

A TRANSCRIPTION OF
MT. HOPE AND WYNNE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSIONS BOOK

This transcription was copied from scanned photos of the Mt. Hope Sessions Record Book pages. It was very difficult to decipher some of the handwriting; therefore there could be many errors in the spelling of names and other entries. Except for page numbers, the italics are mine.

Bridget Hart
August

9, 2007

1

St. Francis Academy
July 2nd 1859

A Presbyterian Church (O.L.) was this day organized by Rev C. Washburn, at this place, by the name of Mount Hope. The sermon preached by Mr. W. was founded on Mat XVI.18. "Upon this rock will I build my church & the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

The following persons were united as the original members. Viz.

Howard A. Humphreys
Mrs Mary M. Humphreys
Mrs Mary E. Graham
Missus Mary W. Adams
Mrs Celia H. Allen

Howard A Humphreys was then chosen Elder; and solemnly ordained by imposition of hands. The whole number then solemnly entered into covenant, with God

2

and with each other, and were declared to be a church of Christ duely organized according to his ordinance.

Cirtificates of the dismissal of the original members were received as follows

Mrs. M. E. Graham's from Macpelah (*Could be Masselah, as double-s was written as our letter p.*) Church Lincoln Co, N. C. August 21st 1859

H. A. & M. M. Humphreys' from Fairfield Church, Rockbridge Co Va Sept 21st 1859.

Mrs Celia H. Allen's, from the Greensboro Church N.C. Oct 22nd 1859.
These papers have all been filed as sessional papers.

H.A. Humprheys Clk of Sess (*Written as Clk of Sep*)

Feb 6th 1860

The Session (*written as Sepion*) was called to order and the meeting opened with prayer by Rev. W. T. Price of Va

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acting moderator. The certificate of Mrs. H. E. Mebane's membership in the Presbyterian Church (O L) of Lexington Virginia, & her dismissal to join this church was presented, found correct & unanimously received; it is filed with the sessional papers. Her name is enrolled.

H. A. Humphreys Clerk of Sess

At an informal meeting of the session held September 28th 1861 Rev J. W. Moore acting moderator Mr Samuel Humphreys presented himself for admission to this church on certificate from Fairfield Church (O L) Va. His certificate having been received by the clerk but not present; he was admitted and the clerk ordered to enroll his name, & make record of it on the minutes. His certificate is filed

H. A. Humphreys Clerk

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May 28th 1862.

Mr. H. A. Humphreys, the only ruling elder of the church, having gone to the war, Rev. S. B. Campbell, "the stated supply" of the congregation, received into the membership of the church on certificate from McCapions(?) Church (Cumberland Presbyterian) Maury County, Tenn,

Fanny, a servant of Mr. Patterson.

S. B. Campbell

June 8th 1862

In the absence of the ruling elder, the following persons were received into the communion of the church on examination as to their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and repentance unto life, viz:

5

Milus Bergner,

Benjamin

Nelson,

Analiza, and

Amanda,

All servants of Col. C. C. Graham, and

Harry,

A servant of Mr. James Mebane.

S. B. Campbell

June 9th 1862

Uncle Moses, a servant of Col. C. C. Graham, having been absent from the church to which he belonged in N. Carolina a number of years and being now unable to procure a certificate of membership owing to the stoppage of the mails, his Christian walk having been testified to by members of the church

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and "having a good report of them that are without," was received as a member of this church.

S. B. Campbell

June 22nd 1862

The following persons were received into the communion of the church on examination and to their faith and repentance. Viz:

Robert,
James, (Jackson,) and
Alfred,
servants of Col. C. C. Graham, also
Pledger
a servant of H. B. Pledger.

S. B. Campbell

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Wittsburg, Ark
July 11th 1868

Rev Thos Ward White by appointment of Arkansas Presbytery visited this place and found the following persons in good & regular standing members of the Mt. Hope Church

Mrs. Mary E. Graham
Mrs Celia H. Allen
Mrs H. E. Mebane
Mr. Samuel Humphreys.
Judge E. C. Burrough
an elder in the church

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at Helena Ark was recd into the membership of this church on certificate and was regularly elected a ruling elder.

T. W. White.

Wittsburg, Ark
July 12/68

Session met; present

E. C. Burrough, ruling Elder; opened with prayer by Rev T. W. White of Roanoke

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Presbytery, Synod of Va, who acted as moderator.

The following persons were rec'd into the membership of this church on certificate,

Mrs. E. C. Burrough
Helena, Ark,
Dr. J (or I) T. Price
Mt Zion Meth E. (*Episcopal*) Church
Dr. I. I. Carns

Six Mile Church
Bethel Presbytery
Samuel A. McKensey
1st Church Phila
A. C. Allen Greensboro
Miss (*unintelligible*) Allen N.C.

10

Mrs. Jennie Fielder
A(*unintelligible*). P__n Church Memphis (*could be
Audubon?*)

Mrs. Susan Wilfong
German Reformed Church Newboro? N.C.

On profession of faith,
Col. C. C. Graham
Mr. Thos Blow.

Session closed with prayer.

T. W. White, Mod

11

Wittsburg Ark
July 18th 1869

Due notice having been given, Col. C. C. Graham and Dr. I. I. Carns were elected ruling elders and solemnly ordained by imposition of hands by Rev. T. W. White

—
Session met; present ruling elders Col. C. C. Graham & Dr. I. I. Carns opened with prayer by Rev. T. W. White.

Capt J G Frierson of College Church Miss was recd into the membership of this church on certificate.

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and Mrs. S. M. Carns on profession of Faith

Dr. I. I. Carns was elected clerk.
Closed with prayer,

I. I. Carns Clerk of
Session

13

Wittsburg Ark
Feb 24th 1870

At an informal meeting Mrs. Jennie Fielder at her own request was dismissed to join a church of the same denomination in Oregon State.

I. I. Carns
Clerk of Sesion (*sic*)

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Wittsburg, Ark
May 15th 1870

Session met present
Ruling Elders Col C. C. Graham and I. I. Carns opened with prayer by Rev. T. W. White, Moderator.

James S. Mebane of Falling Springs Church, Rockbridge Co Va.,
Closed with prayer.

I. I. Carns
Clerk Session

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Interregnum -----
Quindecim Annos,

The following pages are also included in the Mt. Hope Sessions Record:

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History of Wynne Presbyterian Church

The Rev S. I. Reid, having been employed by the Ark Presbytery as an evangelist for part of his time - was invited to visit the neighborhood of Wynne & Wittsburg and preach to the people of that vicinity. Mr. Reid, having preached for six months at Wynne and the neighborhood, was authorized by the Presbytery of Arkansas to organize a church at Wynne, if the way be clear.

Therefore on the last Sab of Oct 1885, having preached he enrolled the following persons who

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gave evidence of having been Members of the Presbyterian C Church elsewhere –
Viz –

Mr. G. F. Dixon) upon
Mrs. E. R. Dixon) certificate
Mrs. L. Koonce – letter

Mrs. Jennie Graham of the old Wittsburg Church (which had been dissolved several years ago – by the death and removal of all its members.)

These members having been enrolled – Mr. Reid, as Evangelist, received on profession of faith

Miss Mary E. Dixon
Miss Mary C. Graham

Mr. Dixon was

18

then elected ruling Elder and was regularly installed.

By a resolution of the whole, this church was named the “Wynne Presbyterian Church” –

To be under the care & supervision of the Arkansas Presbytery –

Services have been kept up regularly since the organization once a month - & collections taken up at various times for some of the (*biner obut?*) objects of the P. Church –

Mrs. L. Koonce’s three children – were baptized

Viz –

19

J. Mebane Koonce

Kate Reynolds Koonce

Mary John Koonce

Also Mrs. Jennie Graham’s children –

Mary C. Graham

John M. Graham

J. Clay Graham

Willie V. Graham

Kate O. Graham

James F. Graham

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Session Meeting

April 29 – 88

Present Rev. S. I. Reid - & G. F. Dixon –

After preaching, session was opened with prayer and Dr. W. T. Mebane & Mr. Robt H. Mebane were received on profession of faith in Christ and were enrolled & welcomed as members of the church of Christ –

It was resolved to insert the history of this Church organization - & to keep the minutes of this session in the old Record Book of the

21

Mt. Hope – afterwards – the Wittsburg Presbyterian Church – so as to retain the history & names of Members who had formerly lived in this neighborhood.

Resolved that we have a communion service administered by Mr. Reid –

Closed with Prayer –

Geo. F. Dixon

Clerk

Honored except that baptisms would not be recorded by moderator of session & this book may never come before Presbytery.

Newport? April 13/89 J. S. Willbanks, Mod

22

Session Meeting –

August 8- 89

Rev S. I. Reid preached in Wynne & after preaching
Mrs. Mary M. Smith was received on profession into our church –

Also, on

Sept 1st 98 – Rev S. I. Reid preached for us in Wynne – After preaching
C. H. Montgomery &
C. M. Mebane

were received by letter as members of Wynne Church.

Geo. F. Dixon
as Clerk

23

Rev L. H. Kimmons came to preach for us – in April 1891 –
Promising to give us one fourth (1/4) of his time in or near Wynne-
We agreed to pay him for one fourth of his time- one hundred dollars-

Geo. F. Dixon
Clerk

24

Session Meeting

June 14 – 91

Rev. L. H. Kimmons preached for us in Wynne
After preaching Session received into our Church by letter Miss Jane McCravey
from Senatobia, Miss.

Closed with prayer.

Geo. F. Dixon
as Clerk

25

Session Meeting

Oct 30-92-

Rev. S. I. Reid preached for us this day-

The following persons appeared before the session and were received into
our Church as full members.

Viz-

Mrs Hattie Cogbill
Miss Cora Cogbill
Mrs. Adad Williams
Miss Katie Reynolds Koonce
Bertie M. Smith
Rob. R. Dixon

On profession - and

Miss Ella Marchbank by letter from Presbyterian Church at
Marianna, Ark-

Geo. F. Dixon
as Clerk

26

1893 Session Meeting

Jan 29- Rev S. I. Reid with us this day-

Mrs Katie England – on profession of faith- united with our
church-

Geo. F.

Dixon

as Clerk

Approved with exception

1st Rec'd on page 23, is not strictly of Session-
2nd Records have not been before Presbytery since 1889.

Little Rock April 6th 94.
James Robertson, Mod

27
1894

Sept 2 – Rev. T. J. Horne with us to day –
Moderated our Session and rec'd by letter from Poplar Bluff, Mo.

Mrs. Mary R. Hampton

Also from Oak Grove Church, Miss (Ruling Elder)

T. L. Baker & wife

M. M. Baker

Rev. J. E. Green who has been preaching for us during vacation – was present at
our meeting.

Session opened & closed with prayer-
Services for first time in our New Church-

Geo. F. Dixon
Clerk

28
1894

Dec 23 Rev T.J. Horne preached today –
Rec'd on profession of faith

Mr. R. M. Smith

Mrs. L. M. Mebane

Session opened and closed with prayer-

Geo. F. Dixon
as Clerk

1895

Aug 11th Rev S. I. Reid preached.

Miss Sue Foster came before Session and was rec'd into the Church on
profession of Faith-

Closed with Prayer-

Geo. F. Dixon
as Clerk

29

1896 Rev E. C. Bingham preached for us one week- ending with 4th Sab- of
Nov-

Mrs Rena Hamilton

Mrs. Ada Eastin

Came before the Session and were received on examination into our
Church.

Session opened and closed with prayer.

Also Mr. Frank Eastin presented his letter from 2nd Pres Church of Henderson,
Ky and was received into our Church- on 3rd Sab Dec. 1896.

30
1897

March 21- On this day

Mrs. B. A. Gholston

Mrs. A. J. Baker

Were received into our Church on profession of faith-

Rev. L. Simpson preached and after preaching-

Mr. R. M. Smith was elected to the office of Ruling Elder in
Wynne Church-

Due notice having been given of this action.

Geo. F. Dixon

as Clerk

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Minutes of the Record of Wynne Presbyterian Church is approved with the following exceptions+

1. Minutes of meeting 4 Sab. in Nov. -96 not stated who moderated meeting. No names of members of session present & not signed by clerk.

2. Minutes of Dec. 3 Sab. No record of (*unintelligible*) of session present, no prayer at opening or closing; not signed by clerk.

3. Minutes 21 March 97. No names of session given; not opened &

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closed with prayer.

4. Statements of Congregational meeting called but no record of Sessional (*unintelligible Admin?*) calling it.

J. I. Morris, Mod. (*Could be Norris*)

May Rev Mr. Story of Searcy preached, after which the session met, & received in profession of his faith Mr. Joseph Shell into full membership of this church.

Session opened and closed with prayer.

L. R. Simpson

Mod of Sess

33
1897
33

June 27 On this day Rev. L. Simpson preached; after preaching

Mrs. Coral A. Beck

came before session and upon examination was received into full membership of Wynne Church-

Session opened and closed with prayer by Mr. Simpson as Moderator-

Geo. F. Dixon

as Clerk

34

1897 Date unknown (*The words Date unknown were handwritten.*)

Mr R. M. Smith having been chosen in due form to the office of Ruling Elder-
was on this day ordained and installed into that sacred office for Wynne Church-

By Rev. L. R. Simpson

35
1897
35

By letter from Presbyterian Church at Mariana Ark-
Judge E. D. Robertson
& wife Mrs. Ethel A. Robertson
were received as members of Wynne Church-

Rev. L. R. Simpson
in the pulpit

36
1898

Mar 27- At a meeting of the session- Geo F. Dixon was chosen to represent
Wynne Church at the meeting of
Presbytery of Ark- at Little Rock on April 5- 98---
With prayer—

Geo. F. Dixon
as Clerk

Approved,

In open session of Presbytery in Central Ch. Little Rock Ark. April 6th 1898.
E. R. Kennedy (?)
Mod

37
(blank)

38
Oct 20/1900

At a congregational meeting on Oct 1st 1900 the Session was authorized to call
Rev. C. P. Browning in the Pastoral of this Church for ½ of his time per \$300 A.

Geo. F. Dixon
Moderator

39
Nov. 15th 1900

Session met pursuant to call with Rev. C. P. Browning as Moderator. Session
opened by Prayer by Mod after which the following members names were
enrolled by order of Presbytery from Thompson's Chappel. (Dissolved)

Jno. A. Wilson
Mrs. “ “
Miss Eva “

R. C. “

40 *Cont*

Miss Rosa Wilson
J. L. Robinson
Mrs. “
Mrs. Anna Marion
Wm Robinson
J. L. Robinson, Jr
D. M. Thompson
Mrs. “
Chalmers “
Anna “
Jennie “
Mollie “
Robert Jones
Mrs. “ “
Samuel Baker
Mrs. “ “

41 *Cont*

Jno Wooten
Mrs. “
Mrs. Martha Mathews
S. D. “
Mrs. S. D. “

42

Feb 12th 1901

At a meeting of the Session to night the following persons were rec'd into full membership by certificate

Mrs. L. M. Koonce
J. M. Koonce
Mrs. M. T. Browning

By examination

Geo. Davis
Mary Lancaster
Mrs. Newsom
Jno. Graham

43 *Cont-*

Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Chalmers
Mrs. Jennie Dixon
Mrs. M. E. Vanpatten
C. P. Browning

R. M. Smith Clerk

Feb 17/1901

The following children were baptized
Lorena Baker

McMann Baker
Edward Hamilton
Howard Hamilton
Agness Hamilton

Geo. Dixon

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Examined and approved save & excepting the following:

1. The congregation meeting minutes should not be kept and recorded among the sessional minutes.
2. The minutes should be presented to Presbytery every year & not as here shown.
3. They should show this session is opened & closed with prayer.
4. The names of moderator and elders present should (*three unintelligible words.*)

Jasper? K. Smith
Moderator

Presbytery at Wynne Mch 29, 1901

45
(blank)

(Gap in page numbers here)

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List of the Members of Mount Hope Church

	<u>When Rec'd</u>	<u>How</u>	<u>Dismissed</u>
Howard A Humphrey	July 2/1859	Letter	
Mrs. Mary M Humphrey	"	"	
Mrs. Mary E Graham	"	"	July 17/71
Miss Mary W Adams	"	"	
Miss Celia H Allen	"	"	
Mrs. H. E. Mebane	Feb 6 1860	"	
Samuel Humphreys	Sept 28 1861	"	1868
Mr. Patterson Servant	May 28 1862	"	
Milus Bergner			
Benjamin			
Nelson	Jan 19 1862	Exam	
Aaliza			
Amanda			
Harry, James Mebane Servant	"	"	
Uncle Moses, Col C C Graham	June 9 1862	"	
Robert			
James			
Albert	June 22	Exam	
Pledger	1862		

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Continuation of List of Members

E. C. Bronaugh by letter July 11 1868
Mrs. E. C. Bronaugh “ 12 1868
Dr. I. F. Price “ “
I. I. Carns “ “
Samuel A McKinzie “ “
A C Allen “ “
Miss Jennie Allen “ “
Miss Jennie Fielder “ “ Dismissed Feb
1870
Mrs Susan Wilfong “ “
C. C. Graham Profession “
Dismissed July 17/91
R. T. Blow “
I. G. Frierson Letter July 18 1869
Mrs. Sam Carns Profession “

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List of Members of Wynne Church
Sept 1st 1889-

Geo F. Dixon
Mrs. Eliza R. Dixon
Mrs. L. Koonce
Mrs. Jennie Graham
Miss Mary E. Dixon
Miss Mary C. Graham
Dr. L. L. Mebane
Mrs. Mary M. Smith
Dr. C. H. Montgomery
Mr. C. M. Mebane
Miss Jane McCravey (1891)

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1893

Jan 29 – List of Members as on this day – of Wynne P. Church

Geo. F. Dixon
Mrs. Eliza R. Dixon
Mrs. L. M. Koonce
“ Jennie Graham
Miss Mary E. Dixon x
Miss Mary C. Ghaham x
Mrs. Mary M. Smith
Mr. Charley M. Mebane x
“ Robert R. Dixon
Bertie M. Smith

Miss Kate Reynolds Koomce x
Mrs. Ada Williams
“ Hattie Cogbill
Miss Kate England x
Miss Jane McCravey x
W. W. Hines x

(Pages 101 and 102 torn out)

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1897 List of Members – as on 1 this day - of Wynne Church

Geo. F. Dixon
Mrs. Eliza R. Dixon
“ L. M. Koonce
“ Jennie Graham
“ Mary M. Smith
Mr. Charley M. Mebane x
“ Robt R. Dixon
Mrs. Ada Williams Block
“ Hattie Cogbill
“ B. A. Gholston
“ A. I. Baker
“ Rena Hamilton
“ Ada Easton
Mr. Frank Easton
Mrs. Cora Cogbill Shell x
Mr. R. M. Smith

(Pages 105 and 106 missing.)

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Membership Cont.

Mr. Samuel Baker
Mrs. “ “
Jno. Wooten
Mrs. “ “
Mrs. Martha Mathews
S. D. Mathews
Mrs. “ “
Geo. E. Davis
Hugh Chalmers
Mrs. “ “
Mrs. M. T. Browning
“ W. H. Newsom
“ Mary Lancaster
Jno. M. Graham
Mrs. M. Vanpatten

109 Membership Cont.

Mrs. Jennie Dixon

110 (page is blank)

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List of Resident Members
April 1st 1907

Geo. F. Dixon
Mrs. Eliza R. Dixon
Mr. L. M. Koonce
Jennie Graham
Mary E. Smith
Robt. R. Dixon
Bertie Smith
Mrs. Ada Block
 “ Hattie Cogbill
 “ B. A. Gholson
Mr. “ “
Mrs. A. I. Baker
 “ Rena Hamilton
Mr. R. M. Smith
E. D. Robertson
Mrs. “ “

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N. A. P. Smith
Mrs. J. K. Herman
Mrs. Goldie Sherriden
 “ Jennie E. Montgomery
J. Evert Smith
W. H. Cogbill
Jno. A. Wilson
Mrs. J. E. Wilson
Miss Eva “
J. L. Robinson, Sr
Mrs. “ “
Wm. “
J. L. Jr. “
O. S. “
D. M. Thompson
Mrs. “ “
Miss Anna “
 “ Jennie “
 “ Mollie

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6/17- 1908
Miss Anna Kate Robinson
Rbt. Jones
Mrs. “ “
Samuel Baker
Mrs. “ “
Jno. Wooten
Mrs. “ “
Mrs. Martha Mathews
S. D. Mathews
Mrs. “ “
Geo. E. Davis
Hugh Chalmers
Mrs. “ “
Mrs. M. T. Browning
“ W. H. Newsom
“ Mary Lancaster
Jno. M. Graham, Jr
Mrs. M. Vanpatten
Mrs. Jennie (Robt) Dixon

(Page numbers skip to page 142.)

142 *(blank)*

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Recorded 11/22 97
Sermon – N. H. Cogbill
Exam and admission to five members
A. M. *(unintelligible)* Clerk

Treasurer's Account *(Upside down on page 158.)*

1869

July 18 Collection for
Instantiation *(Being present)* \$29.60
Paid
Rev. T. W. White

1869

Oct 18th Collected for Rev Mr. George Hall for visiting us
us and preaching. \$67.35
Paid
Rev. George Hall

1870

May 15th Collected for
Family of Rev. Cephas
Washburne \$46.00
Paid
Rev T. W. White

A List of the Members of Mt. Hope Church *(Upside down on page 162.)*

	When Rec'd & How	Dismissed	Died
Mary E. Graham	July 2 1859 Letter		
Celia H. Allen	"		
H. E. Mebane			
Saml Humphrey			

BAPTIZED CHILDREN (*Written upside down on page 164.*)

1868

July 12, By Rev T. W. White

Isiah (?) (*Inez?*) Price

Mary Louisa Price

Elizabeth Cruiz (?) Burrough

Earl Clupp Burrough

Kenneth Ann McKensie

Robert Sterling Mebane

1871

Oct 29th By Rev L. Maury

Allen Sutton

Donald Moore Mebane

6/8- 97 106 (?)

List of Members

Continued

Mrs. Raney

E. D. Robertson

Mrs. " "

Mr. Jno – Shell –

B. A. Gholsten

Mrs. Gholsten (*Line drawn through*)

N.A. P. Smith

Mrs. J. K. Herman

Mrs. Goldie Patee (Sheridan)

Ella Doolin

Mr Jess_ E. Wilfong (?) (*Line drawn through*)

W Hley bun (?)

LG 17 1901 Mr Beck (?)

Jno. A Wilson

Mrs. J. E. Wilson

Miss Eva Wilson

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List continued

Miss Rosa Wilson (Dec)

J. L. Robinson

Mrs. J. L. Robinson

Mrs. Anna Robinson (Dis)

Wm Robinson
J. L. Robinson, Jr.
D. M. Thompson
Mrs. D. M. Thompson
Mrs. Chalmer Thompson (Dis)
Miss Anna Thompson
Miss Jennie Thompson
Miss Mollie Thompson
Robt Jones
Mrs. Robt Jones