

THE BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST AT HIGHTOWER LUMPKIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

The first documented records of The Baptist Church of Christ at Hightower are on May 2, 1846. Below are the entries relating to the surnames Pierce and Roberts. (The spelling is as it was written)

11-3-1850, Reuben Pearce and Vicy Pearce joined by experience.

3-12-1853, The Church of Christ at Hightower agreed to call M. M. Roberts to supply us in the ministry next year.

9-5-1863, Sermons by Bro. Roberts.

12-14-1868, We the elders Martin Free-M. M. Roberts & J. M. Dowdy and deacons J. L. Wehunt-Thomas Davis and Martin Lance form ourselves into a presbytry. The following names presented their letters, James Rider, Wilson Pearce, Joseph Rider, Vancy Watkins, Evaline Watkins, Vaney Pearce, Lauren Saterfield, Emly Saterfield and Addaline Whesnant, agreed to call the Church Hightower the Church. Concecrating Prayer by M. M. Roberts. The Church then called Brother M. M. Roberts to serve as moderator for the insuing year. Bro. Roberts being present accepted the call. The church agreed to petition Mt. Zion Church for the Ministerial Srevice of Bro. Roberts, adopted the Rules of Decorum of the Old Hightower Church.

5-16-1868, Sermon by Bro. Roberts. Wilson Pierce app: as 1 of the delegate to attend the Union Meeting held at Mt. Zion.

6-20-1868, Sermon by Bro. Roberts

7-9-1868, Sermon by Bro. Roberts

7-12-1868, Received M. M. Roberts a regular ordained minister of the gospel by letter.

7-23-1868, Sermon by Bro. Roberts, received James Campbell & Elizabeth Campbell by experience.

8-1868, Sermon by Roberts, received W. J. Pierce by experience.

9-15-1868, delegates to the asso. M. M. Roberts, Martin Lance, Wilson Pierce and James Rider. Jasper Pierce and Caroline Pierce joined by letter.

9-18-1868, Sermon by Bro. Broberts, Jaspr Pierce app. to delegation.

2-20-1869, Received Bro. James H. Pierce and sister Huldah L Pierce by letter on Sunday came Margaret Pierce and joined by letter.

3-20-1869, Sermon by Brother M. M. Roberts, Andrew Y. Roberts joined by letter.

3-21-1869, On Sunday joined by letter, Mary E. Roberts, Nancy Brookshire, Nancy J. Loggins, Permelia Coley.

4-17-1869, Sermon by Bro. Roberts

5-16-1869, Montevile Coley, Lucinda Coley joined by letter.

5-19-1869, Bro. M. M. Roberts as 1 of delegates to the Union.

8-27-1869, Bro. Roberts preaching. Delegate to Union, M. M. Roberts and James H. Pierce.

8-28-1868, Examination of James H. Saterfield and Jasper Pierce for decons, M. M. Roberts on their duties.

8-29-1869, Emaline R. Pierce joined by experience.

9-18-1869, Sermon by Bro. Roberts, Jane Campbell joined by experience.

9-19-1869, Robert Campbell and Arminda Pierce joined by experience.

10-15-1869, Lucinda Pierce called for letter of dismissal.

11-1869, No meeting on account of deep snow.

12-1869, No meeting another snow.

1-1870, No meeting enclemony of the weather.

2-19-1870, Sermon by Roberts

3-19-1870, Sermon by Roberts, agreed to grant Brother M. M. Roberts a recommendation to take a voyage to the West, done in conference and signed by order of the Church.

5-14-1870, Sermon by Bro. Roberts

6-18-1870, Sermon by Bro. Roberts, James Campbell stated he had made some ungrounded and uncalled for expression about his wife without cause, and was sorry, Church forgave. Mary E. Campbell denies the public report as being untrue but said she was sorry that her conduct was such to justify talking about her. The Church agreed. Our pastor M. M. Roberts stated there was a rumor out against him by Didama Dispane in which he denies, the Church agreed. App. James H. Pierce to delegate.

8-19-1870, Sermon by Roberts, then came James H. Pierce said the report against him is false and untrue for drawing a club or knife on anybody, the Church agreed to bear with him, layed over the case against James Campbell and James Rider till out next conference.

8-20-1870, Church committee agreed in the above case and excluded them. Appointed to delegate M. M. Roberts & Jasper Pierce.

10-1-1870, Lucinda Campbell letter of dismissal.

11-19-1870, Then came Mary E. Campbell made acknowledgement for keeping disorderly company, Church forgave. She called for her letter, then came Mary Campbell from Calvender Creek joined by letter.

12-17-1870, Bro. W. J. Pierce carry a letter to J. M. Blackwell to supply us in 1871.

1-16-1871, Sermon by Bro. Roberts

3-18-1871, Sermon by Bro. Robert

4-15-1871, Sermon by Bro. Roberts, invite Churches to foot washing, M. M. Roberts to invite Nimblewill, James H. Pierce to invite New Bethel, W. J. Pierce to invite Yahoola, Bro. M. Coley New Hope, Robert Campbell called for letter of dismissal for himself, wife and daughter, Church did not grant because of unfavorable report.

5-20-1871, Sermon by M. M. Roberts, signed by Miles M. Roberts, moderator

6-17-1871, Sermon by Elder M. M. Roberts, delegate to Union Wilson J. Pierce.

7-15-1871, Miles M. Roberts M. M. (moderator)

8-15-1871, Sermon by Elder M. M. Roberts, elected to delegate W. J. Pierce and M. M. Roberts

11-18-1871, N. J. Pierce, moderator

12-16-1871, M. M. Roberts, moderator

3-16-1872, Bro. Wilson Pierce letter of dismission & Nancy Pierce and Emaline Pierce.

4-20-1872, The case against Robert and Sister Cata and Mary Campbell, withdraw fellowship from Robert Campbell denying and refusing to pay his just debt and Sister Cata Campbell for using profane language. For Sister Mary Campbell for immoral or lude conduct.

4-20-1872, Sermon by Elder M. M. Roberts

6-16-1872, Mary E. Campbell joined by letter.

7-20-1872, Bro. N. J. Pierce made statement about him and Calvin Gaddis having a fight, Church received Bro. Pierce statement and was satisfied. M. M. Roberts M. D.

8-17-1872, Delegate to Asso. N. J. Pierce & M. M. Roberts.

9-14-1872, Elder M. M. Roberts moderator, charges against Mary E. Campbell for unchristian like conduct, withdrew

fellowship.

12-14-1872, Granted letter of dismissal to N. J. & Margaret Pierce.

3-15-1873, Letters of dismissal, brother A. Y. and sister Dora Ann Roberts, brother Mylie? Pierce, sister Evaline Watkins and Nancy Watkins, M. M. Roberts Moderator.

6-14-1873, Delegates to the Union, M. M. Roberts, N. J. Pierce.

8-16-1873, App. to delegates N. J. Pierce & M. M. Roberts.

10-16-1873, Sermon by M. M. Roberts, election for preacher in the coming year Bro. M. M. Roberts.

3-16-1874, Clerk to write Sister Elizabeth Campbell to return her church letter back to the Church, if not joined to another church.

5-16-1874, Sermon by Elder M. M. Roberts, Andrew Y. & Doryann Roberts joined by letter.

6-20-1874, Sermon by M. M. Roberts, elected to Union meeting W. J. Pierce.

8-15-1874, Elected to Asso. M. M. Roberts & W. J. Pierce.

10-17-1874, Granted letters of dismissal to James H. & Hulda Pierce.

11-14-1874, Granted letter of dismissal to M. M. Roberts.

2-20-1875, Lectering by M. M. Roberts, M. M. Roberts Moderator.

3-20-1875, Bro. M. M. Roberts

4-17-1875, Elected to delegate W. J. Pierce.

5-15-1875, Received a request by Bro. Marlow for this Church to be with them at their Communion at Salem Church 2nd. Sunday in June.

6-19-1875, W. J. Pierce Moderator.

8-14-1875, W. J. Pierce app. to Asso.

12-18-1875, Elected M. M. Roberts joint supply us this coming year.

4-15-1876, M. M. Roberts moderator, W. J. Pierce appointed to delegation.

7-15-1876, Appo. to delegation Wilson J. Pierce, to Union meeting A. Y. Roberts.

9-16-1876, A request from J. H. Pierce to state if we ever heard him say anything that would injure W. W. Pierce characer. M. M. Roberts moderator.

10-14-1876, Letter of dismissal A. Y. and Dory Roberts.

2-17-1877, App. W. J. Pierce moderator protem.

7-13-1877, Appointed to Union meeting W. J. Pierce, M. M. Roberts moderator protem.

11-17-1877, Elected M. M. Roberts to supply us next year, app. Bro. J. K. P. Lance to inform Bro. Roberts of the call and see if he will attend us.

12-15-1877, Devine service by Elder M. M. Roberts, opened a door of the Church when came Miles M. Roberts a regular ordained minister of the gospel and joined by letter.

2-16-1878, Service by M. M. Roberts.

3-16-1878, M. M. Roberts moderator, elected to delegatee W. J. Pierce.

5-18-1878, M. M. Roberts moderator

6-15-1878, M. M. Roberts moderator

7-20-1878, M. M. Roberts moderator

8-17-1878, M. M. Roberts moderator, Miles M. Roberts elected to delegate.

8-18-1878, Sarah & Nancy Pierce joined by experience.

9-14-1878, Service by M. M. Roberts

9-29-1878, M. C. Roberts joined by letter from Mt. Zion.

12-14-1878, W. J. Pierce moderator protem, elected M. M. Roberts to supply in the insueing year.

2-15-1879, M. M. Roberts moderator

3-15-1879, M. M. Roberts moderator

6-14-1879, M. M. Roberts moderator

7-19-1879, M. M. Roberts moderator, app. to delegate M.M. Roberts & W. J.Pierce.

8-16-1879, M. M. Roberts moderator

9-20-1879, M. M. Roberts moderator, elected to asso.

11-15-1879, M. M. Roberts moderator, Brother Columbus Roberts made acknowledgement for going to a frolick, Church forgave him.

11-16-1879, Joined by letter William P. & Arminda Lance.

12-20-1879, Elected M. M. Roberts supply for the next year.

2-14-1880, Appointed J. H. Satterfield & J. K. P. Lance as a committee to inform Brother M. M. Roberts of a public evil report against him. Then granted Sister Mary Campbell a letter of dismissions, Preferred a charge against Brother Columbus Roberts for cheating and swindling and falsehood, who being present demanded a trial, whereupon the Church withdrew fellowship.

4-17-1880, Bro. M. M. Roberts made statement about getting drunk, Church called for a reffrance, Bro. Roberts demanded a trial, recorded the difference, upon investigating these, the Church forgave him.

9-1880, Elected to asso. W. J. Pierce, M. M. Roberts moderator.

11-20-1880, Devine Service by M. M. Roberts.

5-14-1881, M. M. Roberts granted letter of dismissal.

6-18-1881, W. J. Pierce moderator protem.

11-4-1882, Received a recommendation from the Bretheren at White Plains Church in favor of M. C. Roberts, deferred the motion until better satisfaction.

4-14-1883, Rejected M. C. Roberts letter of dismissal also Mary Campbell.

7-14-1883, Mary E. Roberts letter of dismissal, M. C. Roberts made acknowledge and Church forgave, restored to Faith granted a letter of dismissal.

9-15-1883, Devine Service by M.M. Roberts.

4-19-1884, Requested that Mary E. Roberts return her letter back.

5-17-1884, Preferred charges against Mary E. Roberts for unchristian like conduct, withdrew fellowship.

2-14-1885, Service by M. M. Roberts.

3-14-1885, Devine Service by M. M. Roberts.

5-16-1885, A committee to inform Pleasant Hill Church of one of their members being out of order to wit, M. M. Roberts for unchristian like conduct, this done in conference.

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The above date is the last mention of M. M. Roberts in the church minutes. The surname Pierce continues to be mentioned occassionally on later dates. There were several weeks when church services were not held due either to bad weather or no one attending.

12-31-1861, The Church had a meeting then did not meet again until 9-5-1863. The Civil War as in full force at this time.

3-25-1865, The Church of Christ at Hightower was dissolved . They did not meet again until 12-14-1868, when the presbytry was formed.

The church did not have a place they could call their own until 6-1-1869 when H. Sales donated the land where the present church stands. The Church changed names several times during this period. Prior to 6-1-1869 they met in peoples houses and the law ground (court house).