

G. MEMOIRS

*The Memoirs Secretary is
Carole Teague, 125 Grapevine, Conway, AR 72034*

*Associate Secretaries include:
LaDonna Busby, Dorinda Crews, and Rev. David Moose.*

Contact the Memoirs Secretary with any additions or corrections.

*This section is normally limited to the memoirs of clergy, clergy spouses,
diaconal ministers and spouses of diaconal ministers.*

*The deadline for receiving memoirs this year
was set by the worship committee planning the memorial service.*

*In the performance of duty and in the service of Christ, the great Captain of our Salvation, they lived,
and one by one they finished their work and entered into that rest that remaineth to the people of God.*



Our Honored Dead

“Servant of God, well done; rest from thy lov'd employ.

The battle's fought, the victory's won; and thou art crowned at last.”

Reverend Donald Franklin Armstrong

Helen Ruth Boone Arnold

Reverend Joe Edward Arnold

Reverend G. Robert Bailey

Edith Carrie Bain

Reverend Paul R. Barrington, Sr.

James “Jim” Nolan Bennett

Reverend Jack H. Blume

Floella Porter Gaither Broadwater

Bonnie Ruth Lewis Bumpers

Reverend Dorsie T. Caldwell

Nellie Hicks Callicott

King James Collier, Jr.

Reverend Michael Ray Gordon

Reverend James Benjamin Harris

Reverend William Cline Hightower

Reverend Jack Douglas Jackson

Gladys Kearney

Dorothy Marge Heck Lightfoot

Reverend Charles Edward Mabry, Jr.

Reverend Grady L. May

Othella Whitfield Peters

Reverend Roy Eugene Poynor

Reverend Robert Atwood Regnier

Reverend Bobby J. Reynolds

Verona Evelyn Simpson

Wilma Frances Stokes

Reverend Elmo Andrew Thomason

Reverend Donald Ernest West

Dorothy Pauline Brown Williams

Reverend Robert John “Bob” Wilson

Mary Ella Walton Yates

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REVEREND DONALD FRANKLIN ARMSTRONG

Donald Franklin Armstrong, 55, of Little Rock, a retired elder in the Arkansas Conference, died March 7, 2008. Don was born in Rolla, Missouri, February 11, 1953, the third son of Lyle and Elizabeth Armstrong. He grew up in Little Rock and attended Winfield United Methodist Church, where he first felt the call to ministry at age 7. Don was licensed to preach in 1973 and gave his first sermon at Winfield UMC.

He graduated from Hendrix College with a degree in Theater Arts in 1975 and Perkins School of Theology with a Masters of Theology in 1980. He was ordained Deacon in 1977 and Elder in 1981. In 1982 he married Yvonne Crowe of Dallas. Don served UMC congregations throughout Arkansas, including Keith Memorial, Hampton, Stephens, Rison, Sulphur Springs, and others.

Creative in all that he did, Don combined his talents in Theater, vocal and instrumental music not only in his work with his churches, but also in his extensive and enthusiastic involvement in statewide youth ministry, and in his lifelong commitment to community theater and music groups. In 1996 he earned a Master's Degree in Social Work from UALR and worked for seven years as a psychiatric social worker at Little Rock Community Health Center, while also pasturing Pleasant Hill and Congo United Methodist Churches. Through his passionate social work with the mentally ill, Don became a tireless advocate for the voiceless and underserved. In 2004 at age 51, Don retired from the ministry and social work after an extended leave of absence for health reasons.

Don was preceded in death by his father, Lyle E. Armstrong. He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Yvonne Armstrong; his mother, Elizabeth Armstrong; brother Rev. Roger E. Armstrong and wife Linda; brother Rev. Robert C. Armstrong and wife Mary; sister Rev. Anne Holcomb and husband David; two nieces, two nephews, and his two Chihuahuas, and a host of friends and family.

A memorial service to celebrate Don's life was held Monday, March 10 at Quapaw Quarter UMC, Little Rock. Those officiating were Rev. Betsy Singleton, Rev. Betty Scull, Rev. Dana Thomason, and Rev. Phil Hathcock.



HELEN RUTH BOONE ARNOLD

Helen Ruth Boone Arnold, 73, wife of retired United Methodist pastor Joe Edward Arnold, died October 23, 2007, in Hot Springs. She was born September 28, 1934, in Foley, Alabama, to James Albert and Ruby Mae Campbell Boone. She was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Little Rock.

She served faithfully alongside her husband as he led congregations in the former Little Rock Conference, including the Bethlehem Circuit, Buckner Circuit, Amity, Parkdale/Millers Chapel, Pine Bluff Hawley Memorial, Warren Parish, Mabelvale, Stuttgart First, Hot Springs Grand Avenue, Wesley Foundation at SAU in Magnolia, Emerson, Lydesdale and Greers Chapel, and as Little Rock Conference Program Director, before retiring in 1995.

She was survived by her husband, Joe Edward Arnold; a son, Joe Edward Arnold Jr., and his wife Jane of Destin, Florida; two daughters,

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Tena M. Arnold of Hot Springs and Jeudi Arnold Williams and her husband Bill of Lake Village; two brothers, Donald Boone of Foley, Alabama and Bill Boone of Mobile, Alabama; one sister, Betty Fell of Summerdale, Alabama; five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

A memorial service was held October 27, 2007 at St. Paul United Methodist Church, Little Rock, officiated by Rev. John Fleming and Mike Smith. Burial was at Pinecrest Cemetery in Little Rock.



REVEREND JOE EDWARD ARNOLD

Joe Edward Arnold, 78, formerly of Little Rock, died in Hot Springs, on November 16, 2007. Born on August 28, 1929 in Nashville, Arkansas to Fred Locke Arnold and Willie Belle Anderson Arnold, he was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Little Rock.

Joe served congregations in the former Little Rock Conference, including the Bethlehem Circuit, Buckner Circuit, Amity, Parkdale/Millers Chapel, Pine Bluff Hawley Memorial, Warren Parish, Mabelvale, Stuttgart First, Hot Springs Grand Avenue, Wesley Foundation SAU-Magnolia, Emerson, Lydesdale, and Greers Chapel and as Little Rock Conference Council Director before retiring in 1995.

He is survived by three children, son Joe Edward Arnold, Jr. and wife Jane of Destin, FL; daughters Jeudi A. Williams and husband Bill of Lake Village, AR; and Tena M. Arnold of Hot Springs, AR; grandchildren William E. (Buddy) and wife Mary of Pine Bluff, AR; Joseph J. Williams and wife Marissa of Fort Walton Beach, FL; Jessica L. Arnold, Kala M. Arnold and Maxwell Seth Arnold of Destin, FL; four great-grandchildren; brother Fred H. Arnold and wife Jane of Pine Bluff, AR; and a sister Mary M. Lazenby of Little Rock; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, and colleagues. His wife, Helen Boone Arnold, preceded him in death.

A memorial service was held at St. Paul UMC in Little Rock on November 19, 2007, with Rev. John A. Fleming and Rev. Mike Smith officiating.



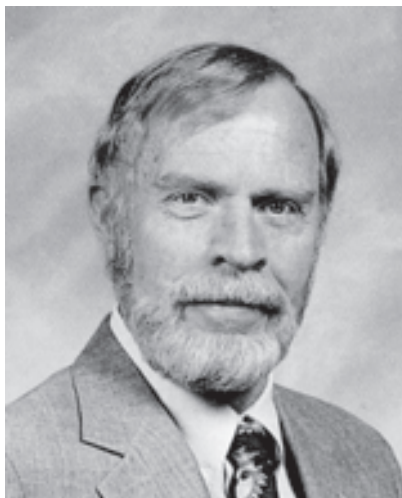
REVEREND G. ROBERT "ROB" BAILEY

The Rev. G. Robert "Rob" Bailey, 61, of Fayetteville died May 16, 2008, at Washington Regional Medical Center in Fayetteville. He was born September 1, 1946, to Robert Dixon and Doris Gertrude Newman Bailey.

He retired as a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force after 21 years of service and was a veteran of the Vietnam War. After leaving the military, he received his master's degree in theology from Fuller Seminary.

He joined the former North Arkansas Conference as a probationary member in 1994 and was ordained and received as an elder in full connection in 1996. He served as pastor of Christ United/Pruett Chapel, Kibler, St. Andrews-Ft. Smith (associate) and Trinity-Fayetteville prior to taking disability leave.

Survivors include his wife, Claudia Bailey; two sons,



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Gordon Bailey of Valparaiso, Indiana; Aaron Bailey of Cleveland, Ohio; one daughter, Tessa Bailey of Fayetteville; one sister, Doris Megonigal of Wichita Falls, Texas; and two grandchildren.

Services were held Wednesday, May 21, 2008, at Trinity United Methodist Church with the Rev. John Humphries and the Rev. Terry Gosnell officiating.



EDITH CARRIE BAIN

Edith Carrie Bain, 92, of Pocahontas, the surviving spouse of United Methodist pastor William Eugene Bain, died October 22, 2007, at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould.

She was born September 26, 1915, in Rector, Arkansas, the daughter of Isaac and Ether Sides McCluney. She was retired from Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould where she worked as an x-ray aide. She was a member of Pruett's Chapel United Methodist Church.

She served faithfully with her husband as he pastored churches in the former North Arkansas Conference from 1961 until his retirement in 1975. Those churches included Biggers/Knobel, Lincoln/Morrow, Lincoln Parish, Paragould Parish and Stanford.



Edith was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, one brother and three sisters. Survivors include her daughters and sons-in-law, Joyce and Don Mitchum, Carolyn and Don Brown of Pocahontas, and Peggy Vanderford of Searcy; sons and daughters-in-law, Charles and Jo Bain and Don and Linda Bain, both of St. Louis, Missouri; one sister, Zenith Shannon of Kennett, Missouri; 15 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on October 24, 2007 at Heath Colonial Chapel with Rev. Everett Isom officiating and burial at Linwood Cemetery in Paragould.



REVEREND PAUL R. BARRINGTON, SR.

Paul R. Barrington, Sr., 75, of Springdale, a retired United Methodist pastor and member of the Arkansas Conference, died Sept. 27, 2007, in Springdale.

He was born March 18, 1932, in Pensacola, Fla., the son of John W. Sr. and Janie Knight Barrington. He was a graduate of William Carey College with a B.S., received a Master of Theology at Luther Rice and worked in advanced counseling at the University of Arkansas Medical School in Little Rock. His ministry began in the Baptist denomination where he served churches for 18 years. His ordination and elders orders were recognized and he joined the former Little Rock Conference in 1976 as a full member. He served as pastor at Mount Pleasant and Galloway Charge in Little Rock, Parkview-Benton, Bryant First, Sheridan First, Hickory Plains, Taylor, Dierks and Wesley-Springdale. After retiring in 1998, he served the Elkins and Tucks



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Chapel churches.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Fred, David and Bob Barrington; and two sisters, Dorothy Wilkes and Margaret Lassiter.

Survivors include his wife, Joan Jester Barrington, whom he married April 8, 1989; three sons, Paul Rick Barrington Jr. and wife Ruthann of North Little Rock, Walter Barrington and wife Sherry of Sherwood and Kyle Barrington and wife Sharon of Bryant; two daughters, Vicki Mathews and husband Dan of North Little Rock and Beth Hutchison and husband Will of Maumelle; four stepchildren, Greg Jester, Angela Twiddy, Susan Jester and Brad Jester; three brothers, Gene Barrington of Oklahoma City, Okla., Jerry Barrington of Atlanta, Ga., and John Barrington of Pensacola, Fla.; two sisters, Lois Smith of Pensacola, Fla., and Debbie Melton of Gravel Ridge; 16 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Memorial services were held October 1 at First United Methodist Church in Bryant.

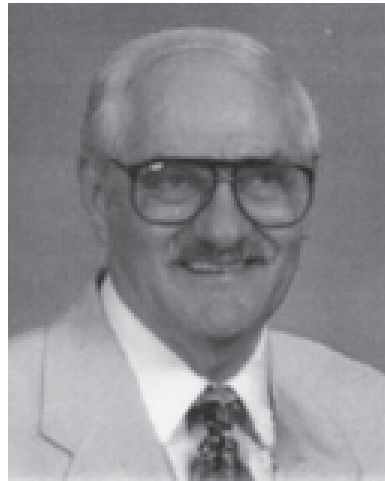


JAMES "JIM" NOLAN BENNETT

James "Jim" Nolan Bennett, 79, of Conway, spouse of retired United Methodist local pastor Donna Bennett, passed away on March 15, 2008. Born in Almyra, Arkansas, on August 8, 1928, he was a son of William Henry and Bertha Irene Bennett. Jim was a loving husband, father and grandfather, a member of Naylor UMC, an Army veteran of the Korean War and a long-time employee of First Electric Cooperative in Stuttgart, where he was Member Services Manager. He was well-known for his community and civic activities and his love of railroads. He served as the historian for the Railroad Historical Society.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Betty McCollum Bennett, two daughters, Megan Ann Bennett and Mary Elizabeth Duppslaff; a brother, William Arthur Bennett; and two sisters, Ethel Bennett and Emma Mae Oliver.

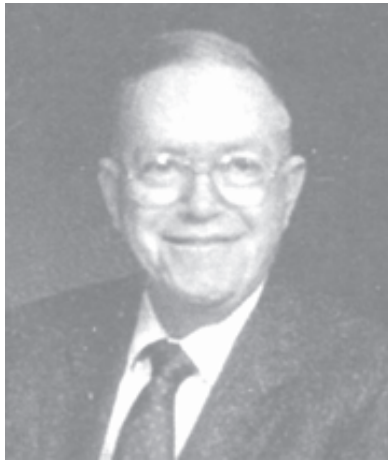
He is survived by his wife of 21 years, Donna Walley Bennett; two daughters, Charlotte Wilcoxson and husband Rodd of Jonesboro, and Amy Cowling of Magnolia; a stepson, Robert Spivey and wife Cindy of Wiggins, Mississippi; a stepdaughter, Margaret Reinold and husband Jim of Conway; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Services were held March 19 at First United Methodist Church in Stuttgart, with burial at Lone Tree Cemetery in Stuttgart. Officiating at the service were Rev. Larry Kelso and Dr. John Farthing.



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REVEREND JACK H. BLUME

Jack H. Blume of Richardson, Texas, a retired elder who served churches in the former North Arkansas Conference, died June 4, 2007, in Dallas. His passing comes just eight weeks after the death of his wife, Lou, who passed away April 10. They had been married 67 years.

Jack was born in Searcy, Arkansas, on December 28, 1919, the son of William E. and Lola Marie Kaylor Blume. He completed one year of college at Iowa State in Ames, Iowa, studying forestry. He did his seminary classes through the Course of Study. He began working for Armor Packing Company and switched to Southwestern Bell about the time he married. He stayed with Bell for years, even when he began preaching. Beginning in 1953 he served the Tumbling Shoals

Charge (Tumbling Shoals, Wilburn, Wolfe Bayou, Concord, Floyd), Morganton, the Culpepper Charge (Culpepper, Steel, Hopewell), the Fairbanks Charge (Fairbanks, Scotland, Oak Grove, Mallettown) and the Shirley Charge (Shirley, Central and Goodloe), before retiring in the late 1960s. The Blumes lived at Heber Springs and Searcy prior to moving to Texas. For many years, Jack was the “telephone man” in Heber Springs, a Boy Scout leader, Methodist preacher, husband, father, granddaddy and “Popo” to his three great-grandsons.

He is survived by two daughters: Jackie Lee Blume of Garland, Texas and Gerry Sue Blume Carron of Richardson, Texas; grand-daughters Tracy Denise Carron and Ashley Shea Carron Houk; and three great-grandsons, Forrest Reeves, Sterling Houk and Brecken Houk.

His ashes were sent to Concord United Methodist Church.



FLOELLA PORTER GAITHER BROADWATER

Floella Porter Gaither Broadwater, 79, of Searcy, surviving spouse of United Methodist local pastor Marvin Lavern Gaither, died December 5, 2007, in Searcy. She was born on June 10, 1928, in Bethesda, Arkansas, to Sampson and Ida Leigh Porter. After graduating from Batesville High School in 1946, she worked at Arkansas Power & Light for 17 years.

She married Rev. Gaither on June 7, 1952. Marvin and Floella and their two daughters, Diana and Debra, were active members of the Central Avenue United Methodist Church in Batesville. As a part-time local pastor, he served Sharp UMC for 10 years. He died on January 15, 1988. Floella was dedicated to serving the United Methodist Church. Her church work included serving as youth counselor, president of the Ambassadors Circle, president of UMW at Central Avenue UMC and district UMW secretary.

She married Oscar Jefferson “O.J.” Broadwater on May 11, 1991, and moved to Searcy. She transferred her membership to First United Methodist Church in Searcy and was active in Sunday School Supper Club and volunteered in the church office. She was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers, Dewell Porter

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Wilson Porter and Deropha Porter; and her first husband, Rev. Gaither. Funeral services were held December 10 at Searcy First UMC, with burial at Bethesda Campground Cemetery near Batesville.



BONNIE RUTH LEWIS BUMPERS

Bonnie Ruth Lewis Bumpers, 86, of Conway, died on February 15, 2008. She was born January 7, 1922, in Shirley Arkansas, the daughter of Richard and Mayme Lewis. She was a 1943 graduate of Hendrix College and for 64 years the wife of United Methodist minister Paul McConnell Bumpers.

Active in community and church organizations for many years, she served an eight-year term as a director of the General Board of Global Ministries and a director of the Women's Division of the United Methodist Church. As a director, she traveled world-wide fulfilling her duties. She served on the boards of the Gum Moon Residential Home for Asian Women, the Asian Women's Center in San Francisco, California, the David & Margaret Home for Girls in LaVerne, California, and the Toberman Settlement House in San Pedro, California.

Bonnie was an instructor in regional schools of missions and was one of the six women from the United States to serve with six women from outside of the United States on the Coordination Committee for Women's Division Goal IV. Her responsibilities took her to visit missions and hospitals in India, Mexico, Guatemala, Brazil, Chile and Ecuador. Mrs. Bumpers was also a director of the Health and Welfare Ministries Program Department and was chairperson for the committee on Affirmative Action for Health and Welfare Institutions and the committee on Accessibility Grants. She was a 50-year member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood and a member of the D.A.R. and Colonial Dames.

Mrs. Bumpers is survived by her husband, Paul M. Bumpers, daughter, Bonnie C. Bumpers of Conway; son, Paul M. Bumpers, Jr. of Springdale, Arkansas; granddaughter, Paula R. Bumpers of Chicago, Illinois; grandson Fuller L. Bumpers and his wife, Elizabeth, and their children, her great-granddaughters, Susie, Betsy, and Mary, all of Batesville, Arkansas. A memorial service was held at First United Methodist Church of Conway with family burial prior to the service at Crestlawn Park in Conway. The Rev. Charles Murry and the Rev. Joel Cooper officiated. The family gratefully acknowledges the love and support of so many, among them caregiver, Patty Jolly.



REVEREND DORSIE T. CALDWELL

Dorsie T. Caldwell, 83, of Hot Springs, a retired United Methodist pastor and member of the Arkansas Conference, died September 21, 2007, in a local nursing home.

He was born August 6, 1924, in Hot Springs, the son of Robert and Necie Jines Caldwell. He was a member of Hot Springs Masonic Lodge No. 62, and a member of the Shrine in Pine Bluff and in Hot Springs, Spa Chapter 585.

He began his ministry as a part-time local pastor in the former Little Rock Conference in 1964, serving Mountain Pine Circuit, Mountain View Circuit and Rondo Circuit. He became a full-time local pastor and was accepted as an associate member in 1971.



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He continued serving churches, including Shorewood Hills, Emmett Circuit, Parkers Chapel/Bethel, Roe/Hunter/Shiloh, Bradley, Hope First, Doddridge, Hermitage and St. Charles, before retiring in 1990. He is survived by a host of cousins.

Services were held September 24, 2007, at Caruth-Hale Funeral Home Chapel, with burial at Memorial Gardens in Hot Springs.



NELLIE HICKS CALLICOTT

Nellie Hicks Callicott, 84, of McCaskill, the surviving spouse of United Methodist pastor J. R. "Pete" Callicott, died October 25, 2007, at a hospital in Hope, Arkansas. She was born February 10, 1923, to Monroe and Effie Green Hicks. She was a homemaker and a member of Friendship United Methodist church in McCaskill. She was a member of United Methodist Women, a Methodist Youth Fellowship leader, a member of the Garden Club and a former Eastern Star member in Lockesburg.

She served faithfully with her husband as he served, beginning in 1946, the Prescott Circuit, Bingen Circuit, Lockesburg Circuit, DesArc, Blevins, Lockesburg, Stamps Parish and Stamps, until his retirement in 1983.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. Callicott, who died August 28, 2005, and by four brothers,



Bobby, Larry, Hilton and Leo Hicks.

Survivors include one daughter, Barbara Barber and husband Jerald of McCaskill; two brothers, Raymond Hicks of Caney and Adron "Dobber" Hicks of Waterloo; three sisters, Inez Callicott of Caney, Elsie "Picky" Kale of McCaskill and Bonnie Haynes of Prescott; three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held October 29 at Brazzel/Cornish Funeral Home Chapel in Prescott, Arkansas, with burial in Caney Cemetery in Caney. Those officiating at the service were Rev. Tandy Hanson and Dr. Gene Ross.



KING JAMES COLLIER, JR.

King James Collier Jr., 81, of Fort Smith, died April 11, 2008, in Fort Smith, Arkansas. He was a member of First United Methodist Church, the National Association of Home Builders and the American Water Works Association for over 50 years. He was the associate life director for the Greater Fort Smith Association of Home Builders. He retired from Arkhola Sand and Gravel after 33 years of service as a salesman. He was awarded Methodist Village Volunteer of the Year in 2005 and in 2006 was awarded Fort Smith Volunteer of the Year. He also volunteers at Sparks Regional Medical Center in the ICU waiting room. He was a big red contributor for 11 years at the University



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of Arkansas. He was a U.S. Army Air Corps veteran of World War II. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Reverend Dorothy Markwell Collier.

He is survived by his wife, Jean Jones Collier of the home; two daughters, Tricia Sloan of Freeport, Florida, and Jamie Garner of Fort Smith; one son, John Collier of Plano, Texas; two stepdaughters, Ronnie Jones and Brenda Elliott, both of Fort Smith; one aunt, Connie Clement of Fort Smith; five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and seven step-grandchildren.

Memorial service was held on April 14, 2008, at Roebuck Chapel at Fort Smith First United Methodist Church officiated by Rev. David Orr, with a private family committal at Roselawn Cemetery.



REVEREND MICHAEL RAY GORDON

Michael Ray Gordon, 50, of the Pansy community, an ordained elder in the Arkansas Conference, died November 20, 2007. At the time of his death Gordon was serving as pastor of the Rowell Circuit in the Southeast District, which includes the Union, Prosperity, and Mount Olivet United Methodist Churches. Previous pastoral appointments, beginning in 1988, have included Huntsville, Magazine, Ola, Hughes, Clarendon/Holly Grove, Parkers Chapel and Stamps.

He was born November 4, 1957, in Fort Smith, and was in the ministry for 27 years. He was a former member of the Lions Club, Rotary and Kiwanis. He was preceded in death by one sister, Cindy Gordon. He is survived by his wife, Luann Patton Gordon of Pansy; one daughter Arrie Robinson of Pansy; his parents, Dale and Wanda Gilbreath Gordon of Fort Smith; one brother, Steve Gordon of Fort Smith, one sister, Marla DeCoster of Fayetteville; and two grandsons. Funeral services were held November 24 at Lakeside UMC in Pine Bluff with Rev. Jim Brooks and District Superintendent, Rev. Dennis Spence, officiating. He was buried at Woodlawn Memorial Park Cemetery in Fort Smith on November 26.



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REVEREND JAMES BENJAMIN HARRIS

James Benjamin Harris, 79, known to all as J.B., passed away on June 12, 2007. He was a retired local pastor. He was born on July 27, 1927, in St. Louis, son of George William and Thelma Cothorn Harris.

He lived out his favorite Bible scripture daily from Proverbs 3:27, "Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act." He was always generously giving of his time, energy and money to help his fellow man. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Mozelle Blanton and Catherine Holden. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Louise Edrington Harris; two sons and daughters-in-law, Eddie and Susan Harris, and Nelson and



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Mary Harris, all of Paragould; two daughters and sons-in-law, Pam and Dennis Pridmore of Huntsville, Alabama, and Nylea and Lance Cooper of Skaneateles, J.Y.; two brothers, Bill Harris of Jonesboro, and Bob Harris of Pocahontas; a sister, Gladys Mercer of Oakley, California; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

A celebratory service of his life was held June 16 at Camp Ground United Methodist Church in Paragould, Arkansas, with Rev. Everett Isom officiating, and his son Reverend Eddie Harris giving the eulogy.



REVEREND WILLIAM CLINE HIGHTOWER

Rev. William Cline Hightower, 83, of Springdale passed away on February 8, 2008, in Springdale. He was a retired United Methodist minister who served in the former North Arkansas Conference and retired in 1990 after 44 years of ministry.

During his ministry he served at First United Methodist Church in Pottsville, Hoxie, Ozark, Paris, Booneville, Griffin Memorial in Paragould, St. Paul in Fort Smith, Piggott, Central Avenue UMC in Batesville, Nettleton/Mount Carmel UMC in Jonesboro, and associate pastor of First UMC,

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Springdale. He is survived by one daughter Mary Griffey of Fayetteville; three sons, Bryan Hightower of Fayetteville, Rich Hightower and wife Joanne of Rogers, and Steven Hightower and wife Mary of Springfield, MO; one brother, Bedell Hightower of Fort Smith; 10 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on February 12 at FUMC in Springdale with Bishop Max Whitfield and the Reverends Mackey Yokem, Britt Skarda, Judy Van Hoose, and Craig Russell officiating. Burial was at Bluff Cemetery in Springdale.



REVEREND JACK DOUGLAS JACKSON

Jack Douglas Jackson, 60, of Jonesboro, a clergy member of the Arkansas Conference, died March 31, 2008, at Northeast Arkansas Baptist Memorial Hospital.

He was born in Little Rock and had lived in Jonesboro for the past 15 years. He grew up in Monticello where he was active in First United Methodist Church as a youth. He joined the former North Arkansas Conference in 1989 as a probationary member and was ordained an elder in full connection in 1992. He served as pastor of Wheatley/Salem, Lake City/Lake View, Nettleton, Colt/Forrest Chapel/Welsey Chapel, Truman and Hughes churches, before taking leave in 2001.

He received a BSE degree in public administration from the University of Arkansas and a master of divinity degree from Memphis Theological Seminary. He was a Vietnam War veteran having served in the United States Navy, and an avid fan of the Arkansas Razorbacks.

For the past 10 years he had served on the Board of Directors of the United Methodist Children's Home and Methodist Family Health. He was chairman of the board's Nominating Committee and served on the

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Finance Committee and Audit Committee. He was also a member of the Methodist Federation for Social Action. During his college years, he was a leader in the Young Democrats of Arkansas. He continued throughout his life to be an active political observer and supporter of the Democratic Party, having served on Dale Bumpers' staff.

He is survived by his wife of 20 years, Donna; two sons, and daughters-in-law, Lloyd J. and Tricia Smith, Jeremy and Kristin Smith, all of Conway; and three grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Andrew Memory and Joann Oates Jackson.

Funeral services were held April 4 at Nettleton United Methodist Church, with burial in Pleasant Grove Cemetery.



GLADYS KEARNEY

Gladys Kearney, 86, surviving spouse of Reverend Neal Kearney, died in San Marcos, Texas, on May 24, 2006. She was also preceded in death by her brother, Samuel Henderson; sister, Merle Jean; and granddaughter, Michelle McGary. She is survived by her daughters, Sandra Cardella and husband Marty, Mary Bailey, and Nancy Kearney; her sons, Larry Kearney and wife Charlene, Geoff Kearney and wife Mary, Roy Anderson; one sister, Ada Spangler; one brother, George Henderson; and 19 grandchildren.

Gladys served her Lord as a partner in ministry with her husband and by being a chaplain for Hope Hospice. She was a member of the Eastern Star. Gladys was petite in size but courageous in many ways. She was a mother, hospice counselor, skydiver, gypsy, singer, checker player, and, best of all, Grandmother, "Oma." She had a gentle nature, a sweet smile, and a twinkle in her eye. She was generous with her time.

A memorial service was held on May 30, 2006, at Zoeller Funeral Home of New Braunfels, Texas.



DOROTHY MARGE HECK LIGHTFOOT

Dorothy Marge Heck Lightfoot, 81, surviving spouse of Rev. Arthur James "A.J." Lightfoot, died June 15, 2007, in Little Rock. She was born in Arrowsmith, Illinois, on January 4, 1926, the daughter of Gabriel Heck and Savannah Porter Heck.

She resided in Little Rock where she worked full time at the family restaurant for 23 years. During that time she touched many lives and was known simply as "Ma" or "Mom". She had served faithfully with her husband as he pastored numerous churches in the former Little Rock Conference, including Delight, Rondo Circuit, Mountain View Parish, Horatio Circuit, Traskwood, Ebenezer and the Rowell Charge before retiring in 1976. Her husband and parents preceded her in death.



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She is survived by seven children: Betty Irene Wiseman of Springhill, Florida, William James Lightfoot of Benton, AR, Roy Lee Lightfoot of Little Rock, Arkansas, PhylisAnn Rahe of Republic, Kansas, Kenneth Dewayne Lightfoot of Little Rock, AR, Linda Sue Fields of Bryant, AR, and Michael David Lightfoot of DeBary, Florida; two brothers, 16 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held June 18, 2007, at the chapel of Griffin Leggett Healey and Roth Funeral Home in Little Rock, followed by a funeral service June 19, 2007, and burial at the Horatio Cemetery in Horatio.



REVEREND CHARLES EDWARD MABRY, JR.

Rev. Charles Edward Mabry, Jr, 87, of Batesville died Monday, March 10, 2008, in a Batesville hospital. Born June 4, 1920, in Claremore, Oklahoma, he was the son of Charles Sr. and Janie Strange Mabry. He was raised on a farm near Claremore. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from Oklahoma State University in 1941. He received a second lieutenant's commission in the U.S. Army and served in the European theater with the 45th Division. He married Doris Meggs on August 8, 1942.

Charles received a Master of Science degree in animal science from OSU in 1946 and taught veterans at Stillwater, Oklahoma, for a year. He became director of the Livestock and Forestry Branch Experiment Station of the University of Arkansas in May 1947. He served for 30 years before resigning in 1975 to develop a modern hog farm in Bethesda.

He was a member of First UMC in Batesville and began lay speaking in the 1950s. He was assigned to the Sidney-Powell's

Chapel charge in 1978. He was licensed to preach in 1982 and ordained an associate member and deacon of the North Arkansas Conference in 1990. He had served Oak Ridge UMC near Cord since 1987 and was minister of visitation at Batesville FUMC for three years.

Survivors include his wife of 65 years, Doris; two sons, Charles Edward Mabry III of Batesville and John William Mabry of Ames, Iowa; a daughter, Charlene Creeger of Thousand Oaks, California; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother Ben Mabry; and a sister, Mary Ross.

The funeral was held on March 14, 2008, at First United Methodist Church in Batesville with the Rev. David Steele officiating. Burial was in Oaklawn Cemetery at Batesville.



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REVEREND GRADY L. MAY

Grady L. May, 69, of the Woodlawn Community, pastor of Martin Chapel UMC in the Southeast District, went to be with the Lord April 10, 2008. He was born July 8, 1938, in Blytheville, the son of Sam and Iva Mae Pipkins May.

A graduate of Glendale High School, he was a former employee of Ben Pearson, Central Moloney, Wonder Bread and worked 12 years at the Pine Bluff Fire Department. He was past president of the Pine Bluff Firefighters Association and past president of Professional Firefighters of Arkansas. He was the International Ladies Garment Workers Union Representative for 22 years and later became district manager for the Arkansas, Texas and Oklahoma District.

As a member of Mount Olivet United Methodist Church, he taught the teenage class for three generations and was the church's lay member to Annual Conference for 20 years. He became a part-time local pastor in the Arkansas Conference in 2004 and for the past four years served Martin Chapel UMC.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Chester and Charles Ingram and sisters Mary Bostain and Fannie Lou Harrison. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Margaret Ann Wilson May; two sons, Dennis May of Searcy and Jimmy May and his wife Shawna of Fordyce; three sisters, Lois Widner and Helen Loyd, both of Blytheville, and Judy Minton of Pine Bluff; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held April 12 at Buie Funeral Home in Rison, with burial at Roselawn Cemetery.



OTHELLA WHITEFIELD PETERS

Othella Whitfield Peters, 82, of Jacksonville, wife of retired United Methodist pastor Muriel H. Peters, passed from this life on December 29, 2007, following a 20-year battle with cancer. She was born in PercyArkansas, on April 22, 1925, the daughter of Floyd and Lena Whitfield. She was a member of Bethel United Methodist Church, a devoted wife and loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She worked as an accountant in the early years of her marriage. She was a companion in ministry with her husband for more than 30 years while he pastored in churches including Dover/London, Pottsville/Bells Chapel, Hardy, Rosewood-West Memphis, Wesley Foundation at Russellville, Amboy-North Little Rock, Corning, Maumelle, Wiggins Memorial-Fayetteville, Harrisburg and Primrose-Little Rock.

Mrs. Peters was active in all levels of the United Methodist church in Arkansas. She was a leader in United Methodist Women serving on the Planning Team that organized and planned the annual Arkansas School of Christian Mission



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and UMW Nominating Committee in the former North Arkansas Conference, as well as the Conference Nominating Committee. She provided leadership for the UMW organization in local churches served by her husband. She also researched the family genealogy and enjoyed passing down stories from previous generations. Mrs. Peters' grandfather was instrumental in the development of Bethel UMC more than 100 years ago.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Muriel H. Peters of Jacksonville; two sons, Don Peters and his wife, Kay, of Jacksonville and Dale Peters and his wife, Ann, of North Little Rock; one daughter, Debbie Cribbs and her husband, J.D., of Jacksonville; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and an infant brother. Funeral services were held December 31 at Bethel United Methodist Church, with burial at Bethel Cemetery. Pastors officiating were Dr. Jon Mac Taylor and Rev. Earl Carter.



REVEREND ROY POYNOR

Roy Eugene Poynor, 84, of Van Buren, a retired United Methodist pastor in full connection, died May 17, 2007, in Charleston. He was born and raised in Fort Smith, the youngest child of Earnest and Laura Benefield Poynor. He grew up in the Bailey Hill and Mill Creek areas of Fort Smith.

Beginning in 1948 he served as pastor at Fort Smith-Glover Memorial, Fort Smith-St. Mark, Altus, Gar Creek, Grenades Chapel, Alix, Denning, Forrester, Hackett, Arkoma, Charleston, Vesta, North Little Rock-Washington Avenue, Cherokee Village, Clarksville, Fayetteville-Trinity, Goshen and Van Buren First and Van Buren Heritage. He retired in 1986. He was pastor emeritus of Heritage United Methodist Church in Van Buren, a Navy veteran of World War II, an electrician and former electrical inspector for the City of Van Buren. He became a

member of the North Arkansas Conference as a minister in full connection in 1963.

His great passions were God, the United Methodist Church, family, friends, food, music, hunting and fishing.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Euneva Poynor. He is survived by one daughter, Linda Seubold of Roland; two sons, Dr. Roy E. Poynor of Alma and Rob Poynor of Austin, Texas; eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held May 21 at Heritage United Methodist Church in Van Buren, with burial at the U.S. National Cemetery in Fort Smith. Officiating at the service were Rev. Wesley Hilliard, Dr. Guy Whitney, Rev. Bill Kelton, and David K Moore.

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REVEREND ROBERT ATWOOD REGNIER

Robert Atwood Regnier, 73, of Little Rock, a retired clergy member of the Arkansas Conference, died August 9, 2007, at St. Vincent Infirmary. He was born in Little Rock on December 16, 1933, to the late Dr. Waldo and Mary Greenhaw Regnier.

He was a graduate of Hamburg High School, Hendrix College and Duke Divinity School. He joined the former Little Rock Conference of the United Methodist Church as a probationary member in 1955 and was ordained an elder in full connection in 1960. His service as a pastor over the next 50 years included serving Mount Carmel-Bryant, Douglasville-Little Rock, White Hall, Redfield, Pulaski Heights-Little Rock (associate), Lakeside-Lake Village, Montrose, Dermott, Wesley-Pine Bluff, St. Luke-Little Rock, Warren, Good Hope, Wagon and Crossett. He served five years as the Monticello District Superintendent, followed by 13 years as the president of the Methodist Children's Home. He retired in 2004.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Irene Thornton Regnier; his children, Elizabeth Regnier Sadler and husband Dave of Pine Bluff, and Robert Regnier and wife April of Shawnee, Kansas; and seven grandchildren.

A funeral service was held August 10 at Trinity United Methodist Church in Little Rock. officiated by Dr. Robin Moore and Rev. Carr Racop. Burial was at Roselawn Cemetery in Little Rock.

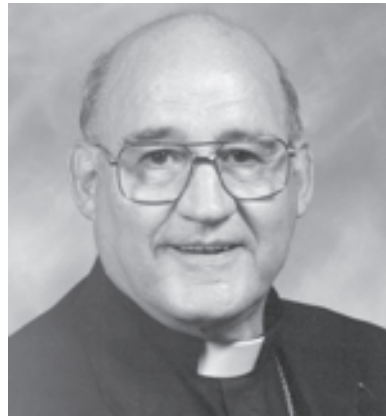


REVEREND BOBBY J. REYNOLDS

Bobby J. Reynolds, 80, of Batesville, a retired local pastor, died Friday, March 28, 2008, at his home. Born March 25, 1928, in Benton County, he was the son of James Lee Reynolds Sr. and Iva Simmons Reynolds. He joined the U.S. Navy on June 1, 1948, and served until 1957. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1957 and retired on Aug. 1, 1969, having served in the Korean and Vietnam wars. After his military service, he served as a United Methodist lay speaker and in 1991 became a local pastor, serving the McHue, Cave Creek, Sharp, Cushman and Asbury churches. He was also associate chaplain at White River Medical Center.

Survivors include his wife, Lilly Reynolds; a son, Steven James Reynolds of Ward; a daughter, Paula Jean Gilbee of Bald Knob; a stepson, David Humbrecht of Japan; a stepdaughter, Cindy Symmonds of Harrisburg; four brothers, Roy Reynolds of Rogers, Wayne Reynolds of Lompoc, Calif., Wendell Reynolds of Pea Ridge and Darrell Reynolds of Bentonville; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Allene B. Reynolds; two daughters, Donna Jo Capps and an infant, Denice Marie Reynolds; a brother, James Lee Reynolds; and a sister, Ruby Bailey. The funeral was held April 2 at Willis Funeral Service Chapel in Batesville, with burial in Pleasant Valley Cemetery near Cushman.



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VERONA EVELYN SIMPSON

Verona Evelyn Simpson, 86, of Little Rock, surviving spouse of United Methodist pastor Arnold M. Simpson, died Jan. 11, 2008. Born June 21, 1921, in Board Camp, Arkansas, she was the daughter of William and Roxanna Hackworth Reed. Mrs. Simpson was a homemaker, and enjoyed sewing and playing the piano. She was a member of Pulaski Heights UMC, Little Rock.

She joined her husband in ministry as he served churches from 1941 until retiring in 1985, including Emerson Circuit, Thornton Circuit, Strong Circuit, Farmington Circuit, Gravette/Decatur, Wiggins Memorial-Fayetteville, Heber Springs, Augusta/Fitzhugh, Pulaski Heights- Little Rock (associate), Lonoke/Eagle, Fairview-Camden, Dumas, Fordyce Parish and St. Luke-Little Rock.

She was preceded in death by her husband, who died in 1986, and three brothers, V.J. Reed, Clarence Reed and Vonn

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Reed. She is survived by two daughters, Sharon Simpson of Little Rock and Reva Hamilton of Kailua, Hawaii; one brother, Sanford Reed of Clearwater, FL; and two grandchildren.



WILMA FRANCES STOKES

Wilma Frances Stokes, 74, spouse of retired United Methodist pastor Denzel E. Stokes, died May 24, 2007, in Mountain View. She was born January 11, 1933, in Rector, Arkansas, the daughter of Alonzo Orbin and Wilma Bertie Ratledge Stahl. She was a member of First United Methodist Church, Mountain View, a wife, homemaker, mother and grandmother. She served faithfully with her husband as he pastored the Lorado Circuit, Stanford, Mountain View, Berryville-Shiloh, Horseshoe Bend, Marion, North Little Rock (associate), Piggott, Tuckerman Charge, Booneville, Marianna and Fairfield Bay, before retiring in 1996.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a son, David Stokes and wife Suzanne of Keller, Texas; a daughter,

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Debby Nesbitt and husband Jim of Mountain View; a sister, Nova Holt of Braymer, Missouri; one brother-in-law, Denver Stahl of Desloge, Missouri; sisters-in law, Wanda Stahl of Jonesboro, Mary Glorie of St. Louis, Louisiana, and Nela Stahl of Rector; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and five brothers, George, Gerald, Olan, Orville and Irvin "Doc" Stahl. Her funeral service was held May 29, 2007, at First UMC in Mountain View with interment at Mountain View Cemetery. Those officiating were Rev. Steve Johnson, Rev. Earl Carter, and Anthony Shipman.



REVEREND ELMO ANDREW THOMASON

Elmo Andrew Thomason, 92, of Conway, a retired United Methodist pastor who served as District Superintendent of four districts and as Conference Council Director, died September 18, 2007.

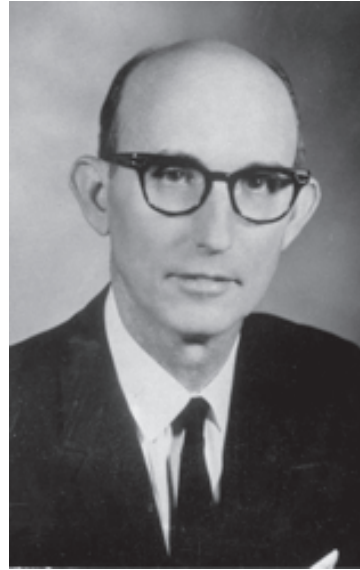
He was born December 16, 1915, in Mount Vernon, Arkansas, the son of Walter and Hassie Thomason. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Irma Bookout Thomason; a son, Dana A. Thomason and wife Martha Farris-Thomason of Russellville; a former daughter-in-law, Cathy Pierce Thomason of Conway; a foster son, Simon D. Bookout, and wife Paula of Little Rock; two grandchildren and one great-grandson. He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Wesley Thomason; and a sister, Virgie Thomas of Beebe.

Thomason received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hendrix College and a Master of Divinity degree from Southern Methodist University. He served as a United Methodist minister for 72 years. He received his local preacher's license in 1936. He was ordained Deacon in 1945 and Elder in 1946.

During his career he served numerous churches in Arkansas, including Cato/Bethel, Naylor Circuit, Elm Springs/Harmon, Higginson/Griffithville, Griffithville Circuit, SMU supply pastor in Greenville, Texas, Fourth Street-Rector, Waldron Parish, Walnut Ridge, Goddard Memorial-Fort Smith, Winfield-Little Rock, Lakeside-Pine Bluff and McGehee/Arkansas City. He also served as superintendent of the Batesville District, Jonesboro District, Paragould District, and Forrest City District. He was Director of the former Little Rock Conference Council on Ministries from 1976-78. After retiring in 1980 he continued to serve in various capacities at Hickory Plains, Little Rock First, Hot Springs Village, Malvern and Graham Chapel. He retired a second time in 1993.

He also preached at churches in England and Central America and served as a trustee of Hendrix College. He was a delegate to Jurisdictional and General Conference of the United Methodists Church and several World Methodist Conferences. He also served on many district and conference committees and boards of the church.

He was a 50-year member of Kiwanis International, a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner. A service was held on September 22 at First United Methodist Church, Conway, officiated by Rev Charles Murry, Rev. Dede Roberts, and Rev. Jon Guthrie. Burial was in Rector



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REVEREND DONALD ERNEST WEST

Donald Ernest West, age 71, retired full member of the Arkansas Conference, died on June 23, 2007, in San Antonio, Texas. He was born February 28, 1936, to Walter Ernest West, Jr. and Arlie Thomas West who preceded him in death. He graduated from high school in Detroit, Michigan. In 1958 he entered the United States Air Force. He graduated from Trinity University in San Antonio with a Bachelor of Music Degree, with a concentration in composition. He also received a Master of Theology degree from Perkins Theological Seminary in Dallas, a Master of Science from UCA, and an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree awarded by Guadalupe Baptist Theological Seminary in San Antonio.

He was formerly Adjunct Professor of Music and Director of the Collegiate Choir at Philander Smith College in Little Rock and was charged with numerous choral directorships, including the Professional Chapel Choir at Ft. Sam Houston and Perkins Theological Seminary with the Seminary Singers.

He is survived by his wife, Yasha L. West; his children Gabrielle S. West Biehl and Christiana D. West, two sisters Sandra and Cheryl West, one grandchild, Aria C. Biehl and her husband David Biehl, his stepsons plus many friends, parishioners, counselees and fellow members of the ministry. His funeral was held on June 28, 2007, at Highland Park Lutheran Church in San Antonio, Texas.

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DOROTHY PAULINE BROWN WILLIAMS

Dorothy Pauline Brown Williams, 83, of Little Rock, formerly of Bryant, surviving spouse of United Methodist pastor Howard L. Williams, died November 18, 2007. She was born on June 20, 1924 in Bryant, the daughter of John and Burlie Catherine Brown. She was a homemaker and a member of First United Methodist Church in Benton. She served faithfully with her husband as he pastored numerous Arkansas churches, including the Dardanelle Circuit, Vilonia Circuit, Keo/Tomberlin, Bryant Circuit, Foreman, College Hill-Texarkana, DeWitt, Newport First, Springdale First, Magnolia First, Camden First, Hope First and Warren First, as well as serving as District Superintendent of the Fort Smith District.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, who died in 2004; a brother, Hiram Brown; and a sister, Edna McMoran. She is survived by her children, Emily Williams of

Little Rock and Karen Clements and husband Jeff of Alexander; siblings, Doris Weise of Benton, Violette Johnson of Bryant, Willene Deaton and husband V.J. of Benton, Wesley Brown and wife Noma of Bryant and Harold Brown and wife Doris of Warren; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Services were held November 21 at Ashby Funeral Home with Rev. George McCoy officiating and burial at New Rosemont Cemetery.

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REVEREND ROBERT JOHN "BOB" WILSON

Robert John "Bob" Wilson, 57, of Springdale, Arkansas, died February 3, 2008. He was born January 27, 1952, in Guam to Fred Arthur and Alma Jean Ferguson Wilson. He was raised in Kansas. He served in the Air Force for four years and received the Good Conduct Medal. He had a double major in Emporia State College in Emporia, Kansas, and also received a master's degree in wildlife management. He enjoyed the outdoors, traveling and reading. Mr. Wilson married Marilyn Kay Kimball on April 7, 1984, in Hutchinson, Kansas. He and his family moved to Springdale in 1990.

Survivors include his wife, Marilyn Wilson of the home; a daughter, Bethany Wilson of Kansas City, Missouri; a stepson, Aaron Oliver of El Dorado, Kansas; a step-daughter Amy White of Springdale; three sisters Dorothy Westphal, Carolyn Burgess, and Susan Conyers; a brother Billy Wilson; and four grandchildren, Cady, Meghan, Andrew and Emily White.

A memorial service was held on February 7, 2008, at Sequoyah United Methodist Church in Fayetteville with Rev. Craig Russell and Rev. Jim Johnson officiating.



MARY ELLA WALTON YATES

Mary Ella Walton Yates, surviving spouse of Rev. Leonard Yates, died peacefully on July 17, 2008, in her home. She was 96 years old.

She was born December 1, 1910 in Paris, Texas, but had lived nearly all her life in Texarkana. She grew up in the Rose Hill area, and was a graduate of Texas High School, where she developed a love for reading. Not being able to read was the one major thing she missed in her latter years due to a losing battle with glaucoma.

Mrs. Yates was the daughter of Sterling and Mazie Walton, the parents of seven children. She married Leonard Yates of Texarkana, who became a Methodist minister, serving churches in Northeast Texas and Southwest Arkansas. They were married for more than 50 years before Rev. Yates died in 1982.

Affectionately called "Doodle" by many of her relatives, she was a classic example of wife and mother. Above all, she served God. She faithfully supported her husband in his ministry until he retired. She would dote on her three children, Douglas, Tommy and Carolyn, never failing to tell each how much she loved them.

She was a homemaker and a member of Fairview United Methodist Church for many years. Even though she was frail and weak at the end, she never complained, constantly praising God for "how good He has been to me." Truly she was a good and faithful servant.

Her survivors are one brother and his wife, Roy and Edith Walton of Texarkana; three children, Douglas Yates of Texarkana; Carolyn Patterson and her husband Joe of Texarkana, and Tommy and his wife Yvonne of Little Rock; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Funeral service was held at Texarkana Funeral Home, Arkansas Chapel, with Rev. Barbara Gilbert officiating. Burial was at East Memorial Gardens.



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Arkansas native D. Max Whitfield, bishop of the Northwest Texas/New Mexico Area, preaches on Ezekiel and the “dry bones” during the Monday evening worship service.



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The scripture of the dry bones coming to life is a feature of the Monday evening worship service.