

# HAND-BOOK

OF THE

## CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,

IN

EAST WOODSTOCK, CT.

LONG ISLAND  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY.

DANIELSONVILLE:

J. Q. A. STONE, PRINTER,—TRANSCRIPT OFFICE.

1860.

## MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH.

---

The Rev. ABEL STILES was ordained in July, 1737; removed with a part of the church to North Woodstock about 1766; died July 25, 1783, aged 74 years.

The Rev. JOSHUA JOHNSON was ordained as colleague with Mr Stiles, December 27, 1780; dismissed Sept. 28, 1790.

The Rev. WILLIAM GRAVES was ordained Aug. 31, 1791; died Aug. 26, 1813, aged 48 years.

The Rev. SAMUEL BACKUS was ordained Jan. 19, 1815; dismissed June 3, 1830.

The Rev. ORSON COWLES was ordained April 25, 1832; dismissed Sept. 4, 1837.

The Rev. THOMAS BOUTELLE was ordained Dec. 6, 1837; dismissed March 21, 1849.

The Rev. JAMES A. CLARK was stated supply from December, 1849 to January, 1851.

The Rev. M. BURDETTE was installed April 21st, 1852; dismissed Jan. 9, 1854.

The Rev. J. A. ROBERTS was Stated Supply from March, 1855 to April, 1855.

The Rev. EDWARD H. PRATT commenced his ministry as Stated Supply December, 1855.

---

## DEACONS OF THE CHURCH.

---

CALEB MAY, elected Sept. 24, 1766.

NEHEMIAH LYON, elected Sept. 24, 1766.

ELISHA CHILD, elected Nov. 13, 1782.

CHARLES CHILD, elected Oct. 14, 1789.

AARON LYON, elected Oct. 14, 1789.

NATHANIEL BRIGGS, elected about 1815.

WILLIAM CHILD, elected Jan. 17, 1819.

LUTHER CHILD, elected June 25, 1824.

THEOPHILUS B. CHANDLER, elected Nov. 4, 1836.

ASA LYON, elected Nov. 4, 1836.

ELISHA C. WALKER, elected March 30, 1849.

HALSEY BIXBY, elected Dec. 1, 1854.



## CONFESSIONS OF FAITH.

---

I. We believe there is one only living and true God, existing in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and that these are in essence one, and in all divine attributes equal.

Deut. 6 : 4. Isa. 16 : 5, 18. I John, 5 : 7. Matt. 28 : 19. 2 Cor 13. 14. John 1 : 1—3. Isa. 9 : 6. Rom. 9 : 5. Acts 5 : 3, 4.

II. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were written by inspiration of God, and constitute a perfect rule of faith and practice.

2 Tim. 3 : 16. 2 Pet. 1 : 21. Isa. 8 : 20. Acts. 17 : 11. John 5 : 39. Rev. 22 : 18, 19.

III. We believe that God created all things for his own pleasure and glory; and that his knowledge and purposes extend to all events, however great, however small.

Isa. 43 : 6, 7. Rom. 11 : 26. Acts 15 : 18. Dan. 4 : 35. Matt. 10 : 29, 30. Acts 15 : 18. Heb. 4 : 13. 1 John 3 : 20. Ps. 147 : 5. Acts 11 : 23. Eph. 1 : 11. Isa. 46 : 10. Job 23 : 13. 2 Tim. 1 : 9.

IV. We believe that our first parents were made in the image of God—holy and upright; that by disobedience they lost this image, and involved both themselves and their posterity in the ruins of the Fall,

Gen. 1 : 26, 27, 31. Eccl. 7 : 29. Col. 3 : 10. Gen. 2 : 17. 3 : 3, 6. Rom. 5 : 12. Eph. 2 : 3. Job 14 : 4. Ps. 14 : 1—3.

V. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, by his sufferings and death, made an Atonement for sin, so that salvation is freely offered to all on condition of faith and repentance.

Isa. 53 : 4—6. 1 John 2 : 1, 2. Heb. 9 : 11—14. 2 : 9. 1 Tim. 2 : 5, 6. John 1 : 29—7 : 37. Matt. 11 : 28. Rev. 22 : 17. Acts 20 : 21. 2 : 38. 16 : 31. Luke 13 : 3. Mark 16 : 16.

VI. We believe that without regeneration by the spirit of God, and holiness of heart and life, no one can enjoy the divine favor either in this world or that which is to come.

John 3 : 3. 1 : 13. Gal. 6 : 15. Tit. 3 : 5. 1 Pet. 1 : 23. Heb. 12 : 14. Matt. 5 : 8, 7 : 21. Eph. 5 : 5.

VII. We believe that all who are truly regenerated, being kept from final apostacy, will be preserved by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

Phil. 1 : 6. 1 Pet. 1 : 5. Rom. 5 : 10. 8 : 1, 35—39. John 4 : 14. 6 : 37. Col. 3 : 3.

VIII. We believe in a general Resurrection ; and also in a final judgment, when all the human family must stand before the Son of Man, and receive a sentence of just and righteous retribution—the wicked going away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

John 5 : 28, 29. Dan. 12 : 2. Matt. 20 : 29—33. 1 Cor. 15 : 51—53. Rev. 20 : 12. Eccl. 11 : 9. 12 : 14. Acts 17 : 31. Matt. 25 : 31—46. 2 Pet. 3 : 7. Jude 6 : 14, 15. Rom. 2 : 5, 6. Rev. 22 : 11, 12.

IX. We believe that a Church is an association of Christians professing their faith in Christ, and obedience to Him, and joined in covenant for Christian fellowship and communion in the ordinances of the gospel, and invested with power to choose its own officers, to admit members, and to exercise government and discipline according to the rules of the gospel.

1 Cor. 1 : 2. 12 : 13. Eph. 4 : 4, 5. Rom. 12 : 4, 5. Col. 3 : 16. Heb. 10 : 25. Acts 2 : 41, 42, 46, 47. 4 : 32. 9 : 31. 11 : 26. Matt. 23 : 10. Eph. 1 : 22, 23. Acts 14 : 23. 20 : 17, 28. Eph. 4 : 11, 12. Matt. 18 : 15, 16, 17. 2 Thess. 3 : 6, 15. 1 Cor. 5 : 4, 5, 9.

10. We believe that Baptism, as the seal of the covenant ; and the Lord's Supper, as commemorative of Christ's death, are ordinances which are appointed to be observed in the Church to the end of the world.

Matt. 28 : 19, 26—30. 11 : 23—26. Acts 2 : 41. Gen. 17 : 7, 9, 10, 11, 12. Rom. 4 : 11, 16. Acts 21 : 39. Jer. 30 : 20. 1 Cor. 7 : 14. Luke 18 : 16. Acts 16 : 15, 33. 1 Cor. 1 : 16, 11—23 : 26.



## COVENANT.

---

You do now in this public manner, in the presence of the dread majesty of heaven and earth, and before angels and men, solemnly covenant to take the great Jehovah to be your Lord and supreme God; God the Father to be your Father and Sovereign; God the Son to be your Redeemer and Savior; and God the Holy Ghost to be your Sanctifier, Comforter and Guide—promising by the aid of divine grace to deny all ungodliness, to maintain a strict watch over your heart and life, to walk in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless, and by a life of prayer and constant piety so to let your light shine that others seeing your good works may be led to glorify your Father who is in heaven.

You do also cordially join yourself to this church as a visible church of Christ, putting yourself under its special watch and care, and solemnly promising to submit to its discipline, to attend with it upon public worship and the ordinances of divine appointment, to seek its peace and purity, and to treat all its members with that Christian love and tenderness which is becoming the followers of the meek and lowly Jesus.

Thus in the strength of your Lord and Savior you solemnly covenant and promise.

We, then, the members of this church, do affectionately receive you to our fellowship and communion, and declare you entitled to all its privileges and ordinances; at the same time promising, on our part, to treat you with Christian affection, to watch over you as becometh saints, and to pray that the great Head of the Church will enable you to keep with fidelity the solemn covenant into which you have now entered.

And now, beloved in the Lord, let it be deeply impressed on your minds that you have entered into solemn engagements from which you can never escape. Wherever you are, wherever you go, these covenant vows will rest upon you. They will follow you to your dying hour; they will follow you to the bar of God; they will abide upon you throughout eternity. You can never *undo* what you have now done. You stand

unalterably pledged to be the Lord's, and he will hold you to your promise.

Henceforth the eyes of the world will be upon you ; and as you demean yourself, so religion will be honored or disgraced. If you walk worthy of your profession, you will be to us a credit and comfort ; but if otherwise, an occasion of grief and reproach.

But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, though we thus speak, and things which accompany salvation. May the Lord guide and preserve you till death, and finally permit you and us to unite with the church of the first-born in the kingdom of heaven.

---

### STANDING RULES.

---

**RULE I.** The Annual Meeting of this church shall be held on the Friday next preceding the first communion season of the year, when the following and all necessary officers shall be chosen, namely, a Moderator, a Clerk (who shall also be Auditor), a Treasurer, a Standing Committee of five members, and Church Collectors for the year.

**RULE II.** The order of business at the Annual Meeting shall be as follows:—1st, Prayer ; 2nd, Report of Clerk ; 3rd, Report of Treasurer ; 4th, Report of Standing Committee ; 5th, Choice of Moderator by ballot ; 6th, Choice of Clerk by ballot ; 7th, Choice of Standing Committee ; 8th, Choice of the Church Collectors ; 9th, Other Business.

**RULE III.** A business meeting shall be in order immediately after the religious services of each preparatory lecture.

**RULE IV.** The minister and deacons may call a special meeting of the church whenever they shall deem it best ; and



the Moderator shall call such a meeting at any time, upon the written application of five male members of the church.

RULE V. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep the records of the Church ; to audit the accounts of the Treasurer ; to prepare and forward letters of dismissal ; to notify churches from which such letters shall be received concerning the action of this church upon said letters, and to report at the annual meeting a written catalogue of church members, together with the number and names of all persons received, dismissed, excommunicated, removed, or deceased during the year.

RULE VI. The Treasurer shall take charge of all funds and benevolent contributions of the church ; shall pay all bills as voted ; and at the annual meeting shall render his account, previously approved and signed by the Auditor.

RULE VII. It shall devolve upon the Standing Committee to conduct the examination of candidates for admission to the church ; to report at the annual meeting the residence and standing (so far as known) of non-resident members, and to hold correspondence with all such members at least within two years from the time of their removal from us. It shall also be the duty of the Standing Committee, in a Christian spirit, to enquire after all public offences in this church which shall come to their knowledge ; and to visit, previous to each annual meeting, all resident members who during the year shall have withdrawn from the worship and ordinances of this church, and to make such report at the annual meeting as they shall deem proper concerning each case. It shall be the duty of the Standing Committee also to discharge such other service as the church by vote may at any time impose upon them.

RULE VIII. Candidates for admission to this church by *profession* shall be examined by the Standing Committee, and all candidates for admissions either by letter or profession shall stand propounded at least two weeks.

RULE IX. The regular seasons for the celebration of the Lord's Supper shall be the first Sabbaths of January, March, May, July, September, and November, and the regular time for the preparatory lecture shall be on the Friday next preceding each communion.

RULE X. Members of this church, on removing to other places, are expected to procure letters of dismission and recommendation within one year from such removal.

RULE XI. No recommendation shall be added to letters of dismission, for such members as have been absent from the communion service of this church for more than one year, except in cases of sickness; but, instead of a recommendation, this rule shall be added in a postscript.

RULE XII. Letters of dismission shall be valid only six months, and members who have received them shall not vote in church meetings unless they have returned the same.

RULE XIII. If any letter of dismission shall be retained more than six months it shall be the duty of the Standing Committee at once, either by conference or letter, to seek the reasons for such delay and (if no satisfactory reasons are given,) to report the case to the church at the first business meeting.

RULE XIV. Members of sister churches communing with this church statedly for one year or more, if in regular standing, shall be cordially invited to unite with us by letter. It shall be the duty of the Standing Committee to extend this invitation.

RULE XV. In cases of personal offence, the offended member should immediately seek the removal of the offence, following the directions of Christ in Matthew 18: 15, 16, 17.

RULE XVI. These rules may be altered or amended at any regular business meeting of the church by a majority of members present provided that notice of such alteration shall have been given at a previous meeting.



## NAMES OF MEMBERS.

---

Dates, mark the time of admission ; \*, denotes those received by letter.

Nov. 10, 1806. Bethia Bacon.	Jan. 6, 1828. James Paine, Mary A. Paine, Adelia G. Copelin, Silas May.
July 19, 1807. Hannah Frissel.	
Dec. 10, 1807. *Hannah May.	March 2, 1828. Rhoda M. Child, Eliza Henry.
Dec. 16, 1813. William Child.	
July 2, 1815. Sally May, Abiel May, Nancy Chaffee.	March 1, 1829. *Lucy A. Paine.
Aug. 27, 1815. Alice M. Child, Abigail Child:	July 3, 1829. *Sophia Child.
Oct. 29, 1815. Charles Child, Almira Child, Nancy Haskell.	Sept. 3, 1829. *Mehetable Walker.
Jan. 7, 1816. Nancy Comstock.	1831, or previous. Sophia Jones.
March 7, 1817. Anna Handy.	Nov. 6, 1831. John Paine, William Paine, George A. Paine, Ezra Dean, Erastus Henry, Perley Sangree, Susan Morse, Olive S. Gould, Phebe A. Paddock.
Sept. 4, 1824. Orinda Gilmore.	
July 1, 1827. *Rebecca C. Sanger.	Jan. 1, 1832. Samuel Gould, Asa Witter, William Walker,
Nov. 4, 1827. Olive Hare.	

John Child,  
 Thomas May,  
 Nathan Morse,  
 Stephen Harrington,  
 Elhaman W. Lee,  
 Abigail R. Paine,  
 Pamelia H. Dean,  
 Eliza Witter,  
 Annette M. May,  
 Diadama Sanger,  
 Eliza A. King,  
 Antonette Walker,  
 Polly S. Bowen,  
 Mary M. Chandler.

April 7, 1832.  
 Perley Chandler,  
 Elisha Lyon.  
 Sophia F. Woodward.

July 1, 1832.  
 Charlotte Harrington.

Jan. 6, 1833.  
 Eliphalet L. May,  
 Hubbard Abbot,  
 Isaac Hibbard, 2nd,  
 Seth Clapp,  
 Erastus Henry, jr.

July 7, 1833.  
 Asa Lyon,  
 \*Sabra Ann Lyon,  
 Hannah Chandler,  
 ✕ Phebe P. Paine.

March 2, 1834.  
 Harriet P. May.

Nov. 2, 1834.  
 Hannah A. Dean,  
 Hannah H. May,  
 Mary A. L. Paine.

Aug. 30, 1835.  
 \*Palmer Chamberlin.

Nov. 1, 1835.  
 Anna Abbot.

March 6, 1836.  
 Lyman Hawks.

May 1, 1836.  
 Abel Child, 2nd,  
 Nathan Handy,  
 Caroline Chaffee,  
 Lydia May,  
 Elvira Frissel,  
 Rebecca W. Loverin,  
 Carolina C. Chandler,  
 Elizabeth M. Rawson.

July 3, 1836.  
 Abigail Thurber,

Jan. 1, 1837.  
 \*Micah Whitney.

March 5, 1837.  
 \*Ruth May.

May 14, 1837.  
 Napoleon B. Prouty,  
 Dolly Prouty,  
 Pliny C. Whitney

March 3, 1839.  
 Elizabeth W. Jones,

May 5, 1839.  
 Chloe Briggs,

July 7, 1839.  
 George Morse,  
 Rhoda A. Hastings,  
 Nancy M. Child.

Aug. 30, 1840.  
 \*Isabel M. Walker.



Nov. 1, 1840.  
Lyman Henry,  
Susan Snow.

Jan. 2, 1842.  
\*Rebecca P. Lyon.

March 8, 1842.  
\*Asa Bishop,  
Joanna Bishop,  
Mary E. Healy.

May 1, 1842.  
Ezra C. May,  
Charles C. Potter,  
Sarah B. Morse.

Sept. 4, 1842.  
Peter H. Child.

Jan. 30, 1846.  
\*Susan Walker.

Nov. 7, 1847.  
Hannah C. Brainard.

May 7, 1848.  
\*Nancy Tabor,  
\*William Chandler,  
Gideon Tabor,  
James Walker,  
Nelson Walker,  
Nathan E. Morse,  
Levi A. Bliss,  
Amy Walker,  
Catharine Walker,  
Sarah M. May.

July 2, 1848.  
Samuel Bliss,  
Martha K. Rivers.

Sept. 3, 1848.  
Harriet L. May.

July 7, 1850.  
Lydia D. Bliss,

DeWitt C. Tarbell,  
Sylvia Bliss.

Sept., 1850.  
Lucy Tucker.

April 27, 1851.  
George P. Smith,  
Edwin B. Lyon,  
George A. Jordan,  
Henrietta Sanger,  
Lucretia Hibbard,  
Esther P. Hibbard,  
Harriet F. May,  
Sophia S. Lyon,  
Mary E. Bartlett,  
\*Henry C. Stutson,  
\*Hannah S. Stutson,  
\*Sarah F. Smith.

July 13, 1851.  
Cyrus C. Davenport,  
Mary A. Dayton.

July 1, 1853.  
\*Halsey Bixby.

May 11, 1856.  
Eunice B. Morse,  
Martha Agnes Child,  
Susan F. Rawson,  
Elvira Walker,  
Daniel J. Whitney.

July 13, 1856.  
Charles Howard,  
\*Sally Chandler,  
Susan E. Child,  
Annette M. Child,  
Mary A. Paine,  
Harriet M. Paine,  
Abby C. Mason,  
Anna E. Lyon,  
Lucy May.

Sept. 5, 1856.

- \*Henry Haskell,
- \*N. Elizabeth Haskell,
- \*Mary V. A. Davenport.

Jan. 11, 1857.

- \*Electa Hobbs,
- Pamelia H. Mason.

July 12, 1827.

- \*Edward H. Pratt,
- Ruth Howard.

March 21, 1858.

- \*Martha A. Pratt.

May 2, 1858.

- Edwin K. Chamberlin,
- Edward Killam,
- Edward P. Fowler,
- Carlo May,
- Royal V. Paine,
- Nathaniel S. Child,
- George T. Bixby,
- Franklin G. Bixby,

William May,  
Sylvia C. Morse,  
Anna M. May,  
Julia D. May,  
Mary Ellen Lyon,  
Sarah E. Day,  
Mary F. Bucklin,  
Lucy M. Lyon,  
Josephine Howard,  
Eliza A. Buxton.

July 2, 1858.

William H. Paine,  
William L. Child,  
George Whitney,  
Elisha M. Lyon,  
Jane D. Child,  
Mary E. May.

Nov. 7, 1858.

Martha J. Witter.

March 4, 1860.

\*Abigail Chamberlin.

7.  
LONG ISLAND  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY.