

<u>Names.</u>	<u>Received</u>
Griffin Maria )	
Griffin Thomas )	September 29 <sup>th</sup> 1831
Osborn Mrs.	January 1 <sup>st</sup> 1832
Joseph Omand )	
John Cook )	
James Thorn )	
Marshall Cornell )	
Mrs. James Cook )	June 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1832
Miss Mary Lake )	
Mrs. Cosens )	
Martha Hull )	
Mr. Perks )	September 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1832
Mrs. Perks )	
Miss Martha Crawley )	
Miss Martha Cook )	
Mrs. Thorn )	October 7 <sup>th</sup> 1832
Mr. & Mrs. Wiltshire )	
Mrs. Reb. Hainworth	November 4 <sup>th</sup> 1832
Martha Law )	
Sarah Schelton )	
David Wiltshire )	July 7 <sup>th</sup> 1833
John Gilham )	
Percy Buckingham )	
George Field )	
Sam. Lane )	
John Brown )	
Mrs. Cozens )	July 5 <sup>th</sup> 1834
Mrs. Norris )	
Miss Hobbs )	
Miss A. Geard )	
Sarah Piggott )	
Eglantine Levington )	
William West )	
John Webb )	October 5 <sup>th</sup> 1834
Thomas Primmett )	
Sarah Louiza Wright )	
Miss Baker )	
Mrs. Wilson )	August 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1835
Mr. W. Wilson )	
Mr. John Odell )	

Mrs. Clark )  
Mrs. Ann Webb )  
Mrs. Catherine Crawley ) July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1836  
Mrs. Kezia French )  
Mrs. Eliza Weatherhead )

Mrs. Elizabeth Lane )  
Rebecca Croft ) September 2<sup>nd</sup> 1838  
Elizabeth Arnold )

Impey Thomas )  
Woodfield Smith )  
Lane Richard )  
Hill Mary )  
Hide Mary ) July 7<sup>th</sup> 1839  
Law Sarah )  
Woodfield Hannah )  
Wilson Sarah )  
Wilson Mary )  
Turner Mary )  
Jordan Mrs. )

Alexander Mrs. ) September 1<sup>st</sup> 1839

Moss Eben. Daniel )  
Thomas Skilleton )  
Thomas Steers ) November 3<sup>rd</sup> 1839  
Elizabeth Wilson )  
Maria Humphreys )

### Hitchin – October 3rd 1831.

The Rev. W. Geard having, through age and infirmities, become unable to discharge his pastoral duties, and the church under his care, having heard that the Rev. Thomas Griffin of Prescot Street, London, was desirous of removing from the metropolis, he was requested to visit Hitchin, and preach for a few Sabbaths. The result of this visit was and invitation to the pastoral care of the church assembling in Tilehouse Street, which the following letters will explain

From Mr. John Crawley, one of the deacons at Hitchin, to Mr. Griffin – Hitchin 12<sup>th</sup> July 1831.

Rev. and dear Sir,

According to my promise, and in compliance with your request, I wish to inform you the results of our meetings, but being aware of my incompetence, I shall write but little. However, I have great pleasure in being able to say that complete unanimity prevailed at each meeting, and both members and subscribers are anxious that you should return to become pastor over us; indeed, I am not aware of a dissentient voice. This, I think, calls for thankfulness and makes our prospects more encouraging. I think also, that in the event of your return, Mr. Geard has fully made up his mind to resign. And, now, with regard to pecuniary matters, I wish I was able to say more than I can, but again, I have pleasure in saying as a proof of the sincerity of our friends, that mention has been made so far as to enable me to offer you a salary of £100 a year during Mr. Geard's life, with a prospect of something like £30 more at his decease which I have but little doubt might in time be further increased.

These, my dear Sir, are some outlines of what has been done, and if, from this statement you should feel disposed to comply with our wishes, I hope and trust it will eventually be over-ruled for great good. You will much oblige me, if you will write in a post or two without fail, as I shall feel anxious – will then, soon write you again – with our kind regards to Mrs. Griffin and yourself, I remain, in haste,

Yours respectfully,  
John Crawley.

This, after a reply from Mr. Griffin, was followed by a more formal invitation which is here copied.

Hitchin, 17<sup>th</sup> July 1831.

Rev. and Dear Sir,

Our venerable and highly esteemed minister, Mr. Geard, after having been more than 56 years pastor over the Baptist Church in this place, from increasing infirmities (being in the 82<sup>nd</sup> year of his age) and also a late serious affliction, having concluded totally to resign the pastoral office among us, we take this method and opportunity, respectfully to request and invite you (having for some weeks past laboured among us with general acceptance and some apparent success) to take the sole pastoral care over us, and cheerfully hope you will readily accept this our invitation and come among us as soon as you conveniently can.

Signed by us, in the name, and on the behalf of the whole church,

John Crawley )  
Edward Foster ) Deacons.

To this, Mr. Griffin sent the reply here inserted –

To the Church of Jesus Christ, at Hitchin, Herts, lately under the pastoral care of the Rev. John Geard.

July 19<sup>th</sup> 1831.

In reply to your unanimous invitation to be your sole pastor, I now solemnly say, that I heartily accept it, and, on the terms expressed in the letter sent to me immediately before the invitation came.

I have never been a wanderer, but may want a fortnight, once in a year, to visit my friends, which, you will, probably have no objection. The interests of a church and a pastor are the same, and I resolve, as the Lord shall help me, to do all I can to serve your best interests; to preach, and pray, and act, so that, with a divine blessing, I may be very useful.

Mr. Geard has acted well indeed, and I esteem him much, and, will treat him well, as he well deserves to be treated. May he enjoy peace through the rest of his days, and meet, at length, his departed friends in Heaven, and may those he shall leave on earth, follow him to Eternal Glory, so that he, and all his people, and all his relatives, may meet before the throne of God, when life is ended.

I am, my Christian friends, your affectionate and elected Pastor.

Thomas Griffin.

The church at Hitchin having applied for the dismissal of Mr. and Mrs. Griffin, the following letter was received in the hand writing of Joseph Gutteridge Esq., the senior Deacon –

The Church of Christ assembling in Prescott Street, Goodmans Fields, London – to the Church of Christ late under the pastoral care of the Rev. John Geard at Hitchin –

Christian Brethren,

Your application for the dismissal of our Brother and Sister Griffin to membership with you, has been received and laid before the Church – with which requests they now comply. It may not be improper on the present occasion, to express their regard for their late pastor Mr. Griffin whom “they esteemed highly in love for his works sake”, by bearing testimony to his faithful and zealous exertions in the discharge of his ministerial duties with us for a long course of years; and for the uprightness of his demeanor ..... us; and also to acknowledge the high degree of respect we bear to Mrs. Griffin for her Christian and prudent conduct.

The providence of God having removed them from us, it is our earnest prayer that the Great Head of the Church may bless their removal, both to themselves, and to the Christian society with which they intend to unite; and that the labours of Mr. Griffin may be abundantly prospered, so that as a church you may be “increased with all the increase of God”.

We remain in the bonds of the Gospel affectionately yours,	
Signed in the name and on the behalf of the Church	Joseph Gutteridge )
London, September 21st 1831.	John Hepburn )
	John Danford ) Deacons.
	J. Booth )
	Jos. Warmington )

The above letter was read at the next Church Meeting at Hitchin. This, in all respects, an exact copy of the one sent from Prescott Street.

Church Meeting held September 1<sup>st</sup>. 1831 in the Meeting House.

It was proposed that this Church should respectfully apply for the dismissal of Mr. and Mrs. Griffin – a letter of application was approved and Brother Crawley was requested to forward it to the Church at Prescot Street.

Church Meeting held September 29<sup>th</sup> 1831.

The letter of dismissal, on the other side of this leaf, was read, and Mr. and Mrs. Griffin were regarded as members of this Church.

It was agreed to have a lecture on Thursday evening, alternately with the friends at Back Street Meeting, so that Mr. Griffin will preach once a fortnight in this place at half past six. Joseph Omand was proposed for membership, and Brethren Foster and Field requested to visit him.

Church Meeting held October 1831.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Mrs. Osborn was proposed for membership with us, when the deacons were appointed to visit her. The visitors reported - satisfied with the character, and sentiments, and experience of Joseph Omand.

Church Meeting held December 1<sup>st</sup> 1831.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Joseph Omand appeared and gave a truly satisfactory account of himself as a candidate for baptism and church fellowship – and it was agreed to receive him.

The Brothers appointed to converse with Mrs. Osborn reported themselves satisfied, and she is expected to appear before the Church at it's next Meeting.

Church Meeting held December 28<sup>th</sup> 1831.

Mrs. Osborn appeared and having communicated her experience, it was resolved that she be received into full communion with this Church.

It was resolved that it is necessary to clean, repair and improve the place of worship – and that suitable persons be employed to ascertain as far as is possible, what will be the expense of these improvements. It was resolved, that, in addition to the four collections for the poor in March – in June – in September and in December, we have two collections in the year for general expenses, and one for the Sabbath evening lecture. The two first of these in February, the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Sabbath – the other in August, the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Sabbath – and the last of these on the Sabbath previously to discontinuing candles – on Lord's Day January 1<sup>st</sup> 1832 Mrs. Osborn was publicly received.

Church Meeting held February 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1832.

Resolved that the repairs and improvements of the Meeting House, as were stated previously by the Pastor, be carried into effect, if the money needed can be raised. Resolved that the Pastor and Deacons be requested to ..... - to obtain donations for these objects and resolved that, after this

is finished, it be intimated publicly that the church will be obliged to the friends generally, if they will, each one, use influence, as it may be preferred, to gain pecuniary aid to the objects proposed.

Church Meeting held March 1<sup>st</sup> 1832.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mrs. James Cook, Miss Mary Lake and Mr. John Cook.... and were proposed for baptism and communion. Brother Crawley and Mr. D. Foster were requested to visit Mrs. Cook and Miss Lake and Messrs. Field and David Wiltshire were requested to visit Mr. Cook.

The Deacons and Messrs. D. Foster and T. Field and Mr. John Cook were requested to obtain estimates of the carpenters work in our repairs and superintend the business. Brother Raves was requested to do the work in his time.

Church Meeting March 29<sup>th</sup> 1832.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Miss Mary Lake appeared, indicated her experiences and was approved. Mrs. James Cook appeared, communicated her experience and was approved. Mr. John Cook appeared, related his experiences and was approved. Martha Hull was proposed and the deacons appointed to visit her.

Xxx After the ordinance – May 6<sup>th</sup> 1832 the church was detained, and Mr. Marshall Cornell, James Thorne, and Mrs. Cozens were proposed for communion and Brethren Field and Shadwell were requested to visit Thorne, Brothers Woodfield and Wilson – Cornell, and the Deacons Mrs. Cozens.

Church Meeting May 31<sup>st</sup> 1832.

Martha Hull who, had been proposed for several months was encouraged to appear before the church, which she did, and having related her experience it was agreed to receive her into communion with us. Mr. James Thorne related his experience and was received for baptism and communion. Mr. Cornell and Mrs. Cozens also related their experience and it was agreed to receive them.

On the same evening May 31<sup>st</sup> 1832, Joseph Omand, John Booth, James Thorne, Marshall Cornell, Mrs. James Cook, Mary Lake, Martha Hull and Mrs. Cozens were publicly baptized and on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1832 they were all publicly received into the church and communion at the table of the Lord.

Church Meeting June 28<sup>th</sup> 1832.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. It was agreed to grant the dismissal of Daniel Lane – and Mr. William Wiltshire was proposed for communion, and Brothers Wilson and Shadwell were requested to visit him.

Church Meeting August 2<sup>nd</sup> 1832.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. Mr. and Mrs. Perks were proposed for communion and Messrs. Crawley and Shadwell were requested to visit them. Mrs. Hainworth was proposed, and Brothers Foster and Cook were requested to visit her. Mr. and Mrs. Wiltshire's case was postponed..

#### Church Meeting held August 30<sup>th</sup> 1832.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. Mr and Mrs. Perks appeared, communicated their Christian views and experience – it was agreed to receive them. Mr. William Wiltshere appeared – related his experience, and was accepted as a candidate for baptism. Mrs. Hainsworth's dismissal – it was agreed to apply for, and that she be received on our recommendation of an honourable dismissal. Mrs. Thorn was proposed for baptism and communion and Miss Martha Cook and Miss Martha Crawley. Messengers to Thorn – Brothers Wilson and Clerk, to Cook – Brothers Crawley and Wiltshere, and to Crawley – Brothers Foster and Woodfield. On Tuesday September 2<sup>nd</sup> 1832 Mr and Mrs. Perks were received into Communion.

#### Church Meeting September 26<sup>th</sup> 1832.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and approved. Mrs. Thorn, Miss Martha Cook and Miss Martha Crawley each appeared and communicated their experience, and were accepted as candidates for baptism and communion. Agreed to baptism on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> at half past three. At the above time were baptized Mrs. Thorn, Miss M. Crawley and Miss M. Cook, and Mr. W. Wiltshere – and on October 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 they were all received into the Church and Communion at the Lord's Table.

#### Church Meeting November 1<sup>st</sup> 1832.

Minutes of former Meeting read and confirmed. The pastor read an ..... dismissal of Mrs. Hainworth from the church in Prescot Street, London, to this church. – November 5<sup>th</sup> 1832 Mrs. Hainworth was publicly received and communion at the Lord's Table.

#### January 4<sup>th</sup> 1833.

Church Meeting held at Vestry. The Minutes of last Meeting were read and approved. It was decided that the Church accounts to be settled annually and that this should be done for the last year at next Church Meeting and the accounts of the repairs made up and paid.

#### Church Meeting January 31<sup>st</sup> 1833.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and approved. Agreed that it is desirable to add three more to our present number of deacons. These to be chosen next Church Meeting by a show of hands. Agreed not to have the annual meeting of the Herts Union at this place this year. Agreed to have our evening meeting in favour of the Baptist Mission in April – and that it be for an address and prayers, and a collection in favour of the Mission. The subject relating to the change in the number of collections, and the times of them, for the poor and general expenses we had not time to settle, and left to our next meeting.

#### Church Meeting held February 28<sup>th</sup> 1833.

The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed. Mr. David Wiltshere was proposed for baptism and communion and Brothers Wilson and Woodfield were requested to visit them. It was agreed that we still have to have a collection a year for the poor, and one this year for general expenses in August. It was agreed that we have a collection in April for the Baptist Mission and a public meeting as may be arranged to meet the general convenience of the Deputation from the Missionary Society. Brethren D. Foster, R. Shadwell and John Cook were unanimously chosen to the office of deacons in this church.

Church Meeting held April 4<sup>th</sup> 1833.

Minutes of last Meeting were read and approved. Mr. David Wiltshere appeared and having related his experience was received as a candidate for baptism. John Gilliam was proposed for baptism and Brothers Field and Wilson were requested to visit him. Agreed that our church meetings be held for next six months at six in the evening.

Church Meeting May 4<sup>th</sup> 1833.

The Minutes of the former meeting were read and approved. John Gilliam appeared but it was thought best that the visitors make some enquiries about his general deportment. Martha Law and Sarah Schelton were proposed for baptism. Brothers Wilson and Reeves were desired to visit the former and Brothers Shadwell and Woodfield the latter.

Church Meeting held May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1833.

The case of John Gilliam stand over until next church meeting. Martha Law was accepted as a candidate for baptism and communion. Sarah Schelton was desired to wait another month.

Church Meeting held July 4<sup>th</sup> 1833.

Sarah Schelton and John Gilliam appeared before the church and it was agreed to receive them as candidates for baptism and church fellowship. On the same evening were baptized Martha Law, Sarah Schelton, John Gilliam and David Wiltshere, and on the following Sabbath they were all publicly received into the Church and continued at the table of the Lord.

Church Meeting held August 1<sup>st</sup> 1833.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Church Meeting held August 29<sup>th</sup> 1833.

No business.

Church Meeting held October 3<sup>rd</sup> 1833.

No business.

Church Meeting held October 31<sup>st</sup> 1833.

An application from the church at Luton for the dismissal of Sarah Kilby was made and the request was granted.

Church Meeting held in the Vestry November 28<sup>th</sup> 1833.

No business.

Church Meeting held January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1834.

It was resolved that there be an address instead of a sermon on a Lord's Day evening, as a trial, until next Church Meeting, and that the members and subscribers be convened to consider what can be done to prevent the disturbance of the congregation on a Sabbath evening, and that they be requested to meet next Monday evening after the prayer meeting. It was resolved that the officers of the church be requested to meet as soon as convenient to settle all matters respecting the burying ground and the claims of subscribers as to rights of burial. Chur

Church Meeting January 30<sup>th</sup> 1834.

It was reported that the friends and subscribers met at the time appointed and formed a plan which has been found acceptable, and that the evening lecture will be continued. It was resolved that the deacons superintend the painting of the meeting (house?) and what other improvements may be necessary as far as the means proposed will allow.

Church Meeting held February 27<sup>th</sup> 1834.

Agreed to hold the prayer meeting at Wymondley Chapel on Monday evening next, as our place will be under repairs. Agreed to shut up the Meeting House on Sabbath next on account of the painting, and to re-open it on the following Lord's Day. Agreed to meet in the Lancashire School Room on the Sabbath in week we have our own place closed. Agreed that the Pastor endeavour to obtain a Minister to preach the whole day when our place is re-opened and that there be one collection for the provision of lamps for the lighting the place on Sabbath evenings and that all proper pains be taken to make this known by printed bills etc.

Church Meeting held April 4<sup>th</sup> 1834.

No business.

Church Meeting May 4<sup>th</sup> 1834.

Benjamin Buckingham has expressed a wish to be united to this church. Brothers Raves and Wilson were requested to visit him. George Field having wished to join the Church, Brothers Perks and Woodfield were requested to visit him : John Brown, also, and Brothers Field and William Day were requested to visit him – Thomas Primmitt also, and Brothers James Day and Edward Foster were requested to visit him – Mrs. Harris, also, and Brothers Raves and William Day were requested to visit her – Miss Hobbs, also, and Brothers Dere Foster and Hardwell were requested to visit her – Miss Geard, also, and Brothers Shadwell and Cook were requested to visit her – Sarah Piggott, also, and Brothers Field and Perks were requested to visit her – Mr. Cosens, also, and Brothers E. Foster and Shadwell were appointed to visit him.

Church Meeting held May 29<sup>th</sup> 1834.

The visitors reported well of Benjamin Buckingham, who appeared before the Church, and it was agreed to receive him into our communion. George Field, John Brown, Mr. Cosens, Mrs. Harris, Miss Hobbs, Miss Geard and Sarah Piggott were approved, and on being baptized, it was severally agreed to receive them into the Church. Mr. Samuel Lane was proposed for communion, and Brothers Crawley and Hardwell were requested to visit him. Thomas Primmitt's case was deferred.

Agreed to baptize on this day fortnight at 3 o'clock in the afternoon - June 5<sup>th</sup> were baptized George Field, John Brown, Mr. Cosens, Mrs. Harris, Miss Hobbs, Miss Geard, Sarah Piggott and Mr. Samuel Lane. Benjamin Buckingham was received into this Church last ordinance day. July 6<sup>th</sup> the persons last mentioned, with the exception of B. Buckingham, were added to the Church by a public reception, and communed with us at the Lord's Table.

Church Meeting July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1834.

The minutes of the former meeting were confirmed. Miss Eglantine Leavington was proposed for communion and Brothers Shadwell and Raves were requested to visit her.

An appointment having been made for the dismissal of Mrs. Bedells to the church at St. Neots under the pastoral care of the Rev. T. Miale, it was agreed to grant it. Agreed that we have, August 1<sup>st</sup>, a meeting for prayer and thanksgiving, relating to the termination of slavery in the British ....., and a collection in aid of the Mission to be held in the evening at half past six o'clock. Agreed to call a meeting of the subscribers to determine how the Meeting House is to be lighted and that it take place on Monday evening 7<sup>th</sup> instant, at 7 o'clock – as this place agreed to have public worship every Sabbath evening.

Church Meeting July 31<sup>st</sup> 1834.

Miss Eglantine Leavington appeared before the church and was accepted as a candidate for baptism. The visitors to Mr. T. Primmitt were required to visit him again.

Church Meeting September 4<sup>th</sup> 1834.

John Webb was proposed, and Brothers Edward Foster and J. Day were requested to visit him. William West was proposed and Brothers David Wilshere and B. Shadwell were requested to visit him. The case of Thomas Primmitt was not proceeded with as the maturity of his Christian experience was not sufficiently manifest. Some things having arisen between the deacons; and the pastor and one of them, it was resolved that a friendly conference be held to endeavour to produce harmony, and that the pastor, and the deacons, and Messrs. Perks, Woodfield, Raves, Wilson, D. Wilshere meet on Tuesday night at 5 o'clock for that purpose.

Church Meeting October 1<sup>st</sup>. 1834.

Mr. West applied and was approved, and John Webb applied and was approved, Thomas Primmitt also applied and was approved – and the same afternoon were baptized, these three brothers and Miss E. Leavington. The pastor reported that success had attended the efforts of the brothers appointed at last meeting to endeavour to restore harmony where it had been interrupted.

Church Meeting October 30<sup>th</sup> 1834.

No business.

Church Meeting December 5<sup>th</sup> 1834.

No business.

Church Meeting January 1<sup>st</sup> 1835.

The subject of the annual Missionary meeting was considered, and it was agreed to resume that subject next Church Meeting.

Church Meeting January 29<sup>th</sup> 1835.

Resolved that we have three collections at our Missionary Assembly, this year, to be made on the Sabbath day after the sermons that may be preached. No public meeting on Monday evening.

Church Meeting held February 26<sup>th</sup> 1835.

No business.

Church Meeting April 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1835.

Sarah Louisa Wright was proposed for baptism and Brothers Shadwell and Raves were required to visit her. Miss Baker was proposed for baptism and Brothers Dere Foster and T. Cook were required to visit her.

Church Meeting April 30<sup>th</sup> 1835.

Sarah Wright appeared and related her experience and was accepted. Miss Baker did the same. Mrs. Wilson was proposed for baptism and Brothers Shadwell and David Wilshere were requested to visit her. It was resolved that Mr. Edward Foster be most respectfully requested to resign his office of deacon in this church – in doing which the church truly sympathises with him in his present circumstances.

Church Meeting June 4<sup>th</sup> 1835.

Mrs. Wilson related her experience and was received as a candidate for baptism and communion. John O'Dell was proposed and Brothers Shadwell and Wilson were requested to visit him. William Wilson was proposed and Brothers Dere Foster and Cook were requested to visit him. The brothers appointed to communicate the resolution of last meeting, were requested to see Mr. E. Foster again and report to the next Church Meeting. The case of Mr. Foster was terminated by his resigning his office at the request of the church.

Church Meeting held July 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1835.

Mr. John O'Dell appeared – related his experience and was agreed to be received into the church after being baptized. Mr. W. Wilson did the same, with the same result. Agreed to baptism this day fortnight, in the evening at 6 o'clock., At the time agreed on were baptized Sarah Louisa Wright, Miss Baker, Mrs. Wilson, Mr. W. Wilson and Mr. John O'Dell – and August 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1835 the whole of them were received into the church and communion at the table of the Lord.

Church Meeting September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1835.

No business.

Church Meeting held October 1<sup>st</sup> 1835.

It was resolved that the time of holding the regular Church Meeting be considered at our next meeting of the church.

Church Meeting December 3<sup>rd</sup> 1835.

Resolved that the church meetings be held for the future after the prayer meeting on Monday evenings.

Church Meeting held February 1<sup>st</sup> 1836.

Mrs. Elizabeth Law was proposed for baptism and communion. Brothers Shadwell and Wilson were requested to visit her. Mrs. Law appeared, related her experience, and was accepted.

Church Meeting held February 29<sup>th</sup> 1836.

Mrs. Theria French was proposed for communion and Brothers Shadwell and Wilson were requested to visit her.

Church Meeting held March 28<sup>th</sup> 1836.

The visitors reported favourably of Mrs. French. She appeared, related her experience and was accepted. Eliza Weatherhead was proposed for baptism and communion. Brothers Shadwell and Reaves were required to visit her.

Church Meeting held April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1836.

Eliza Weatherhead appeared, related her experience, and it was agreed that she be received on her subscription to baptism. Mrs. Clark was proposed for baptism and communion. Brothers Shadwell and Wilson were desired to visit her.

May 1704. ..... that was given by Mr. Parsons to the poor of our church from funds which was divided among our poor by Brothers ..... and John Foster ..... as followeth:

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Bro. Thos. Oksly		10.	0	Widd. Sibly		8.	0
Bro. Thos. Welsh		10.	0	Widd. Shepherd		10.	0
Bro. Rich. Hoath		5.	0	Widd. Child's daughter		10.	0
Bro. Thos. Ashwood		10.	0	Widd. Halford		10.	0
Bro. Thos. Tabor		4.	0	Widd. Wolsh London		8.	0
Bro. John Brown		5.	0	Sarah Robinson, Widd.			
Bro. Ed. Burgess		4.	0	Hoath's		5.	0
Bro. Wilson Bendish		10.	0			10.	0
Bro. Thos. ... Chapman,		5.	0	Daughter		10.	0
Baldock		6.	0	Widd. Sargent		10.	0
Bro. John Parry				Widd. Knot		10.	0
		6.	0	Widd Child		5.	0
Bro. Thomas Crawley		5.	0	Widd. Hoath		7.	0
His daughter		5.	0	Widd. Maryat		5.	0
Bro. John Chalkly				Widd. Ashwood		5.	0
	£4.	4s.	0	Mary Hodson			
Bro. Munts			1.	.....Gutridge	£5	14.	0
	£4.	6s.	0				
					£4	6.	0
					£10.	0.	0



Bro. John Wilson	Deceased	Sis. Elizabeth Godfrey	Deceased
Bro. Enoch Hunt	Deceased	Sis. Isobel Henn	Deceased
Bro. Ralph Bigg	Deceased	Sis. Brown	Deceased
Bro. Joseph Hurst	Deceased	Sis Elizabeth Tittler	Deceased
Bro. Tho. Field	Deceased	Sis. Maria Hunt	Deceased
Bro. John Foster	Deceased	Sis. Sarah Crawford	Deceased
Bro. Tho. Tittle Senior	Deceased	Sis. Susan Field	Deceased
Bro. Tho. Crawley	Deceased	Sis. Elma Smith	Deceased
Bro. John Knott	Deceased	Sis. Elizabeth Cooke	
Bro. John Jackson	Deceased	Sis. Ann Wolfe	Deceased
Bro. Edward Cantor	Deceased	Sis. Ann Sargent	Deceased
Bro. William Welsh	Deceased	Sis. Sara Knott	Deceased
Bro. Michael Foster	Deceased	Sis. Elizabeth Woolard	Deceased
Bro. Joseph Foster	Deceased	Sis. Ann Sibley	Deceased
Bro. Thos. Deamer	Deceased	Sis. M. Wilson	Deceased
Bro. Hen: Shephard	Deceased	Sis. Selby	Deceased
Bro. Robert Sargent	Deceased	Sis. Hanna Spenser	Deceased
Bro. Georg Board	Deceased	Sis. Sara Hoath	Deceased
Bro. John Bonner	Deceased	Sis. Rebek: Spenser	Deceased
Bro. William Fowler	Deceased	Sis. Elizabeth Guttridge	Deceased
Bro. John Foster	Deceased	Sis. Ann Field	Deceased
Bro. Richard Shephard)	These 3 brothers	Sis. Sara Oxoloy	Deceased
Bro. Georg Wilkinson )	dismissed to the	Sis. Sara Brown	
Bro. Joseph Capon )	church at	Sis. Sanders	Deceased
	Cambridge.	Sis. An: Bonner	Deceased
Bro. Hen: Sibley	Deceased	Sis. Ann: Baker	
Bro. James Smith	Excommunicated	Sis. Chapman	
Bro. Robert Mariatt	Deceased	Sis. F.	Deceased
Bro. Thos. Sargent	Deceased	Sis. Sara Spencer	Deceased
Bro. William Chapman	Deceased	Sis. Elizabeth D.	Deceased
Bro. John Warner	Deceased	Sis. Maira Heskett	
Bro. John Papworth	Deceased	Sis. Jackson )	Dismissed to
Bro. Edward Wobby	Deceased	Sis. Flindall )	church in
Bro. Edward Foster	Deceased		Cambridge
Bro. Dan Chalkley	Deceased	Sis. O.	To Mr. Howorth
Bro. Tho. Oakley of Preston	Deceased		Church without
Bro. Francis Coolidge	Deceased		consent.
Bro. Hen. Fuller )	Gone off to Mr.	Sis. Kath Rolls	
Bro. Ed. .... )	Haywood without	Sis. Maira Cotton	Deceased
	the consent of the	Sis. Maira Hodson	Deceased
	church	Sis. Maira Newton	Admonished and
	Deceased		suspended
Bro. Wm.Hopkins	Deceased	Sis. Sara Young	Deceased
Bro. Edward Hurst	Deceased	Sis. Sara Smith	Deceased
Bro. Richard Hoath	Deceased	Sis. Mary Lenard	Deceased
Bro. William Chapman	Admonished and	Sis. Sheppard	Deceased
Bro. William Brown	after	Sis. Sara Warner	Deceased
	excommunicated	Sis. Sara Shipton	Deceased
		Sis. Sara Thurley	Deceased
		Sis. Childes	Deceased
	Excommunicated	Sis. Mary Yonge	Deceased

Bro. Geo. Fitzjohn )	Dismissed	Sis. Ruth Yonge	Deceased
Bro. Hen. Shephard Junior )	Deceased	Sis. Elizabeth Fowler	Deceased
Bro. James Wybourn )	Dead 6 Dec.1693	Sis. Potter	Deceased
Bro. Thos. Tickle Junior )	Deceased	Sis. Sarah Daye	Deceased
Bro. John Warner )	Dead	Sis. Collipp	Deceased
Bro. Richard Jackson )	Cast out	Sis. Sarah Carter	Deceased
Bro. Ralph Bigge Junior )	Deceased	Sis. Rebekah Foulds	Deceased
Bro. Thomas Walsh	Deceased	Sis. Ann Hurst	Deceased
Bro. Tyler	Deceased	Sis. Ann Coloson	Deceased
Bro. Leonard Gray	Deceased	Sis. Elizabeth Sutton	Deceased
Bro. John Bigg		Sis. Edwards	Deceased
Bro. Roberts Cook	Deceased	Sis. Bryant	Deceased
Bro. Matthew Crook	Deceased	Sis. Concroft	Dead
Bro. Wilcox	Deceased	Sis. Sarah Shattbolt	
Bro. John Wilson, Bendish	Deceased	Sis. Mary Heskett	To Bolcham
Bro. Thos. Crawley Junior	Deceased	Sis. Rabona Heskett	Deceased
Bro. John Dent	Deceased	Sis. Mary Hurst	Deceased
Bro. John Tomalin		Sis. Dorothy Webb	Excommunicated
Bro. John Pakes	Dismissed	Sis. Mary Bigg	
Bro. John Munns	Deceased July 1696	Sis. Elizabeth Wilson	
Bro. Henry Camp	Admonished	Sis. Jane Hurst	Deceased
Bro. Thomas Buckingham	Deceased	Sis. Dorothy Pakes	Deceased
Bro. George Clerk	Dead	Sis. Ann Bigg	Deceased
Bro. Henry Young	Dead	Sis. Marriott	Deceased
Bro. James Gregory	Deceased	Sis. Mary Child	Deceased
Bro. Thomas Cook	Deceased	Sis. Sarah Smith	Deceased
Bro. Thomas Young at the Pond	Deceased	Sis. Tylor	Deceased
Bro. John Brown	Deceased	Sis. Eliz: Pakes	
Bro. Edward Turpin	Deceased	Sis. Rodd	Deceased
Bro. William Lavender	Deceased	Sis. Martha Bonner	
Bro. John Chalkley		Sis. Cooper	Deceased
Bro. Joseph Laz.....	Deceased	Sis. Ann Hoath	
Bro. Thomas Laz.....	Dead	Sis. Esther Field	Deceased
Bro. Thomas Ashwood	Dead	Sis. Ann Bonner	
Bro. Georg Hill	Dismissed to Mr. Brown's church	Sis. Rose Gladman now Carter	
Bro. Windsor Palmer	Dead	Sis. Hurst	Deceased
Bro. John Silsby of .....	Gone without consent to Mr. Brown's church	Sis. Mary Smith	
		Sis. Bigge	Deceased
Bro. John Edwards	Deceased	Sis. Gosler	
Bro. Georg Bould		Sis. Sarah Chalkley	
Osbourne Pirton	Deceased	Sis. Sara Hoath	
Jackson of Hertford	Deceased	Sis. Sarah Wilson	Deceased
		Sis. Elizabeth Gregory	Deceased
		Sis. Sarah Cooper	Deceased
		Sis. King	Deceased
		Sis. Redhead	Dead
		Sis. Youngs	
		Sis. Sibilla Hoath	Deceased
		Sis. Young at the Pond	Deceased
		Sis. Tarry of Kimpton	

		Sis. Wobby. Sis. Gregory Sis. Mary Randall Sis. Field of Roggatt Sis. Rebekah Wilson	Deceased Deceased Dead Dead Dismissed. Mr. Brown's church
		Sis. An Hoath ) Sis. An Chalkley ) Sis. Mary Kilom ) Sis. Gurnogg of P. Sis. Ann Foster of Wymondley Sis. Hanah Law Sis. Sarah Bigg Sis. Elizabeth Man John Needham	All of Lilley. Deceased  Dead  Dead Dead Deceased

Transient Communicants belonging to other Churches.

Mrs. King of Bedford Church  
Mrs. Newman of Mr. Skingle's Church  
Mrs. Crawley of Luton Church  
Mrs. Trickle of Luton Church  
Bro: Wren's wife of Mr. Brine's church formerly ..... by Cripplegate.  
Mary Sheppard of the late Mr. Richardson's Church (Deceased)  
Mrs. Clarkson of Dr. Watt's Church  
Mrs. Hinton of Mr. Hall's Church.

A Catalogue of the Members received into full communion since Mr. Needham's settling with Mr. Wilson as Co-pastors.

Received in August 20 <sup>th</sup> 1710	Mr Nicholas King having had liberty from the church at Luton to take up his communion with us. Mary Deere - dead. Elizabeth Bigg dismissed to Bedford church April 18 <sup>th</sup> 1725. Alice Martial married Daniel Hurst, Stevenage. Rebecca Gootheridge married Mr. Wilson of Henlow
Received 7.....17....	Elizabeth Deere Jane Young, wife of Henry Young of Bendish
February 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1711/12	Mary Needham - dead.
March 25 <sup>th</sup> 1712	Sarah Gregory cut off for her immoralities.
July 30 <sup>th</sup> 1713	Henry Rich of Radwell and his wife received at a church meeting - dead.

November 22 <sup>nd</sup> 1713	Joseph Ison received on the Sacrament Day
December 1713.	Widow Ashwood received at a Church Meeting.
February 10 <sup>th</sup> 1713/14	Hannah Carter received at a Church Meeting. Married Mr. Cowper of Luton. Jeremiah Gazeley at a Church Meeting/
January 12 <sup>th</sup> 1716	John Pancrust William Wiles at a Church Meeting - dead. William Field of Preston ) - dead. Susanna Gootheridge of Preston, ) now moved.
February 9 <sup>th</sup>	Sarah Cook of Hitchin at a church meeting - dead.
April 5 <sup>th</sup> 1716	Mrs. Gootheridge of Preston - dead. ) at a church meeting. John Godfrey alias Cooper - dead. ) Joseph Pilgrim - dead. Mary Welly - dead. Sarah Impey 1716 Mrs. Tomlin - dead. Kath Dunkley 1716 John Lumbus 1716 Sarah Farmer - dead. John Sandey at a church meeting November 13 <sup>th</sup> 1715.  John Primmit - dead. At a Church Meeting October 15 <sup>th</sup> 1719. Caleb Pitt - admonished and withdrawn from for his uncharitableness. Sarah Gore - Stotfold. Susanna Wibrand - dead. Mrs. Kimpton - dead. Mrs. Martin - excommunicated. Hannah Deere - dead. Mr. John Knowlsen - dead. Mr. Thomas Beacham Thomas Crawley – excommunicated. Francis Robinson - dead. Mary Ashwood now Welch. Mrs. Shepherd received by a dismission from the church at Nottingham. Joseph Ashwood - dead. Ann Forster married Mr. Hubbard of Blunnam John Forster Sarah Papworth - dead. John Valentine Kilpin Aaron Heath Jane Towney Henry Merrit 1727 Mary Jordan 1727

	<p>Henry Brett - dead  Ino Willisay 1727 March 26<sup>th</sup>  Jn. Pack  Jn. Hind and his wife 1728.  Amy Chalkley 1728. Now Arnott  John Lawrence and his wife 1729.  Thomas Lawrence and his brother 1729.  Widow Burrige 1729.</p>
1729.	<p>John Wren.  Mr. Barker. Dead by the falling in of a chalkpit.  Mr. Billington and his wife.</p>
June 4 <sup>th</sup> 1730	<p>Received at a church meeting Mary Stone married W. Law, Charlton.</p>
February 25 <sup>th</sup> 1730/31	<p>Received at a church meeting Thomas Robinson.</p>
May 20 <sup>th</sup> 1731	<p>Received at a church meeting Robinson, wife of Thomas Robinson.</p>
June 17 <sup>th</sup> 1731	<p>Received at a church meeting Thomas Vaux (Bass) ....William Giles.</p>
July 15 <sup>th</sup> 1731	<p>Received at a church meeting Lydia Deere.</p>
July 18 <sup>th</sup> 1731	<p>Received before the sacrament Elizabeth Panco, married William Giles.</p> <p>Received at a church meeting August 12<sup>th</sup> 1731 Mrs. Dearmer of Gosmer. Dead.  John Merrit, Preston; June 17<sup>th</sup> 1731  Susanna Stone at a church meeting now married Daniel Carter, Hitchin.  Peddoe of Preston February 17<sup>th</sup> 1731.  Mary Browne, now Cotton.  Ann Chalkley now widow Ganford. November 25<sup>th</sup> 1731.  Widow Sam alias Draper at a church meeting April 13<sup>th</sup> 1732. Dead.  William Law at a church meeting ) May 11<sup>th</sup> 1732.  Thomas Ashwood at the same time )  Daniel Carter received before the sacrament Lord's Day May 14<sup>th</sup> 1732.  At the same time Mrs. Travell ) (dead)  and Mrs. Brutton ) (dead)  being dismissed from Mr. Pitt's church were received into full communion with us.  At the same time Mrs. Howard of Gosmer formerly named Chapman after a long neglect of her duty was restored to her place in the church, the Lord having been pleased greatly to receive her soul.</p>
February 1 <sup>st</sup> 1732 - 3	<p>Mrs. Thomas  John Bonn  Mr. Thomas  Mr. Oughlodge - ex-communicated.</p> <p>John Kilpin )  Thomas Robotham ) received at a church meeting.  Edward Solsoe )  Henry Herbert at a church meeting March 29 1733. dead.</p>

Ann Gregory of Bendish at a church meeting ) Dead.  
Mary Watson at the same time, now Ashwood ) April 26<sup>th</sup> 1733.

Thomas Barker )  
Mrs. Joiner ) At a church meeting May 25<sup>th</sup> 1733.  
Mary Ward )

Mrs. Burrold of Bendish at a church meeting 1733. Dead.  
John Phillips of Offley and his wife at a church meeting October 26<sup>th</sup> 1733.  
Widow Clark of Hitchin at a church meeting December 6<sup>th</sup> 1733. Dead.  
John Walker  
Widow .....of Hitchin at a church meeting, now ..... ) January 3<sup>rd</sup> 1733/4  
Ann Field of Willian ) at the same time  
Her sister of Weston Elizabeth Chalkley )

Nathaniel Field of Willian February 28<sup>th</sup> 1733/4.  
George King April 25<sup>th</sup> 1734.  
John Dunton of Shillington )  
George Rod of Langley and ) May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1734.  
Judith Hill of Preston )  
Mr. Merrit of Cockernoe )  
Michael Traveller of Offley) June 20<sup>th</sup> 1734  
Jno. Bennett of Breachwood Green Taylor )  
Daniel Attwood sent at Little Almshoe ) July 18<sup>th</sup> 1734  
Daniel Adcock and John White (dead) at a church meeting Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> 1734/5  
Thomas Ward Ickleford. May 1736  
Edw. Tukey 7<sup>th</sup> December 1735  
Mary Ball married R. Gurny 1737  
Jno. Palmer and wife. May 4<sup>th</sup> 1738.  
Wm. Maynard. Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> 1740  
Daniel Mardel Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> 1735  
Ebenezer Hollick Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> 1739  
Mary Needham Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> 1739  
Sarah Chalkley Cast out. Jn. Hill of Pirton Octo. 5<sup>th</sup> 1740.  
John Stephens. August 24<sup>th</sup> 1738. Thos. Gurney June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1739.  
Elizabeth Mardel. Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> 1740.  
Tho. Linnet Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> 1740 Red Cross End.  
Sam. Wheeler. June 15<sup>th</sup> 1740. Hill End.

Mrs. Esther Jones of St. Albans. August 20<sup>th</sup> 1742.  
Mr. Samuel James. June 26<sup>th</sup> 1743.  
William Wright. July 24<sup>th</sup> 1743.

The copy of the letter sent from Thos..... of ..... Church in and about London to  
..... The church of Christ here to..... Mr. Waites and Mr.....as followeth.

..... unto you from God our Saviour, and our Lord Jesus Christ. We give thanks  
unto God for you all understanding that the word of the Kingdom has come unto you not in word  
only but in ..... the Holy Ghost that you are bosom followers of the Lord in this day of  
affliction.

The copy of the letter sent from the Church of Christ in and about Bedford to the Church of Christ in and about Hitchin as followeth –

The Church of Christ in and about Bedford to the Church of Christ in and about Hitchin sendeth greeting.

Holy and Beloved

We the fellow heirs with you of the ..... of life having taken your..... concerning our sending ..... to you our beloved Brother John Wilson into ..... with much prayer to God for direction in so weighty a matter, having at last (God ..... the ..... Of the Church to ..... To what you have ..... Longed, and as ..... much prayer for) granted, and by ..... to grant and give us our Beloved Brother to fellowship with you for your mutual edification and joy of faith. .... Not, as from others to commend him to you, God ..... before ..... that by commending him to you, ..... now God and our ..... and our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep makes this both our and your Beloved Brother a double blessing to you, both in his ministry and membership with you and as a watchman over you, if God and the church with you shall ..... Him ..... Amen.

Written for you by the consent of the Church and subscribed in your names by your Brethren.

John Bunyan  
Sam Benn  
John Bonn  
L. Ashwood  
Shinor Knott  
John Croker  
Thos. Honilow  
Thos. Monk  
1677.

Tho. Woodward.  
John Bardolph  
Thos. Cooper  
Willm Man  
Robert Holflork  
Anthony Harrington  
Edward Shephard.

The copy of the letter of dismission sent to our ..... brethren and signed as follows:-

The Church of Christ in and about Hitchin unto the Church of Christ in and about Cambridge sendeth greetings.

Beloved in the Lord. The Church of Christ ..... though conscious to his ..... , that he walked after the faith and ..... commands in the gospel yet do grant and ..... for loves sake that our Brother George Wilkinson who desiring to be dismissed unto you, upon some struggles of conscience with ..... unto some things amongst us. (With yet no ..... good and godly) we therefore do dismiss him unto you for his better edification desiring he may be a blessing unto you and you to him.

Written by the order of the congregation and subscribers all those appointed by the Brethren whose names are here under written

Tho. Lithe Coppe of ..... sent to Bro. ..... Sheppard and to Bro. Joseph Cooper to Sister Jackson and Sister Flindall.

.John Wilson  
John Knott  
Henry Sibley  
Edward Hunt  
Robert Sargant

Ralph Biggs  
Thomas Crawley  
John Jackson  
Thomas Lithe  
Joseph Foster

John Foster  
Joseph Hurst  
William Welsh  
Thomas Dermont  
William Fowler

Henry Shepherd  
Michael Foster  
John Bonner

Dated this 1 day of the 4<sup>th</sup> month 1677.

The 4 month 1677 the 4<sup>th</sup> day of the month, the Church being then assembled together at Brother John Foster's did then give Brother Ralph Bigg of Salem call to the office of a Deacon which he did freely agree of before the congregation to do his duty as the Lord should help him.

The same day Brother John Wilson gave in his answer unto the calls that the Church before had given him to the office of Pastor to serve the Church in that relation as God should help him which he before the congregation.

The 28<sup>th</sup> day of the 4<sup>th</sup> month. The congregation set that day apart in prayer to God and Brother Wilson was further set apart to the office of Pastor over the congregation.

Those being present (Bro. Antony Lamb ) of London  
(Bro. John James )  
(Bro. Sam Fenn of Bedford  
(Bro. Thomas Kelsey of London

A copy of a letter sent to Mr. Holcraft to the Brethren assembled together May 24<sup>th</sup> '78.

Honorable Brethren,

Grace be with you. We have (as some of you know) often signified our desire of reconciliation with you, do by signify to you that same against, for it is not according to our principles (with principles of yours) to do anything that should have a tendency to maintain differences among Brethren. Wherefore if you be willing to give us a meeting that if possible we may meet together in order to .We whose hands are here under subscribed do signify that we shall heartily embrace it, and to that end do propose to meet you now either at Henry Warner's, John Symonson or Dr. Hutchinsons. Pray signify your minds in this matter by the bearer hereof favourable.

Your Brethren.

John Wilson  
Ralph Bigg  
John Foster  
William Fowler  
George Dove  
Henry Shephard  
John Knott

Brother Thomas Field laid under admonition and withdrawn from by the Church for wr into his work and or and unjustly obtaining it as his own without any notice or obligation according to custom in something of rage and his knowingly making some promise to Sister Shepherd to contrary unto the Word of God 20:17 and (2) Jn.22:1 – 3 and 23:4, and after the opening of eyes and will and the of God may and did acknowledge his sins before to did give him a solemn admonition and withdraw from communion

October 22<sup>nd</sup> 1680

Thomas Drury being meet together at Preston, did after Brother Thomas Field had to satisfaction given an account of his repentance for his sins for which withdrawn from and owning God's mercy and the church's faithfulness in rebuke and all upon him and with him was taken into full communion again with some given to to the church for the future to always for the purging of sins.

The same day and place.

Thos. being did that Brother John Thorowgood a member of the Church in and about Pirton, amongst us sometimes when we on the Lord's Day and upon set up against us meeting on a weekday on a week or on a fortnight and without asking of the congregation to whom he belonged being proposed

Afterwards the Brethren at another Church Meeting at Hitchin considering what as to the of Pirton congregation it might be and it might into the matter find by our sending to Pirton congregation to of you that we might enjoy Brother Thorowgood's when they would him would not admit of a . Upon which two Brethren, by agreement was sent to you.

1681. At a meeting of the Church in Hitchin Sister Mara Howton was laid under publik admonition and withdrawn from the church and

1. Her long absenting herself from the assemblies of the Church and from worship and ordinances of God contrary to 10:25
2. Her frequenting bad company or associating with \_\_\_\_\_ and being \_\_\_\_\_ light and \_\_\_\_\_ with you contrary to 5: 4.- 13.
3. Her being out of her Master's house at unfavourable hours and also dissembling to her master in asking to get some time to meetings with \_\_\_\_\_ went to but spent the time contrary to 6: \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ Colossians 3: 9
4. Her \_\_\_\_\_ and running away from \_\_\_\_\_ the messengers who were sent to her to admonish her for her
5. Her continuing in \_\_\_\_\_ after 3 \_\_\_\_\_ admonitions given her by Brother Thos. Dearmer and Bros. John Foster.

October 25<sup>th</sup> 1681. The church being met together at \_\_\_\_\_ at Brother Thos. Field's house and so fully that no \_\_\_\_\_ was absent did then renew their covenant to the Lord and one another with fasting and prayer non contradicting but by silent and lifting up your hands

The covenant is as followeth and as profound

We who through the mercy of God and Our Lord Jesus Christ have obtained grace to give our \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord and one to another by the will of God to know communion with another as saints in our gospel following.

Before God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ and the holy angels agree and promise all of us (The Lord assisting) to walk together in \_\_\_\_\_ our gospel communion and fellowship as a church of Jesus Christ our love to the Lord and one to another: and \_\_\_\_\_ and hearty – obedience to the Lord's ordinance appointments of Our Lord and law given in His church.

And also did agree and promise the Lord assisting to follow after the things which make for peace and things \_\_\_\_\_ which one may edify another: that so living and walking in love and peace the God of love and peace may be with us. Amen.

The amen \_\_\_\_\_ universal consent of all.

May 1684. The church being met together at Preston, Brother Thomas Sargent was laid under admonition and withdrew from the church for the sin of drunkenness, gaming and company keeping with profane persons who for some months before had been \_\_\_\_\_ admonished for the same \_\_\_\_\_ but continuing the same man and repeating the same wicked acts he was admonished and withdrawn from by the church and the admonition delivered to him by Brother Ralph Bigg, Brother John Foster, Brother Foskett as messengers from the Church.

August 28<sup>th</sup> 1684. The church being met together at Preston did agree and conclude to withdraw their communion from Sister Ann Storye, formerly Ann Baker, for her scandalous life having been several times privately admonished but being still found guilty of lying frequently and of great brawling and contention with her husband and greatly stubborn and impenitent; the Church \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ did then withdraw the communion from her.

May 16<sup>th</sup> 1687. A proposal made by those of Hitchin who formerly was members belonging to the Church in Cambridgeshire now being dismissed of the membership by the said church unto the Church in and about                    belonging to Mr Hayworth.

That proposal to us was that Mr Hayworth with them might have the use of our barn                    to meet on the Lord's Day in a fortnight                    a month                    they said was propounded by them for                    and                    sake also being                    that to set up another meeting by                    would look                    and                    .                    and                    oration to                    God.

The Church's answer to the proposal June 16<sup>th</sup> 1687.

We do for love and your sake grant that Mr Hayworth with you may meete in our barn at Hitching, on Lord's day in a month, there to supply both parts of that day as it used to be that there be no disappointment, then this is our mind hoping and concluding that be with you will                    the things that may make for peace and if                    shall find                    way to alter our minds and                    will let you know it.

September 1687. At a Church Meeting at Hitching Brother James Smith was admonished by the Church and withdrawn for his grandiose and reproachful tippling at Alehouses and stay                    and sometimes drinking                    .

About April 1688.

Brother Edward                    and afterwards Brother Len Fuller desired of the Church a dismission unto the Church walking with Mr Hayward the reasons for such                    being considered the Church refused to give a dismission judging that                    not a sufficient ground for them to grant it. Afterwards both                    by                    and                    the people                    to whom he belongs was as                    without the consent of the Church with                    they walked.

June 1689.

The copy of the letter sent by the Church to Mr James about a man to assist our present pastor. Honoured Sir and faithful servant of God and of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May 1<sup>st</sup> 1691.

John Hoskett and Ralph Bigg wre set apart by the consent and approbation of all those members present to the office of Ruling Elders and John Foster and Thomas Ticklor to the offices of deacons in the presence of Mr John James and Mr Eben. Chandler.

About the year 1688.

Mr James Grigory and Mr Edward Hurst were set apart by the Church unto the office of Ruling Elders.

October 13<sup>th</sup> 1700

Bro. Sheppard at a Church Meeting after time spent on prayer was sent forth to preach by the Church.

The copy of his mission is as followeth.

From the Church of Christ in and around Hitchin.

This may satisfy whom it may concern.

That the \_\_\_\_\_ of our Bro. Hen Sheppard who for several years together hath had his conversation and walking amongst us that it hath been very sober and godly and such as hath \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel of Christ and his profession thereof is that \_\_\_\_\_ hath been absent from us for his education in learning with \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ anything of blame in his walking and from the consideration of the gifts and \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Ghost upon him and his diligent study of \_\_\_\_\_ things whereby he hath attained to some competent understanding of the mystery of the Gospel and did judge him must be employed in the work of the ministry publicly and with our prayer to God for him and for a blessing on his labours we have sent him forth to serve the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ in the ministration of this glorious Gospel where the providence of God shall cast him. In

\_\_\_\_\_ we have with the consent of the Church hereunto subscribed our names this 13<sup>th</sup> October 1700.

John Wilson  
John Heskott  
James Grigory  
John Foster  
Thomas Tickler

George Dear.  
Ralph Bigg  
Joseph Foster  
John Brigg  
James Wyborn.

A copy of a letter sent to Mr. Eben. Wilson to invite him to assist his father Mr. John Wilson in the work of the ministry.

Hitchin September 29<sup>th</sup> 1697.

The Church of Christ in and about Hitchin to whom your \_\_\_\_\_ father is pastor. Having considered his work and immobility by reason of age and bodily infirmity to under \_\_\_\_\_ that constant his earnest desire expressed to us of some assistance in his ministerial work. They have thought much to entreat your assistance and therefore would in the names of the brethren do give you an invitation thereunto and if the providence of our God shall so dispose it we do earnestly desire you may come to us \_\_\_\_\_ a blessing abundant gifts of the Spirit of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Brethren in Christ.  
John Fosskit  
Eno. Hurst.  
John Foster  
John Papworth  
Thomas Tickler  
Tho. Youngs.  
Ralph Bigg  
Tho. Tickler Jnr.  
Tho. Crawley.

June 1702

Another letter of invitation sent to Mr. Ebenezer Wilson of Bristol from the church signed by twenty six of the Brethren.

Following \_\_\_\_\_ an answer from him that he could not answer our desire

August 1703.

An admonition sent by the Church to John Warner of Epping to rebuke him for his various conversation and neglect of the workings of God.

September 1704.

John Warner was cast out for his continuing in a conversation and his on the church admonition.

September 10<sup>th</sup> 1704.

The Church gave E. Wills a call to be my assistant which was signified to him in the letter in the of Southall and was told that the church would him what maintenance they could which if he liked and they and us should still mutually like and another, then to continue as assistant of which he

June 17<sup>th</sup> 1705.

Hen. Camp was then admonished by the church for long neglect of church assembly, frequent accompanying with varied carnal loose persons in and drinking with them into Road and having had long before private admonition but proved .

September 1705.

The copy of a letter of invitation be sent to Mr John Needham as followeth:

Reverend Sir,

Our pastor being through age and weakness of body much disabled in the work of preaching and necessity requiring that he should have a competent assistant in that work from the good character we have had of you, though unknown, we take the boldness to give you an invitation to come to us for this and that in you may find satisfaction you may find amongst us, as an assistant to our pastor in the work of preaching, to of our invitation who shall be ready to do what we can according to our small ability to make your life comfortable. This you may come to us in the of the of this Gospel of Christ. Also that you will to us as speedily as you can and thus wishing you a safe and prosperous journey to us.

Your brethren in Christ, signed by

John Wilson	James Grigory
Edward Hurst	Jos. Foster
Tho. Field	Ed. Wobby
John Bigg	George Hill
John Papworth	Tho. Lawrence.

The copy of the letter testimonial of Mr. John Needham.

To the Church of Christ in Hitchin to which the Revd. Mr. John Wilson is Pastor Dearly beloved in the Lord,

Seeing God by His providence hath called this our Brother Mr. John Needham to be helpful to you in the Lord's work and so enjoy the benefit of Christian communion with you by of communion of Churches and to that this our brother gives good satisfaction to us of the Grace of Christ in him upon his dismission into church fellowship amongst us and walked the gospel in sobriety, modesty, gravity, diligence and and with soundness in the faith and orderliness of behaviour we do affectionately recommend him to your as the gospel and you to the Grace of Christ as your brethren in the Lord.

Subscribed by the consent and in the name of the Church of Christ at Sheffield by Timothy Jolide, Pastor

The copy of a letter of dismissal sent to Brother Shepherd in order to his being joined unto the taking the pastoral office upon him to a church of Christ at Bridgwater.

Beloved in the Lord, it being the earnest desire of our beloved and honourable brother Hen. Shepherd to be dismissed of his membership with us and take up membership with you in order to his taking the pastoral office upon him you in the post and considering the and of God hath placed him amongst you and already made him so useful to you. Although we are very loath to part with him all along to the Gospel yet for your and his good and for the to the Gospel of Christ amongst you we do hereby dismiss him unto you for that that his labour may be more and more blessed unto you, both for your growth in grace and number and that you may be a blessing unto him.

Your Brethren in Christ

John Wilson	James Grigory	Edward Hurst
Joseph Foster	Joseph Lawrence	George Hill
John Parker	John Silsly	Tho. Field
Tho. Lawrence	Tho. Crawly	John Bigg

Sister Bryan dismissed to the church walking with Mr. Ebenezer Wilson in London. About December 1706.

The copy of a letter of gratitude sent to Mr. Thomas Hollis of London by the Brethren.

Worthy Sir,

Since you was pleased to send Mr. Needham to us we now have had a few months trial of his gifts well satisfied I him and with him and for that our hearty thanks to God for his so well mercifully providing for us and then by Worthy sir we do give our and hearty thanks unto you who under God hath been an instrument to provide him for us as a most judgment and of your great and constant love to us and care of us unworthy peoples for all which would not but the Lord will reward you and as we have found this blessing of God his labours and profitable to us and we pray that he may be a further and lasting blessing to us and a instrument in God's hand for the good of many of his elect in our assembly and we now much as to four of supply he being placed amongst us by so good a hand and so good a friend and we pray that we may not in away so great a mercy we who are named and here subscribed do with the rest of our Brethren in your arrangement of this our acknowledgement with our hearty respect and to you and to all yours

Ye Brethren in Christ

John Wilson	James Grigory	Ed. Hurst
John Foster	John Papworth	Tho. Titler Sen.
Tho. Titler. Jnr.	James Wybourne	Joseph Foster
John Bigg	John Parker	John Tomlin
William Lawrence	Edward Foster	Michael Foster
Tho. Field	George Hill	John Chalkly
Tho. Lawrence	Joseph Lawrence	Geor. Dear
John Bannor	Ralph Bigg	John Crouch.

January 26<sup>th</sup> 1706.

Brother John Parker had a letter of dismission signed by the Church unto the Church belonging to Mr. Adams and Mr. Keys in London.

November 23<sup>rd</sup> 1707

Sister Sarah Foster had a letter of recommendation to sit down with the Church of Christ walking with Mr. Bragg and Mr. Collens during her stay in the City.

May 9<sup>th</sup> 1707

Sister Wills had a letter of dismission to the Church in and about Thetford in the County of Norfolk over whom Mr. John Groom and Mr. John Wills are joint pastors.

Mrs. Sarah Field had a letter of dismission to Mr. Bragg's Church.

April 18<sup>th</sup> 1725.

Mrs. Elizabeth Stockdale had a letter of dismission to Mr. Chandler's Church in Bedford.

Be it remembered that those for articles that are mentioned in the other page for the satisfaction of those members who differ from others in point of baptism were read over and agreed to when Mr. James accepted the call of the Church.

January 29<sup>th</sup> 1709

Day before made two proposals to the Church to of them being to guide Mr. Needham to call to joint pastorship the other proposal of for the ease and satisfaction of those members that differ from the rest in point of baptism. Both those was against proposal the day and year above named unto the Church for which was as followeth.

1. It was proposed for the ease and satisfaction of them that differ from us in point of baptism that in they wish upon Mr. Needham to be joint pastor and he shall adopt thereof that you may and shall upon all orations fully your judgment and without any opposition or

2. It was proposed that upon all orations if Mr. Needham amongst us that he gladly and willingly may and will make a change with any pastor of another Church whom they shall direct that shall shall consider to baptize those children so that those may be as fully satisfied in the of judgment as if they had a pastor of their own mind what pastor doth the work is but a and not that thing itself.

3. It was proposed that the charge of Mr Needham going to make a change should be bourn by the church.

4. it was proposed that in it should glory God so to bless this church as to make them so numerous that there should be oration for two ministers or pastors that Mr Needham will be very willing and desirous that they may know out of their own judgments.

These proposals the church gave their full consent to.

And after this it was proposed to the church whether they was willing to grant Mr Needham a call to joint pastorship; unto which the church did freely, sincerely heartily and unanimously agreed, upon which a being already drawn up was read and signed by about thirty brethren and this same night was forwarded to Mr Needham by the hand of Brother Hurst with brethren present.

An account of which call is as followeth:

We the Church of Christ at Hitching, being under the pastorship of Mr John Wilson, now find it necessary to call another in conjunction – and that on this account both of our present pastor

Whereupon, having had tryal of the gifts of Mr Needham, his assistant for four years and upwards, we do heartily appoint of him as a pastor and earnestly desire him as a co-pastor. And therefore do by this unanimously call him to that charge amongst us            God to his            to it and fall in with it promising according to our ability to make his life comfortable and to to walk in our gospel communion with saints as such            was all of our judgments. Witness our hands in the name of the whole church,  
Dated January 29<sup>th</sup> 1709.

John Dear	Thomas Tilley Junior	John Wilson
George Dear	H. Turpin	Edward Hurst
Tho. Ashwood	Georg Jackson	James Grigory
John Crouch	John Papworth	Tho. Field
Edward Foster	Tho. Young	Joseph Foster
John Brown	Hen. Young	Joseph
W Parmer	John Wilson of Bendish	Thomas Lawrence
John Osborn	John Muns	Tho. Tickler
John Bonnor	Tho. Cook	Georg Hill
Edward Wobby	Georg Clark	Thomas Crawley
Robert Cook	Tho. Welsh	

Members in the Country since )  
Mr James was chosen pastor )

Brother Wright Harris	July 24 <sup>th</sup> 1743
Brother Tyler at The Holt)	
Brother Sibley, Kimpton )	November 10 <sup>th</sup> 1743

Transient members in Hitchin

Mrs. Clarkson  
Mrs. Tickler  
Mrs. Hinton  
Mrs. Clark  
Mrs. Cook

In the Country

Wrenu's wife  
Dunton's wife  
Mrs Knowles    Luton

Sister Ann Cain  
Preston, March 1<sup>st</sup> 1743.



	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Thos. Crawly	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Dav. Underwood	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Thos. Caporn	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Thos. Welch	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Richd. Brittin	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Jo. Hughes	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Richd. Angel	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Jo. Chalkley	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Thos. Samm	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Ann Groom	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Jo. Phillips	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Ab. Chapman	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Edwd. Button	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Wm. Chapman	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Mr. Wilkison	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Dan Field	1.	0.	0.	“	1.	0.	0.
Mrs. Hide	1.	1.	0.	“	1.	1.	0.
Eliz. and Mary Saunders		10.	6.	“		10.	6.
Jo. Brown		10.	6.	“		10.	6.
Mich. Mandle		10.	6.	“		10.	6.
Jo. Kingsley		10.	6.	“		10.	6.
Ann Page		10.	6.	“		10.	6.
Elisha Clarke		10.	6.	“		10.	6.
Wm. Gray		10.	6.	“		10.	6.
From London Jos. Saunders		10.	6.	“		10.	6.
Wid. Meane		10.	6.	“		10.	6.
Jo. Bonn		5.	0.	“		5.	0.
By a privet hand		5.	0.	“		5.	0.
Eliz. Sibley		2.	6.	“		2.	6.
						<u>119.</u>	<u>16. 6.</u>
Thos. Brown	1.	1.	0.				
Geo. Redd	1.	1.	0.				
Robr. Brown		10.	6.				
Geo. Garrat		10.	6.				
Row. Field		10.	6.				

		£.	s.	d.
1762	The bills paid by Jo. Lawrance for inlarging the Meeting House.			
Nov. 16	Thos. Archers bills for Work and Deals	7	4	6
Dec. 8	Edwd. Pake's bills for Work	3	19	0
14	James Smith's bills for Ironmongers goods	6	14	0
	Richd. Lane's bills	607	9	6
1763				
Jan. 4	(Dan.Field's bills for Work and sand	25	8	0
	(Saml. Bradley for ware and carting	27	6	0
	Saml. Impey's bills for lime and carting	1	2	0
	Thos. Ashwood bill for Work	0	5	0
	Pd. Mr. Groom a years interest for twenty pounds	1	0	0
	Mr. Thomas's bill for men's work and bills paid £18. 11.10½	18	11	10½
	Reced. James Salmon's subscription money in part <u>£ 2 . 2 . 0d</u>			
	Wm. Thomas due to balance 16 9. 10½			
	Due to Jo. Lawrance to balance <u>2 13. 6</u>			
	£19 3. 4			
		159	19	10½
	Subscription money recd. 117 14 6)			
	Recd. Of the Church stock which Jo. Foster paid) )			
	In £20G interest a year ) <u>21 0 0)</u>			
	138 14 6)	138	14	6
		21	5	4½
	Mr. Thomas recd. Mr. Salmon as a lone to be )			
	Substracted out. )	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
	Due from the Church to Wm. Thomas and Jo. Lawrance to			
	Balance this account	£19	3.	4½