Session

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTERS

Catalogue of Colored Communicants

	By whom owned
Simon Suspended	John O. Heriot
Sedney removed	E. J. Shaw
Uack removed	J. D. Blanding
Madison deceased	William J. Durant
Patsy removed	Henry Sparr
Charlotte removed	Joseph Chandler
+ William	Mr Leah McFaddin
+ Nora	Henry Sparr
+ Cecilia	J. D. McFaddin
+ Sally	"
Harriet removed	A. L. Jones
+ Ginny	Henry Sparr
+ Amalyntha	D. C. Shaw
+ Margaret	"
+ Hannibal	Capt J. D. McFaddin
+ Milly ^{deceased} removed	" " " "
+ Annie	Miss Rebecca A. Beagden
Mosey	Capt J. D. McFaddin
+ New	"
+ Annie	"
+ Tallie	"
+ Bettie	"
+ Moses	"
+ Amelia	"

“By whom owned”

CONGREGATIONAL REGISTERS

456		Members of		457		
Names	No.	When Received	Age	When Recd.	Dismissed	Remarks
Neel	275	June 10. 1849		Oct. 17 - 1852		Serv't of Mark Johnston
Elic	6	Sept. 14. "				" W. I. Pharr
Harriet	7	" " "				" Saml Pharr X
Calvin Farms (for man)	"	" " "				" "
Sam	8	" " "				" "
Jefferson	900	" " "				" "
John	1	" " "				" S. W. Spears
Pilla (for girl)	2	" " "				" S. C. Harris
Elic	3	" " "				" "
Bertie	4	" " "				" "
Ruth	5	May 3. 1850				" S. W. Kinley X
Rachel	6	" " "				" " " X
Olivia Amanda Wilson	7	" " "				" " " X
Sarah Marcia Pharr	8	" " "				" "
Lane White	9	" " "				" "
Frances Amantina White	1000	" " "				" "
Mary	1	" " "				" "
Succinda	2	" " "				" "
Mary	3	" 4 "				" "
Milly	4	" " "				" "
Robert R. King	5	" " "				" "
Margaret W. Kirkpatrick	6	" " "				" "
Robert Turner	7	" " "				" "
Margaret J. Harris	8	" " "				" "
Margaret J. Orr	9	Aug. 30 "				" "
Toschia E. Orr	1010	" " "				" "
Elizabeth J. Nicholson	11	" " "				" "
Nancy L. Wallace	12	" " "				" "
Denar Serv't D. Alexander	13	" " "				" "
Wm. E. H. McEachern	14	" " "				" "
Sarah Perry	15	" " "				" "
Washington H. McEachern	16	May 2. 1857				" "
Lizzy Serv't W. J. Pritch	17	" " "				" "

“serv't [of]”

Serv't of Mark Johnston

Serv't of A. Stewart

Serv't of M. Cochran's estate

By certificate from Bethel ch.

from Bethel ch.

OTHER RESOURCES

***Johnston, T T**—O ev, 1874, Fla Pby; fm, Boggy Depot, Choctaw Nation, 74-5; dism to Pby of Toronto, Can, 75; presumed to have died.

Johnston, Walter Knox—b, Calvert, Tex, Nv 15, 1872; f, William Lafaett J; m, Emeline Nix; w, Margaret C Carter, Sp 12, 04; chdn: Walter Knox Jr, Russell Calvin, Mary Louise (Mrs W G Altman); AusC, 91-4, 97, AB; Louis; PTS, 97-00; pg wk, ColU, lec course, 17; L, Sp 12, 01, Paris Pby; O, Mch 14, 02, Paris Pby; ev, Jefferson, Tex, 01-3; p, Cisco, 04-6; Anson, 07-8; ss, Rose Hill (now Westm), Moore's Chapel & grp, Paris Pby, 09-11; p, Childress, Tex, 12-3; ss, Amarillo, 14; p, Marianna, Ark, 15-24; ev, Lubbock, Tex, 24—(ss, Tahoka, Morton, Levelland, etc, 36—)—39; hr, Lubbock, 40—;

Johnston, William Hamilton—b, Clover, SC, Nv 17, 1890; f, William Rhett J; m, Mary Livingstone Boyd; w, (1) Mary Alexandra Harper, Clover, SC, Sp 6, 11 (d, May 17, 14); son: Thomas Edward; (2) Nellie Gandy, Society Hill, SC, Oc 24, 18; dau: Mary Eleanor; USC, 04-5, 08-11, LI, BA; ColTS, 15-8, BD; L, Nv 20, O, De 22, 18, Pee Dee Pby; p, Hopewell ch, Claussen, SC, 18-20; prof, GrunPlnSch, 20-1; p, Jefferson, SC, 21-6; ss, Ellerbe, NC, 28; p, Amity ch, Charlotte, 26-31; p, Bethel ch, Cornelius, 31-9; p, Amity ch, Charlotte (2nd time), 39—; sc, Meck Pby, 41-3.

Johnstone, Albert Sidney—b, Anderson, SC, May 25, 1884; f, Albert Pope J; m, Esther Sharpe Burris; w, Anna Hill Watkins, Greenville, SC, Ag 5, 1908; dau: Anna Hill (Mrs Curville J Robinson); stu, UVa, 02-6, ColU, 10, UChi; stu, UTSVa, 47-9; L, Ap 19, O, May 1, 49, E Han Pby; p, Ashland, Va, Ja 8, 50—

***Jolly, Iban Vanderver**—p 359. b, Dc 25, 1855; d, Oc 19, 1936.

***Jones, Alfred**—p 359. b, May 6, 1844; d, Oc 5, 1917. Add, chdn: Betty Churchill, Alfred Power MD, Rev Drury Lacy, Lyle McCoy; . . . line 7: ev, Syn Va, 02-09; . . .

***Jones, Allen, Jr**—p 359. b, Sp 8, 1865; d, Ja 2, 1923. Add: f, Allen J; m, Valeria Brooks; son, Rev Allen; . . .

Jones, Allen—b, Jefferson, NC, Mch 5, 1900; f, Rev Allen J; m, Rosa Lee Campbell; w, Clara Fallwell Robertson, Wakefield, Va, Mch 29, 24; chdn: Allen Jr, Dudley Robertson, William Francis, Clara Robertson, Elizabeth Anne, Thomas Fallwell, David Campbell, John Osborne; KingC, 16-8 (USN, 18-20), 20-2, BA; UTSVa, 27-30, BD; O, Ju 29, 30, Winch Pby; p, Cedar Cliff ch, Winch Pby, 30—(p, Cedar Crk ch, 30-4; p, Burnt ch, Opequon Mem & Round Hill chs, 34—)—36; p, Moorefield, W Va, 37-43; chaplain, USNR, 43-6; p, Romney, WV, Ap 1, 46-50; chaplain, USNR, 50—;

***Jones, Arthur Gray**—p 359. b, Dc 19, 1868; d, May 1, 1929. Add, line 8: Auth: "Temple Builders," 29.

***Jones, Bert Games**—p 359. b, Ap 16, 1888; d, Nv 30, 1939. Add: w, Florrie Isabell Harris.

Jones, Burghardt D (col)—O, (under extraord clause) Mch 15, 1944, Cntl Ala Pby; asst chaplain, AUS, 44—;

***Jones, Caleb Enoch**—p 360. b, Mch 8, 1846; d, Ap 26, 1907.

***Jones, Charles Colcock**—p 360. b, De 20, 1804; d, Mch 16, 1863. Cn: m, Susan Hyrue Girardeau; Add, chdn: (all d) Charles Colcock Jr, Joseph Jones MD, Mary Sharp (w of Rev Robert Quarterman Mallard); . . . Add, auth: "Catechism of Scripture Doctrine and Practice for Families and Sabbath Schools. Designed also for the Oral Instruction of Coloured Persons," 52; "History of the Church of God During the Period of the Revolution," 67, 2 vols; "The Religious Instruction of the Negroes in the United States," 42; "Annual Report of the Association for the Religious Instruction of Negroes, Liberty County, Georgia," 33-58; "The Glory of Woman Is The Fear of the Lord," 47.

Jones, Charles Miles—b, Nashville, Tenn, Ja 8, 1906; f, William Bunyan J; m, Louise Virginia Koellein; w, Mary Dorcas McKinney, Richmond, Va, Nv 21, 32; Maryvc, 3 yrs; stu, ColU; UTSVa; L&O, Ju, 32, W Han Pby; ss, Bethel ch, Profitt, Va, 31-p, 32—(p, Gordonsville & S Plains chs, 32—; p, Madison, 33—)—6; p, Brevard-Davidson River ch, Ashev Pby, 36-41; p, Chapel Hill, NC, 41—;

***Jones, Charles Richard**—p 360. b, Ju 10, 1862; d, Ap 12, 1890. Add: f, Rev Henry Martyn J; m, Mary Priscilla Williamson;

***Jones, Dewey, Jr**—wc, Auburn, NY, 1879; not on roll, 90-2; wc, Hopkinton, Ia, 83; ss, in trans, Wahoo, Neb, 84; p, Effingham, Kans, 85-7; in US Ch, Syn Mo, Ap-Sp, 87; ss, Norwood, Ill, 87-8; ss, Edwardsburg, Mich, 89-90; not on roll after 90, no further record; presumed to have died.

Jones, Drury Lacy—b, Fairfield, Va, May 4, 1889; f, Rev Alfred J; m, Elizabeth Bryan Lacy; w, (1) Bess V Puett, Dallas, NC, Ju 18, 18 (d, Ju 4, 38), (2) Juanita Puett, Dallas, NC, Ag 16, 39; dau, Juanita Lacy; FredC, 04-5, 06-9, BA; UTSVa, 11-4, BD; PTS, 14-5, BD; L, May 11, 14, E Han Pby; O, Ag 1, 15, Kings Mtn Pby; p, Dallas, NC & grp, 15-7; p, Hope Mills & grp, 18—(p, Sunnyside, 18-24; p, Philippi, 18-21; ss, McPherson, 21—)—35; p, Faison & grp, 35-45; p, Fairmont & Midway, 45-9; p, Oak Grove ch, Hillsboro, WV, 49—;

Jones, Edward Henry—b, Wales, Iowa, Oc 22, 1903; f, Rev Robert H J; m, Margaret Ann Davis; w, Dorothy May Griffiths, Los Angeles, Calif, Ag 23, 31; chdn: Doreen Marie, Robert Griffith; OccC, BA, 24, DD, 47; PTS, ThB, 27; PrU, MA, 27; pg wk, UCal, GetTS, PaSC, HarvU; L, Ju, 26, Los Angeles (USA) Pby; O, May 15, 27, Carlisle (USA) Pby; in USA Ch, 27-50; p, Gettysburg, Pa, 27-31; p, State College, 31—(chaplain, AUS AF, 43-5)—47; p, 1st ch, Grove City, Pa, 47-50; p, 1st (US) ch, Norfolk, Va, 50—;

***Jones, Francis Fitzgerald**—p 360. b, Mch 29, 1875; d, Ju 16, 1939.

***Jones, Frank Dudley**—b, Arkadelphia, Ark, Jl 16, 1874; f, Dudley J; m, Margaret Erwin; w (1), Rowena Gunby, Columbus, Ga, Ju 20, 1900

CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

- Presbyterian organizations historically merged, split, and were renamed *all the time*
- Historical social status of Presbyterians affects what was recorded
- Gaps happen
- Collections may not be fully described or inventoried

DIGITIZATION AND ACCESS

- The CTS Archives is collaborating with Ancestry
- Over 700 congregations' records digitized and indexed
- Aiming to make them available sometime next year

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

Michael Robertson

Public Services Archivist

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