

Jan'y 2nd 1830– Covenant meeting opened with singing and prayer, found a good union among the members present. Mr Avery Buck related what the Lord had done for his soul and requested baptism. Church voted satisfied—

Jan'y 3rd– Communion & baptism of A Buck, E C Tucker administrator. M D Harmon chh clerk

Febry 6th Covenant meeting opened with singing and prayer– full meeting and unusual union and good feeling among the members and a desire to promote the cause of Christ. Mrs Lucy Bennett presented a letter of recommendation from the Baptist church in Springfield PA and requested admission as a member. Voted to receive her—

Abell Brown related what God had done for his soul and requested baptism and to be admitted a member of this church. Voted to receive him. Voted to call a special church meeting on Monday 15th inst at 1 o'clock PM
M D Harmon, church clerk

Feb 7th–communion, Elder Tucker administrator.

Feb 14th 1830– Abell Brown baptized, Eld Tucker adm.

Feb 15th– Special church meeting according to appointment– opened meeting with singing and prayer by Eld Joy Handy.

1st took up the difficulty with certain brethren and sisters visited by Eld Handy in compliance with his appointment from the church April 8, 1829

1st voted that Eld Joy Handy, Dea E Webster & Br Mott be a committee to visit these members a 2nd time and they are hereby instructed to ascertain as definitely as possible

1st What are their individual determinations about walking anymore in the fellowship of this church

2nd Whether they are disposed to acknowledge and fellowship the calling & result of two councils convened at the request of a minority of this church. One on the 20th of May 1829 and the other on the 20th of January 1830 and

3rd whether they do or do not recognize as the first Baptist church of Pomfret a certain minority of this church who on the 20th of January last under the sanction of a certain council assumed that name and the committee are hereby requested to use all persuasive mild and Gospel measures to induce such a return to the church as may happily terminate the long and afflicting difficulty.

2nd voted that as certain members of this church have under the sanction of a certain council convened in this place on the 20th instant without the advice or consent of the church assumed the name and authority of this church that therefore a committee of serve to wit Eld Joy Handy, Dea Webster & brothers N Crosby, D J Mattison, J Z Saxton, Benj Randall be appointed. Johnson

1st to ascertain by what authority said council were convened.

2nd under what circumstances they proceeded to organize, and investigate any matters affecting to this church

3rd what was the amount of their result and report thereon at the next meeting to which this shall be adjourned.

3rd Received a written communication from a number of brethren in Dunkirk who are members of this church requesting permission to organize a separate and independent church in that village and should their request be granted request this church to call a council for that purpose.

4th voted to comply with the above request and that we invite Baptist churches in Mayville, Ashville, Carroll 1st and Ripley and 2nd Stockton to send delegates to sit with those brethren in council on the third Wednesday in March next at the village of Dunkirk.

5th voted that the treasurer be authorized to pay one dollar and eighty cents from funds in his hands for Sunday school magazine rec'd last year by A Young.

6th appointed Elders Tucker, Joy Handy, brothers D J Mattison, G Z Saxton, N Crosby, E Webster delegates for this church to the council at Dunkirk on the third Wednesday of March next.

Adjourned to March 8th 1830 at 1 o'clock PM. Closed with prayer, M D Harmon Chh Clk Feb 15th 1830–

March 6th 1830– Covenant meeting opened by prayer by Eld Handy– singing and a good union among all present. Haldy Saxton presented a letter from the church in Concord PA. Voted to receive him. Communion– E Tucker administrator. M D Harmon Chh clk

March 8th 1830– Adjourned Church meeting opened with prayer by Elder Handy.

1st chose Elder Handy moderator of this meeting. Called on the committee appointed Feb 15, 1830 to visit certain members of this church and which appointment together with instructions given to this committee will more fully appear by reference to the records of that meeting to report. Wherefore the committee presented to the church the following written report:

Report

Dear Brethren, We your committee agreeable to your instruction have visited those brothers and sisters who have withdrawn from the Church with a very few exception we have likewise so endeavored to follow your instructions to ascertain as correctly as possible whether they calculated to walk any more with the Church; and if they did or did not fellowship the doings of the two councils called by the dissenting Brethren and likewise whatever they conceived themselves the first Baptist Church of Pomfret and we have endeavored to take heed to ourselves and to be mild and gentle and to pursue such a return to the Church and may happily end this long and painful difficulty, as this result is unpleasant; they do, with a few exceptions justify the doing of the Councils, consider themselves the Church and refuse to return. Fredonia, March 8th 1830– Joy Handy, Ebenezer Webster, Orange Mott

The committee were then requested to endorse upon their report the names of such individuals as they considered to have evinced such a spirit and determination as to render all further efforts on the part of the Church to reclaim them utterly hopeless wherefore they gave the names of the following brothers and sisters:

Brothers: Justus Adams, Caleb Ward, Joshua Douglass, Phineas Nichols, Josiah Ward, John B Takles, Jonathan W Covell, Walter Cushing, John L Lamphier, Ira Lamphier, Nathan Wood, James Mack, Heman McCleure.

Sisters: Esther Nichols, Martha Douglass, Jamima Adams, Nancy Ward, Elizabeth Tucker, Olive Covil, Sally Gifford.

After solemn and painful deliberation upon the difficulty before the Church and being fully persuaded that there remains no possibility of success in any further effort to reclaim, therefore resolved unanimously

1st that this Church acting as we verily believe under the eye of the all-seeing and heart searching God, do consider it to be an unfortunate duty to withdraw the hand of fellowship from: Brothers Justus Adams, Caleb Ward, Joshua Douglass, Phineas Nichols, Joshua Ward, John B Takles, Jonathan W Covil, Walter Cushing, John L Lamphier, Ira Lamphier, Nathan Wood, James Mack & Heman McClure and we do hereby withdraw the hand of fellowship from each and everyone of those above named accordingly until they return with suitable & Christian satisfaction to the Church and for the following reasons:

1st for neglecting to maintain and fulfill their Covenant obligations with this Church in stately associating with the Church as they have opportunity, the maintaining the visible interest of the Gospel of Christ.

2nd for withdrawing from the Church in an unproper and un-gospel-like manner

3rd for fellowshiping and sustaining the measure prescribed by the minority of the Church in calling two councils which convened in this meeting house one on the 20th of May last and the other on the 20th of January last—

4th for presenting before their councils a complaint against the church for discussion and decision without having previously acquainted the Church with the coming of a council or even ever having invited them to attend, and this against the remonstrances of individual brethren who were present, proceeded to urge the council forward without having any records of the church before them or ever having invited them to be heard in their defense—

5th for misrepresenting the doings and feelings of the Church to both councils.

6th For assuming under the sanction of the council that convened the name and authority of this Church, and for proceeding to administer ordinances as a church and to discipline and exclude members belonging to this body—

Resolved that the consideration of the difficulty as it relates to certain female members of the church visited by the committee and included in their report be postponed until the next church meeting to which this shall be adjourned.

Resolved unanimously that as Brother James Hall has been visited by one committee without giving any satisfaction for having withdrawn from the church, and whereas is one of the editors of a political paper he has from time to time published slanderous & libelous articles against this church and his brethren, he has therefore in the opinion of this church forfeited his standing in this body, and we do therefore withdraw from him the hand of fellowship until he give suitable satisfaction to this church.

The 2nd committee appointed Feb'y 15th requested a longer time to report which was accordingly granted— adjourned to the last Wednesday in April next to this place at 1 o'clock pm M D

Harmon chh clk

March 14th 1830– after public worship Church requested by Brothers John Bond, Ambrose Barnaby, Daniel Bowen and Levi Pearsons and sisters Susan Barnaby, Lucy Bowen, Lucy Persons, Abigail Woodcock, Celinda Tefft, Elizabeth Finck and Eunice Raymond living in Dunkirk, letters of dismissal from this body that they may be prepared to meet a council to convene in that village on Wednesday next for the purpose of constituting them into an independent church— Voted to give them letters— M D Harmon chh clk

April 3rd 1830– Covenant meeting opened with prayer & singing– prayer by Eld Handy. All the brothers and sisters present exposed a good union and increasing desire to awake to the duties and obligation which are upon them as disciples of Christ after which Lovina Douglas related the dealing of God with her soul, and requested baptism. Church voted to receive her— at this meeting it was evident that the Lord was present by his spirit. Closed by singing and prayer by Elder Tucker. M D Harmon Chh Clk

Apr 11th Lovina Douglass baptized, Elder Tucker administrator. M D Harmon Chh clk

April 17th 1830– Our brethren at Dunkirk heard the experience of Franklin Robbins

Apr 18th– The above persons baptized, Elder Jairus Handy administrator

April 28th– adjourned Church meeting appointed– Br Buck moderator. An motion voted to adjourn the business of this meeting to Wednesday the 2nd of June at 1 o'clock at the meeting house.

May 1st 1830– Covenant meeting opened with singing and prayer by Elder Winson— full meeting and perfect union. Among the (brothers) and sisters...had reason to thank God and take courage. Bro & Sister Shumway presented letters from churches in Portland & Henderson and were received as members– Also for Samuel Shepard from church in New Berlin and was received, after which Horace Webster and his wife related what God had done for their souls and requested baptism, also Percy Sawins and Philinda Warren gave the reason of their hope in Christ and requested baptism. Church voted to receive them.

As the council convened at Dunkirk on the 3rd Wednesday of March last adjourned to the first Wednesday in May, and as several have been baptized into the fellowship of this church at Dunkirk, therefore voted that all such as shall have been baptized into the fellowship of our brethren at Dunkirk previous to the setting of said council shall receive a dismissal from this church– to be recognized with our other brethren and sisters in the constitution of the church. Brother Abell Brown requested a letter of dismissal. Voted to give him a letter. Closed a happy meeting with singing and prayer by Eld Haskel.

May 1st – Our Brethren at Dunkirk heard the experience of Mosley W Abell, Ruth Abell & Louisa Gates who requested baptism and voted to receive them as members of this church.

May 2nd 1830– Horace Webster & wife & Percy Sawins were baptized, Eld Tucker administrator. Church enjoyed a pleasant time at communion.

2nd Mosley W Abell & wife & Louisa Gates were baptized, Elder Jairus Handy administrator. M D Harmon C C

May 9th 1830– Philinda Warren baptized at Westfield Eld Tucker administrator M D Harmon Church Clerk

June 5th 1830– Covenant meeting opened by singing and prayer, found an uncommon degree of religious feeling among the members— Joseph Porter, Hannah Porter, Melissa Barnaby, Almira Ferris, Esther Smith, Hannah Butler, Samantha Harrison, Lucy Shumway and Phoebe Aldrich related to the church their dealings of God with their souls and their evidence of their hope in Christ and each of them requested membership in the church. Church voted satisfied with their Christian experience and be acknowledged as members when baptized. Sisters Margaret Munroe and Matilda Morton then presented letters of recommendation from the churches of 2nd Hanover and Paulet VT and were rec'd upon the same as members of this church, also sister Nancy Warren requests to become a member who had been previously baptized by Eld Tucker. Voted to receive her. Closed with prayer.

Sabbath Day June 6th 1830– baptism was administered to that who yesterday related their experience & the church excepting Phoebe Aldrich, Elder Tucker administrator

June 25th 1830– Met according to adjournment at the Baptist Meeting House at Fredonia– opened meeting with prayer–

1st called upon the committee appointed Feb 15th last and consisting of Brethren Saxton, Mattison, Randall, Johnson, Webster, Crosby & Elder Handy to know whether they were ready to report, whereupon the committee submitted a report which is on file.

The motion made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the report of the committee be accepted.

Agreeably to the suggestion of the committee the following resolutions were submitted and adopted:

1. Resolved that our confidence remains unshaken and unimpaired in the integrity and piety of Elder Elisha Tucker and that many of us have been personally and intimately acquainted with him during the whole term of his residence in this village which is now nearly eight years during all of which time he has been the pastor of this church under whose stated ministrations we have sat with profit and pleasure and whereas the same reports have been circulated and measures persuaded Eld Joy Handy as towards Elder Tucker, therefore resolved that our confidence remains unshaken and unimpaired in the integrity and piety of Elder Joy Handy, the former pastor and present member of this church & that having removed to this county and to this place more than twenty years since and having borne the burden and heat of the day in sustaining the denomination in which he belongs and in preaching Christ with unblemished reputation and

character to a false world and as a faithful minister having patiently submitted to the fatigue and uniformly attended to the distant calls of the distracted incidents to the settlement of a new country, desirous now to be sustained by this church against the breath of calumny which would blast one of the fairest reputations in the decline of life.

Resolved that Elder Elisha Tucker and Joy Handy are members of this church and that the report that they have been scolded and silenced is without the least foundation in truth.

Resolved that it is with extreme regret and sorrow that this church regards every attempt to destroy the reputation and eclipse the usefulness of such ministers as have with untiring diligence devoted membership to their interest of that precious cause for which they live and labor.

Adjourned this meeting to July 7th at the Baptist Meeting house at 4 o'clock PM. Closed with prayer.

June 2nd 1830— Adjourned Church meeting opened with prayer

In view of the alarming course which several churches of the Chautauqua Baptist Association have pursued toward this church, it was unanimously resolved that this church feels particularly bound according to the platform of the Chaut Bapt Assoc to commence a labor with each of the following churches to wit: Ellery, Portland, 2nd Pomfret, Harmony, 1st Hanover, Gerry & 1st & 2nd Perrysburg churches for having their delegates violated the independency of this church in authorizing a minority of this church together with persons who had been previously excluded from the fellowship of this church and assume the name of this church, and the right to discipline and exclude the members of this church and all this without ever having seen the records of this church, or having heard her in her defense, and in all which this church does conceive they have acted contrary to the Gospel of Christ— therefore

Resolved that we send a letter to each of those churches stating our difficulty and requesting satisfaction and that we appoint the following brethren in the name of this church to present said letters, viz: to Ellery, Br Shumway; to Gerry, Bro Harmon; to Portland Bro Saxton; to 2nd Pomfret Bros N Crosby & Randall & Harmony Deacon E Webster & to Harmony Br Baldwin and to 2nd Perrysburg Bro Buck— Where upon the letter was drafted, approved and a copy kept on file in the clerk's office.

Voted to authorize the treasurer to pay Person Crosby for table \$2.00

Voted to adjourn this meeting to June 25th at this place at 4 o'clock PM. (turn back)

July 3rd 1830— Covenant meeting opened with singing & prayer— found a good union and an abundant cause of thanksgiving and praise that the helped God in yet bringing sinners to the acknowledgement of the truth.

Sally Sawin, Eliza Jane Daggett, Lucy May and Lucy Eastwood each related the dealing of God with them gave the reason of their hope in Christ. Church voted satisfied.

Amos Palmer presented a letter from Baptist church in Berlin and was received. Closed by prayer.

July 4th Lord's Day— those who related their experience yesterday were baptized excepting Lucy

Eastwood, Elder Tucker administrator.

July 7th 1830– Adjourned Church meeting opened with prayer– Called on committee sent to several churches according to resolution of June 23rd to report— all of those brethren being present reported that they had discharged the duty assigned them with the exception of Bro Buck who stated that although he visited Perrysburg on the Sabbath yet no meeting could be found in either church and that he left his communication with members of those churches all the other churches had been visited but gave no satisfaction, whereupon the church resolved that as none of those churches to whom we have sent manifest any disposition to make Christian satisfaction for the injury they have done us, that therefore it is our duty to proceed according to the 5th article of platform of the Chautauque Association to take the 2nd step of labor with those churches. Resolved that we call upon Carroll, Mayville & Villenova churches to assist us in taking said labor on the 2nd Sabbath day of August next.

Resolved that the same brethren be delegated as before, and that they be furnished with a letter as in the first step– and which was accordingly prepared and approved, a copy of which is on file in the clerk's office.

July 21st 1830– Covenant meeting opened with singing and prayer–found a good union and a desire to promote the cause of Christ by living conformed to the precepts of the Gospel. Polly Ann Brown related her experience to the church and requested baptism. Voted to receive her.

Sept 4th– Covenant meeting opened by singing and prayer. Church in good union. Ezra Thompson & Eli Beardsley related their experience to the church and requested baptism– voted to receive them.

Sept 6th– The above persons were baptized, Eli Tucker administrator. Fanny Saxton presented a letter of recommendation from the church in Stockton and was rec'd.

Oct 2nd 1830– Covenant meeting opened with singing and prayer. Again were permitted to witness an uninterrupted union among the members.

Ezra Buck and Sally Warren related their experience to the church and requested baptism. Voted to receive them.

Oct 3rd Ezra Buck was baptized, Elder Tucker administrator. Ora Winsor & Betsey Mills presented letters from Stockton & voted to receive them. Closed by prayer

Nov 6th 1830– Covenant meeting opened with singing & prayer– Church in good union. Sally Ann Goby and Caroline Mathews related their experience each to the church and requested baptism. Rosanna Winsor presented a letter from Stockton church and was rec'd as a member. Rec'd a communication from a number of brethren in Stockton requesting council for the purpose of receiving fellowship as a church– voted to send Elds Tucker & Handy & Bros Webster, Crosby & Mott.

Dec 4th 1830– Covenant Meeting opened by singing and prayer, found a good union in the church. Closed with prayer.

Dec 5th 1830– Received a communication from a number of brethren in Evans, Erie Co requesting council for the purpose of receiving fellowship as a church. Voted to send Eld Tucker & Bros E Webster & Daniel Baldwin–
Voted a special church meeting Dec 6th at 4 o'clock PM at Meeting House.

Dec 6th 1830– Special Church meeting opened with prayer. Resolved that we sanction and approve the nomination of Elders Tucker, Winsor, Foote, Joy Handy & Jairus Handy as a committee to make arrangements for calling council to adjust if possible the difficulty existing between the two groups each claiming to be known as the Chautauqua Baptist Association. Closed with prayer.