

# NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH MINUTES

1869-1945

Lauderdale County, Mississippi



Abstracted by  
James T. Dawson

LCDA&H  
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LCDA&H, INC  
Meridian, Mississippi

New Hope Baptist Church Minutes  
1869 - 1945

Publication Number 3

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## INTRODUCTION

The New Hope Baptist Church was located near the Kemper-Lauderdale County Lines in Lauderdale County. The Post Office address was Rio in Kemper County.

The original minutes of this church are held by Mrs. Erwin Sanders, Meridian, Mississippi 39301.

These minutes in many instances listed the number of people joining the church and did not list the individual names. At the end of these minutes is information on births, marriages and death on the Tucker and Ross families.

**NEWHOPE BAPTIST CHURCH**

November 6, 1869

As a denomination of United Baptist, this church met in convention at the Letchfield School house in Lauderdale County.

Brother Elder N. C. Joyner examined members and found them to be in practice and pronounced the church hqualified to be a separate and independent church of Christ.

The following Brothers were members:

John Biggs (later marked deceased)  
Stephen Tucker  
G. R. Tucker  
J. S. Tucker  
H. J. Hand (dismissed by letter)  
James E. Davis (dismissed by letter)

The following Sisters were members:

Susan Biggs  
Elizabeth Biggs  
Louisa Wheeler  
Nancy J. Mckinney  
Anolisa Fortson  
Roenh Foster  
Jane Davis (dismissed by letter)  
C. C. Tucker  
S. P. Tucker  
M. L. Tucker  
Susan Hand  
Mary R. Clay  
Prena A. Tucker

**April 1871**

Elder N. G. Joyner, Moderator

**Saturday before 3rd Sabbath, July 1871**

Elder N. G. Joyner, moderator; Stephen Tucker, Church Clerk, moved and second that J. D. Wood, H. J. Hand be called as delegates to the association meeting. Stephen Tucker alternate delegate.

**August 1871**

Elder N. G. Joyner, Moderator

**September 1871**

Elder N. G. Joyner, Moderator

**October 1871**

Elder N. G. Joyner, Moderator

**February 1872**

Sister Mary P. Clay granted letter of dismissal. Brother N. G. Joyner, Moderator.

**June 1872**

Brother G. N. Joyner, Moderator

**August 1872**

Elder N. G. Joyner, Moderator, J. S. Tucker Church Clerk, appointed J. D. Wood, Stephen Tucker, G. R. Tucker as delegates to the Ebenezer Association meeting with J. S. Tucker as alternate delegate. The association meeting to be held in the New Hope Church on Saturday before the 3rd Sabbath.

**October 1872**

No change in moderator or church clerk. H. J. Hand came forward with a satisfactory achievement for going off with the missionaries and was received back in full fellowship.

**April 1873**

Elder N. G. Joyner moderator. Stephen Tucker Church Clerk protem

**June 1873**

Elder N. G. Joyner Moderator, J. S. Tucher Church clerk. Brother H. J. Hand was liberated to exercise his gift (preach) throughout the Ebenezer Association.

**August 1873**

Stephen Tucker church clerk protem

**October 1873**

N. G. Joyner, Moderator, J. S. Stephen church clerk; Delegates to District meeting were H. J. Hand, Stephen Tucker and J. S. Tucker

**June 1874**

No change in moderator or church clerk.

**January 1875**

No change in moderator or church clerk Sermon by Elder J. B. Miller, who answered the call of the church as pastor.

**April 1875**

Brothers H. J. Hand, William Ward, G. R. Tucker chosen as delegates to association meeting. Brother L. Tucker alternate, Elder J. B. Miller, pastor.

**May 1875**

N. G. Joyner, Moderator; J. S. Tucker, church clerk

**June 1875**

Same as above - church at peace

**July 1875**

Elder J. B. Miller, Moderator; J. S. Tucker, church clerk. District meeting delegates were H. J. Hand, J. D. Wood association meeting delegates were H. J. Hand, J. S. Tucker, J. D. Wood and G. R. Tucker alternate.

**October 1875**

Moderator N. J. Joyner who was called by the church as pastor

**January - March 1876**

Church at peace

**April 1876**

Brother J. D. Wood, moderator; Stephen Tucker, Church clerk-pastor.

The case of Brother H. J. Hand and Sister Susan Hand who were having difficulty between themselves was taken up. A committee of Stephen Tucker and G. R. Tucker was appointed to see them and report at the next church conference.

**May 1876**

It was reported the Brother H. J. Hand and Sister Susan Hand had settled their difficulty. Brother Hand made an acknowledgement which was received.

**June 1876**

Brother J. D. Ward, moderator, Stephen Tub; , church clerk  
protem. Church at peace

**July 1876**

Elder N. G. Joyner, Moderator; J. S. Tucker, church clerk  
The church still in Ebenezer Association.\

**February 1877**

No change. Elected Stephen Tucker as treasurer.

**April 1877** No change

**June 1877** Church at peace

**July 1877**

A charge was preferred against brother J. D. Ward for treatment  
of Emer Hodges, his step daughter, also for denying to Sister Ward,  
his wife, his being at the last meeting on Saturday before the  
third Sunday in June last. A committee of H. J. Hand, J. W. P.  
Hart appointed to wait on him and to have both him and Sister Ward  
at the next meeting.

**August 1877**

Elder N. G. Joyner, moderator, J. S. Tucker, church clerk -  
The case of Brother J. D. Ward was taken up; the committee discharged,  
case dismissed by proof by Sister Ward and acknowledgement by  
Brother Ward.

**October & November 1877** No Business

**January 1878**

Elder J. H. Joyner chosen as pastor

**February 1878**

Moderator N. G. Joyner - Church clerk J. S. Tucker

**March 1878** No Business

**April 1878** No business - Church at peace

**May 1878**

A committee appointed to see Brother J. D. Ward to find out cause, if any, for his non-attendance of Conference - Committee appointed was Brother R. Rowel, James Rowel and J. W. R. Ihzrt.

**June 1878**

Brother Wood made a satisfactory report to the church .

**July 1878**

Elder J. H. Joyner Moderator, J. S. Tucker, church clerk

**August 1878**

Elder N. G. Joyner, Moderator; Stephen Tucker, church clerk

**October 1878** No business

**November 1878** No Business

**December 1878**

J. H. Joyner, Moderator

Sister Nancy J. Ward granted letter of dismissal.

**January 1879**

J. H. Joyner selected as pastor of the church

**February 1879**

J. D. Ward excluded for going to the missionary

**March 1879** No business

**May 1879** No business

**July 1879** No business

**August 1879** Church at peace

**November 1879**

Elder J. H. Joyner, moderator - J. S. Tucker, church clerk

**December 1879**

Elder J. H. Joyner again called as pastor of the church.

**January 1880** Church at peace



**April 1880**

The church referred to itself as a Baptist Church of Christ. The church still a member of the Ebenezer Baptist Association. The church also attended District Two Meeting.

**August 1880**

The church minutes reflect the number received by experience - does not list by name.

Sister Sarah E. White excluded for Unchristian behavior.

**November 1880** No business

**December 1880**

Elder J. H. Rhodes called as pastor

**January 1881**

Elder J. H. Rhodes, moderator - J. S. Tucker, Church clerk

**February 1881**

The church took up the case of Brother T. L. Hard for criminal and Unchristian conduct such as getting drunk and going to parties. He was excluded.

**April 1881**

Sister Mary R. Porter charged with dancing, a committee of R. G. Gibson and J. R. Gibson appointed to labor with her.

**May 1881**

Sister Porter made an acknowledgement and the church forgave her.

**June 1881** No business

**August 1881**

Elected delegates to District and association meetings

**October 1881** No business

**December 1881**

Elder J. H. Rhodes again called as pastor.

**March 1882** No business

**May 1882** Church at peace

**June 1882** Church at peace

**July 1882**  
Appointed delegates to District and Association meetings.

**February 1883** No business

**March 1883**  
Elder J. H. Rhodes, Moderator - J. S. Tucker, church clerk

**May 1883** Church at peace

**June 1883** No business

**July 1883**  
Stephen Tucker, R. W. G#son and Js Rl".R'owelfi. association delegates

**August 1883**  
The case of Brother and Sister Ward for contempt of the church  
-Both were excluded from the church.

**December 1883**  
Elder H. W. Banes selected as pastor

**April 1884**  
Elder H. W. Banes stated he could not serve as supply and  
Elder J. H. Joyner chosen in his place.

**May 1884** No business

**June 1884** No Conference

**July 1884**  
Appointed delegates to District and association meetings

**October 1884** No conference

**November 1884**            No conference

**February 1885**  
                  Elder J. H. Joyner selected as pastor

**March, April, June 1885**            No conference

**July 1885**            Church at peace

**August 1885**            No conference

**October 1885**            No conference

**November 1885**            Elder J. H. Rhodes selected as pastor

**December 1885**            No Conference

**February 1886**            No conference

**July 1886**  
                  Appointed delegates to District and association meeting.

**August 1886**            No business

**November 1886**            No business

**March 1887**  
                  J. H. Rhodes moderator - J. S. Tucker church clerk

**April 1887**            No business

**May 1887**            Church at peace

**June 1887**            No business - only preaching

**July 1887**

A charge preferred against Brother J. L. Gipson and Sister Maggie Gipson for going to another church of a different faith. Both were excluded. Sister Williamson also excluded on same charge.

**February 1888**

Brother R. W. Gibson excluded for dancing at parties.

**March 1888** No business

**April 1888** Preaching by J. H. Rhodes

**June 1888** Preaching only - No business

**July 1888**

Appointed delegates to District and association meetings

**August 1888** Church at peace

**October 1888**

Sister Mary Potters granted letter of dismissal

**November 1888** No business

**February 1889**

Brother J. H. Joyner selected as pastor

**April 1889**

Membership was withdrawn from Sister Townsend as she previously withdrew from the church.

**List of Members Undated**

Brothers

John Pool - Gone missionary

Hiriam Yates

A. J. Townsend - Dead

A. J. Lee

Frank Hessr

W. E. Lee

J. Tucker

W. H. Hurt

J. R. Powel - Gone missionary

Brothers continued --

John Skinner

H. B. Lee

Cap Ethridge- excluded

Tom Ezell - gone missionary

W. S. Ezell

T. J. Lee

Sisters --

M. A. Gipson - excluded

Elizabeth Pewett - dismissed by letter

M. E. Gipson

S. C. Powel- gone missionary

Mary Salters

Corena C. Tucker

Angeline Harrington

E. F. Powel

F. A. Tucker

Jennie Powel - gone missionary

Susan Pool - gone missionary

H. A. Preia

H. J. Suttler

N. E. Townsend - dead

M. J. Lee

E. W. Ezell - excluded

Y. W. Ezell - excluded

Mattie Lee - dead

Bell Wood

Jennie Hurt

Baydie Ezell

M. A. Porter

Nellie Lee

Mollie Porter

Leona Lee

F. E. Cunningham

Elmira Harrington

Louiha Hurt

Minnie Hurt

Tolie Ezell

Jennie Lee

### **May 1889**

Sister Williamson granted letter of dismissal.

### **June 1889**

Elected delegates

### **July 1889**

L. A. Keen moderator - J. S. Tucker church clerk

### **August-September 1889**

No business

**March-April 1890**      Church at peace  
**May-June 1890**        Preaching only  
**August 1890**            No business  
**September 1890**  
     Preaching - Selected delegates  
**October-November 1890**      No business  
**February-March 1891**        No business  
**April 1891**            No preaching - No conference  
**July-August 1892**        No conference  
**November 1892**         No conference  
**April 1893**            No conference  
**July 1893**             No business  
**August 1893**         Elected delegates  
**September 1893**        No business  
**April 1894**            No business  
**May 1894**  
     The church called Brother L. A. Keen as pastor for the remainder  
 of the year.

**June - July 1894**      No Conference

**August 1894**              No business

**September 1894**        Selected delegates

**October 1894**  
     Brother L. A. Keen chosen as pastor.

**November 1894**        Church in order

**January 1895**            Church closed in order

**March 1895**             Church in order

**April 1895**             No business

**May 1895**                Church closed in order

**August 1895**            No business

**September 1895**  
     John Pool and Susen Pool were received as members by confession of faith.

**October 1895**  
     Preaching by Brother J. A. Kean - chose Brother Ken Wood as pastor for the ensuing year.

**December 1895**  
     J. A. Keen, moderator- J. S. Tucker, church clerk

**January - April 1896**      No Business

**June 1896**              Church at peace

**August 1896**                    No business

**October 1896**                  Church in order

**November 1896**  
The church chose Brother J. A. Keen as pastor for the insuing year.

**January 1897**  
Closed in order

**Febraury 1897**  
J.A. Keen moderator - J. S. Tucker, church clerk

**March - April 1897**            No business

**May 1897**                    Church in order

**June 1897**                  No business

**July 1897**                  Closed in order

**August 1897**                No business

**September 1897**            Closed in order

**Novermber 1897**  
Brother J. A. Keen selected as pastor for the coming year.

**March - April 1898**            No business

**May 1898**  
Brother Townsend selected as deacon. The church called a Presbytery consisting of Brother Henry Bains, Brother, S. R. Bains and Brother Raods (Rhodes) to ordain the new deacon.



**June 1898**            No business

**July 1898**

The ordination of the deacon was laid over until 10 a.m. Sunday. Association delegates named were J. S. Tucker, J. R. Powell and John Pool. Bud Hurt alternate. On motion the ordination of John Pool set for 10 a.m. Sunday. On motion the ordination of J. R. Powell referred to the next Conference. Elder J. A. Keen added to the Presbytery. On motion, J. S. Tucker appointed spokesman for Sunday.

Brother A. J. Townsend and John Pool were set apart to full functions of the deacon office.

**August 1898**            Church closed in order

**September 1898**        No business

**October 1898**

By motion, Brother J. R. Powell was set apart to the full function of the office of deacon.

**April 1899**

Preaching by Elder J. H. Rhodes

**May 1899**                Closed in order

**June 1899**                No business

**July 1899**

The church selected association delegates.

**August 1899**            No business

**September 1899**

J. H. Rhodes, moderator - J. S. Tucker, church clerk

**October-November 1899**

J. H. Rhodes, Moderator - No business

**March 1900**

Preaching by Brother J. H. Rhodes

**April - July 1900** No business

**September 1900**

Brother J. A. Keen selected pastor for the ensuing year.

**October 1900**

Preaching by Brother J. A. Keen

**November 1900**

Preaching by J. A. Keen - Sister Bridy Ezell was charged with making use of bad words. A committee of J. S. Tucker, A. J. Lee and J. R. Powel appointed to visit the sister and investigate.

**December 1900** No business

**February 1901**

Preaching by Brother J. A. Keen. Brother Powel reported he had visited with Sister Brydy Ezell and that she had given satisfaction. The church forgave her.

**March-April 1901** There was no business

**May 1901**

Preaching by Brother Keen who also served as moderator

**June-July 1901** No business

**July 1902**

Charges of using profane words brought against Brother Cap Ethridge, Ed Lee and Frank Hurt. The church withdrew membership from all three.

**August 1902**

Preaching by J. A. Keen who was also moderator. J. S. Tucker church clerk

**September 1902**

Preaching by J. A. Keen - Church in order - J. S. Tucker, church clerk

The minutes now jump to 1906.

**September 7, 1906**

Elected delegates to the association meeting were A. J. Lee and W. H. Hurt. These two to also notify Elder J. A. Keene that he had been selected as pastor for the ensuing year. W. D. Smith, moderator - D. D. Tucker, church clerk protem

**November 1906**

Elder J. A. Keene, Moderator - H. B. Lee, church clerk protem

**December 1906**

By motion the following members, were excluded: J. R. Powell, S. C. Powell, James Powell, J. G. Poole, Susie Poole, Ellen Ezell, Zuella Ezell, and Tom Ezell - They having joined another church not of the same faith - No letters to be issued to them. J. A. Keene Moderator - W. H. Hurt, church clerk

**October 1907**

Brother J. S. Tucker tendered his resignation as church clerk on account of old age, having served many years. By motion, T. J. Lee was elected clerk. J. A. Keene chosen as pastor for another year.

**August 1908**

Brother T. J. Lee, W. S. Ezell and J. S. Tucker volunteered to go to the association meeting as delegates.

Elder J. H. Rhodes as pastor - A committee appointed to notify Elder Rhodes.

On motion, W. S. Ezell, H. B. Lee and J. S. Tucker were appointed as a committee to meet Pine Grove Committee (Missionary) to make some disposition of the old church house and to see after same.

A. J. Lee Moderator protem - T. J. Lee, church clerk

**October 1908**

Preaching by Elder Billy Stephen and J. A. Keene- Received two members and visited W. E. Lee. Mrs. Clem Wood received for baptism.

**November 1908**

Brother J. H. Rhodes declined to accept the care of the church or pastor for another year. Brother J. A. Keene stated he would preach but would not take the care of the church.

**February 1909**

Preaching by J. A. Keene

**April 1909**

Preaching by J. A. Keene

**May - July 1909** No business

**August 1909**

A report of the Committee in regards to the old church house was received.

**Note: It would have been nice if the minutes would have given more information about the old church house.**

By motion, T. J. Lee was appointed treasurer and received \$5.00 in cash. Brother Cap Ethridge was restored. Received William Ernest Lee for baptism.

A. B. R. Williams, moderator - T. J. Lee, church clerk

**September - October 1909** No Business

**November 1909**

Brother J. A. Keene chosen as pastor Preaching by Brother H. L. Walden and J. A. Keene

**January 1910** No business

**May 1910**

Preaching by Elder J. A. Keene

**June - July 1910** No business

**August 1910**

The association meeting to be held in the New Hope Baptist Church in September next. Delegates W. S. Ezell, W. H. Hurt, H. B. Lee and A. J. Lee alternate. A. J. Lee, moderator protem. T. J. Lee, church clerk.

**October 1910** No business

**March 1911**

Preaching by W. L. Collins on Saturday and by J. A. Keene on Sunday.

**April 1911** No business - Preaching by J. A. Keene

**May-June 1911** No business

**August 1911**

Annual Association meeting to be held with Zion Rest Church. Delegates W. E. Lee, W. S. Ezell, T. J. Lee with A. J. Lee as alternate. Dismissed by letter, W. H. Hurt, Clemie Hurt, Lonila Hurt, and excluded was Minnie Hurt for her joining the Missionary Baptist without asking for a letter.

Preaching by Brother A. J. Lee and Harvie Waldon on both Saturday and Sunday.

**October 1911**

Sister Evie Clay granted letter of dismissal - J. A. Keene, moderator - T. J. Lee, church clerk

**November-December 1911** No business - Only preaching

**January - April 1912** Sermon by J. A. Keene

**May 1912**

Preaching by A. J. Lee and Harvy Waldon

**June 1912** Sermon only

**July 1912**

Delegate to association meeting to be held in the Freedom Church were A. J. Lee, W. E. Lee, John Skinner and W. S. Ezell alternate.

The church agreed to help the patrons of Lervitty school to enlarge the school.

The church still in the Ebernezer Baptist Association.

**August 1914**

Elected delegates to association meeting

**August 1915**

Elected delegates to 46 Annual Association

## **August 1923**

Delegates to Association meeting were A. J. Lee, H. B. Lee, W. L. Ethridge, W. S. Ezell alternate. Meeting to be held in the Freedom Church.

H. L. Waldon, T. J. Lee, Church Clerk - On the previous meeting in July 1923 the church agreed to restore Gertrude Lee, Barnie Bell Lee, Minnie Ester Ethridge. Runie Beeman received for baptism. Pastor, H. L. Waldon, Willie Huffmaster, Visiting Preachers, Mel McCrew from Missionary Church.

Brief minutes go to 1945. Other churches in Ebernezer Baptist Association with New Hope were Blue Spring, Post Office Chunky, Mississippi; Freedom Post Office Meridian and Mt. Gilead, Post Office Cuba, Alabama.

Amye L. Genge was church clerk of New Hope Baptist Church.

A letter from Elizabeth Taylor to Mrs. Caroline Tucker is attached to these minutes. Letter dated April 1, 1866. Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor in Marion County, Mississippi.

Next is information from the Tucker Bible.

### **Marriages**

Stephen Tucker to Louizer C. Tucker 8-18-1836

Benjamin S. Ross to Matilda C. Ross 4-22-1841

### **Births**

Benjamin Ross was born March 29, 1774

Mary Ross was born July 10, 1776

John W. Ross was born December 16, 1811

James G. Ross was born July 1, 1814

Harvy T. Tucker was born March 11, 1868

Stephen Tucker was born December 10, 1808

Louizer C. Tucker (Stephem Wofe) was born February 1817

Garland R. Tucker was born August 10, 1831

James L. Tucker was born April 27, 1837

Francis Tucker was born January 22, 1844

Irena Ann Tucker was born August 28, 1845

Sarah Parolee "Tucker burn August 20, 1847

Benjamin T. Ross was born August 21, 1866

Mary Jane Tucker was born June 21, 1849

Nancy Louiza Tucker was born December 9, 1852

S. P. J. Y. Tucker was born December 12, 1814

Benjamin. S. Ross was born December 15, 1817

Matilda C. Ross (Benjamin Wife) was born August 14, 1824

Francis M. Ross was born December 6, 1843

John C. Ross was born January 7, 1845

Jospene Rebeccah Ross was born November 18, 1847

Mary Evaline Ross was bory May 9, 1851

James Gilford Ross was born July 26, 1852 or 1857

Nancy Parlee Ross and Steaven Vergil Ross were born November 16, 1856

Ann Elizar Davis Ross was born September 28, 1861

**Deaths**

Francis Tucker died February 1, 1844

Benjamin Ross died May 28, 1839

Mary Ross (Benjamin's Wife) died May 31, 1853

B. S. Ross died September 28, 1860

John Calaway Ross died September 2, 1867

**New hope Baptist Church  
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Ross, Benjamin		20-21
Ross, Benjamin S.		20
Ross, Benjamin T.		20
Ross, Francis M.		20
Ross, James G.		20
Ross, James Gilford		20
Ross, John C.		20
Ross, John Calaway		21
Ross, John W.		20
Ross, Josepene Rebeccah		20
Ross, Mary		20-21
Ross, Mary Evaline		20
Ross, Matilda C.		20
Ross, Nancy Parlee		20
Ross, Steaven Vergil		20
Rowel, James		6
Rowel, Bro. R.		6

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Salter, Mary	11
Skinner, John	11,19
Smith, Bro. W. D.	17
Stephen, Billy	17
Suttler, Sis. H. J.	11

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Taylor, Elizabeth	20
Townsend, Bro.	14
Townsend, A. J.	10,15
Townsend, Sis. N. E.	11
Tucker, Mrs. Caroline	20
Tucker, Sis. C. C.	2
Tucker, Corena C.	11
Tucker, D. D.	17
Tucker, Sis. F. A.	11
Tucker, Francis	20-21
Tucker, Bro. G. R.	2-4
Tucker, Garland R.	20
Tucker, Harvy T.	20
Tucker, Irena Ann	20
Tucker, Bro. J.	10
Tucker, Bro. J. S.	2-9,11,13-17
Tucker, James L.	20
Tucker, Bro. L.	4
Tucker, Mary Jane	20
Tucker, Nancy Louiza	20
Tucker, Prena A.	2
Tucker, Sis. S. P.	2
Tucker, S. P. J. Y.	20
Tucker, Sarah Parolee	20
Tucker, Stepehn	2-6,8,20
Tucker, M. L.	2
Tucker, Louizer C.	20

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Walden, Bro. H. L.	18
Waldon, H. L.	20
Waldon, Harvie	19
Waldon, Harvy	19
Ward, Bro.	8
Ward, Bro. J. D.	5-6
Ward, Sister	5,8
Ward, Nancy J.	6
Wheeler, Louisa	2
White, Sarah E.	7
Williams, A. B. R.	18
Williamson, Sister	10,11

Wood, Bro.	6
Wood, Bell	11
Wood, Mrs. Clem	17
Wood, Bro. J. D.	5-6
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Yates, Hiram