

Hamilton County, Membership List of Cicero's Methodist Episcopal Church, 1845-1861

Natalie Burriss and Rachel Christine Fulk

Found in the William H. Smith Memorial Library at the Indiana Historical Society is a notebook with records from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Cicero, Indiana. Church activities from the years 1845 to 1861 are recorded in the notebook. Quarterly conference minutes, Sunday School lists, and baptism and marriage records are kept here in addition to the list of church members that is recorded below.¹

In the years that followed the formation of Hamilton County in 1823, several churches were established, some even of the same denomination.² Because they were founded less than ten years apart from each other and much of their histories have disappeared, it can be difficult to discern one from another.

The Cicero Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in 1843 by a group of forty-three members.³ The notebook most likely belonged to this church, but because the records do not state the name of the church and Mount Pleasant Methodist Episcopal Church was also located in Jackson Township, it is difficult to know for certain to which church these records belong.⁴ We do know from multiple accounts that both churches enjoyed prosperity, in numbers as well as in wealth, which allowed them to continue growing and expanding.⁵

The following membership lists are located halfway through the notebook with the names listed alphabetically by surname. Beside some of the names, notations have been made with changes to the person's status in the congregation.

Notes

1. Methodist Episcopal Church Cicero Circuit Records, 1845–1861, SC 2553, Indiana Historical Society.
2. Thomas B. Helm, *History of Hamilton County, Indiana: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers* (Chicago: Kingman Bros., 1880), 36, 122–23.
3. *Ibid.*, 122; John F. Haines, *History of Hamilton County, Indiana: Her People, Industries and Institutions* (Indianapolis: B. F. Bowen & Co., 1915), 305.
4. Helm, *History of Hamilton County*, 122; H. N. Herrick and William Warren Sweet, *A History of the North Indiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, from Its Organization in 1844 to the Present* (Indianapolis: W. K. Stewart Co., 1917), 47. *A History of the North Indiana Conference* makes it clear that the Cicero M. E. Church built its first building in 1854 after having existed for more than a decade. However, Helm's *History of Hamilton County* claims that the Mount Pleasant M. E. Church is also on the Cicero Circuit, possibly suggesting that no other church is.
5. Helm, *History of Hamilton County*, 122; Haines, *History of Hamilton County*, 305; Herrick and Sweet, *History of the North Indiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church*, 47.

Membership List of Cicero's Methodist Episcopal Church, 1845–1861

Name	Notes
Allen, Frederic	
Alter, Esther	Removed
Alter, Hanah	Removed
Alter, Isaac	Removed
Alter, Lucinda	Died in Peace
Amos, Asberry	
Amos, James	
Amos, Mary	
Amos, Polly	
Amos, Thomas	
Arbegofs, Elizah	
Asby, Mary	
Baker, Francis M.	Withdrawn
Baker, Jackson	

Name	Notes
Baker, Martha	Withdrawn
Baker, Martha Julian (Martin)	
Baker, Melinda	
Baker, Ruth	
Baker, William	Withdrawn Came Back
Ball, John	
Ball, Lidia	
Bennet, Catherine	
Bennet, Cyntheann	
Bennet, Eddison	
Bennet, Elisabeth	
Bennet, James	
Bishop, James	
Brougherd, Barnet	
Brougherd, Elisabeth	
Brougherd, Rachel	
Brower, Melvina	
Brown, Gilly	
Burris, Christianna	
Burris, Edith	
Burris, Nancy	
Carther, Elisabeth	
Chew, John Wm	Withdrawn
Chew, Martha	Removed
Comer, Fidilla	
Comer, Nathan	
Comer, Rebecca	
Cooper, Sarah	
Crumbaugh, Conrad	Withdrawn
Crumbaugh, Frances	
Davids, Anna	
Davids, John	
Davis, Luisa	Gone to Abolition
Epison, John	
Farnsworth, Benjamin	
Gilem, Nicholas	
Goff, Amos	Withdrawn
Gunsauley, Elen	Gone to Abolition then Ep[?]
Hammon, Anna	Removed
Harden, Hanah	
Henderson, James	
Hensbarger, Philip	
Hershman, George	
Hershman, Harrison	
Hurshman, Charles	

Name	Notes
Hurshman, Isaac	
Hurshman, Jacob	
Hurshman, James	
Hurshman, John	Withdrawn Returned
Hurshman, Sarah Jane	Withdrawn
Hurshman, Susanah	
Hushman, Catherine	Withdrawn Returned
Hushman, Sarah	
Indercut, James	
Indercut, Rilley	
Johnson, Benjamin Franklin	
Johnson, John	
Johnson, Nancy	
Kesterson, Susanah	Died in the Faith
Kesterson, Thomas	
Kiger, Abraham	
Kiger, Matilda	
King, Mary	
Kyger, Ellen	
Kyger, John	
Leak, [Widow?]	
Leneon, Catherine	
Loid, Lidia	
Loid, Thomas	
Lynch, James	
Malot, John	
Malott, Horis	W[ithdrawn?]
Malott, Sarah	
Manes, Maryann	
Martin, Abigail	
Martin, Samuel	
McGinnis, Mary	Removed
McGinnis, William	Removed
Melson, Elizabeth	
Melson, Joseph	
Melson, Margaret	
Melson, William	
Morris, John	
Morris, Mary	
Morrison, Elisabeth	
Morrison, Isabel	
Morrison, William	
Moss, Catherine	
Moss, Ferney	
Nelson, Elisabeth	

Name	Notes
Nelson, William	
Nordike, Abraham	
Nordike, Sarah	
Norwood, George	
Norwood, Mary	
Norwood, Matilda	
Norwood, Nathaniel	
Ogle, Elisabeth	Removed
Ogle, Robert	Removed
Ogle, Sary Jane	
Overman, Nancy	
Piceral, Nancy	
Powers, Elisabeth	
Pritchard, Daniel S.	
Ratcliff, Pollyann	
Ratcliff, Edom	
Ratcliff, Hanah	
Ray, Sarah	
Ray, William	
Reavs, Nancy	
Richards, Isaac	
Richards, Margaret	
Richards, Mary	
Richards, Nancy	
Roads, George	
Roads, Martha Jane	
Roderic, William	Gone to camelism[?]
Rollins, William	Excommunicated
Rounsafer, James	
Rounsafer, Jane	
Shannon, Mary	
Sholders, Jacob	
Sholders, Mary	
Smith, Maria	
Smith, Walter	
Smith, William	
Stroup, Eliza Jane	
Stroup, Haomi	
Stroup, Jacob	
Stroup, John	
Tailor, Charles D.	Withdrawn cn[?]
Tailor, Elisabeth	
Tailor, Joseph	Withdrawn
Tailor, Mahala	
Tailor, Samuel	Excommunicated

Name	Notes
Tailor, William	
Tansey, Melinda	
Tansey, Rebecca	
Tansey, Reuben	
Venaman, Cornelius	
Venaman, Matilda	
Venaman, Wm M.	Removed
Ward, Martha	
Wear, William	
Wells, Charles	Withdrawn
Wells, Esaras[?]	
Wells, Luisa	
Wells, Sarah	
Wells, Sarah Ann	
Wells, Susan (Fall)	
Wells, Susanah	
Widney, Matilda Jane	
Williams, Edward	
Williams, Mary	Died
Williamson, David	
Williamson, Eliza	
Wilson, Isaac	
Wilson, Isabell	
Wilson, John	
Wilson, Sarah	
Winders, Elen	Do, Do[?]
Winders, Mikeal	Withdrawn
Winders, Rebecca	Joined the E. P.[or R?] church
Winders, William	Withdrawn
Yarbraugh, George	
Yarbraugh, Susan	
Young, Levin	
Young, Maria	

[Online Connections](#)

[Regional Sources and Stories](#)