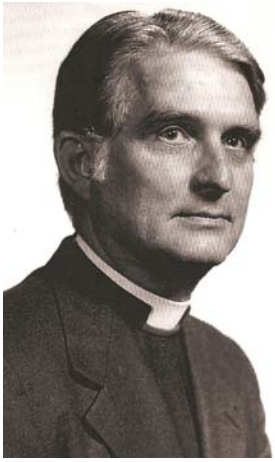
Compiled, edited and formatted by the Conference Office Staff

BISHOP JAMES MASE AULT

August 24, 1918 – September 21, 2008



James Mase Ault died peacefully on September 21, 2008, at the Midcoast Senior Health Center, with his family at his side.

Born on August 24, 1918, in Sayre, PA, the third of five sons of Tracey Ault and Bessie Mase Ault, he graduated valedictorian from Sayre High School in 1936. While serving as head of the youth fellowship of the Sayre Methodist Church, he met his wife to be, Dorothy Barnhart. They married during World War II while he was serving as a sergeant in the Army. He attended Colgate University on the GI Bill, served a nearby Methodist Church in Preston, NY, graduated magna cum laude, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He went on to study at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, also graduating magna cum laude in 1952.

Always a pastor at heart, he served churches in Carlton Hill and Leonia, NJ, and in Pittsfield, MA, returning to Union Theological Seminary as dean of students, director of field education, and professor of pastoral theology. In 1968 he became dean of the theological school at Drew University after two-thirds of its core faculty resigned. He led the effort to rebuild the institution.

In 1972 he was elected Bishop of the United Methodist Church, serving for 16 years, first in the Philadelphia Area and then in the Pittsburgh Area. From 1984 to 1988, he was President of the General Board of Global Ministries. In that capacity, he visited with local church leaders in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. He served as Secretary and later as President of the Council of Bishops. As a member of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, he took part in successful efforts to lobby for economic sanctions against South Africa during the struggle against apartheid.

He loved working with pastors and serving the church, but he also had a strong sense of humor and enjoyed sports as a participant and a fan, especially baseball, basketball, tennis, and ping-pong. Surviving are his wife, Dorothy; a brother, Alfred; a son, James, Jr.; a daughter, Kathryn; a daughter, Elizabeth Ault Brinker and her husband, Will; grandchildren Samuel Feldman, Henry Ault, Noah Ault Brinker, and Zoe Ault Brinker.

A memorial service was held at the United Methodist Church, Brunswick, ME, on November 1, 2008. Participating were Bishop Peter Weaver, Bishop George Bashore, Bishop John Schol, and Pastor Jeffrey Hunt.

Interment: St. John's Cemetery, Conyngham, PA.

Submitted by: Dorothy Ault

THOMAS N. AUSTIN III

November 16, 1948 – October 24, 2008

The Reverend Thomas Neville Austin III was born on November 16, 1948 in Washington, DC. He was the oldest of three children born to the late Thomas Neville Austin, Jr. and Naomi Beatrice Austin.

Thomas graduated from McKinley Tech High School in 1966. He served in the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1970 stationed in Fort Bragg, NC and Heidelberg, Germany. Thomas received his Associate Degree in accounting from Strayer College in 1974. He worked as an accountant before accepting the call to ministry. He then received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Washington Bible College in Biblical Studies in 1997 and his

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Masters of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary in 2000. He served as pastoral assistant at Asbury United Methodist Church in Washington, DC from 1996-1999. Thomas served as interim pastor at Elijah UMC in Poolesville, MD in 1998, and as pastor at Haven UMC in Quinton, NJ from July 1999-2005. He then became the pastor at Browns Mills UMC in Browns Mills, NJ from 2005-2006. He was the pastor of Nottingham-Myers UMC in Upper Marlboro, MD.

Thomas was a member of the American Legion Post 0297. He won the Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Outstanding Religious Leader in Salem County in 2004. He was ordained Deacon in the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference in June 2001 and Elder in June 2004.

Thomas married Elizabeth Proctor in 1971 and two precious children were born, Leslie Dionne Austin and Teresa Nicole Austin. He and Elizabeth were divorced in 1988. Thomas married Ethel Colvin on April 28, 1990. They loved to travel and take cruises.

Thomas also loved to bowl; he owned and played various board games. He loved all sports but has always been an avid Washington Redskins fan. He was also an aspiring golfer.

God called Thomas home to be with Him at 5:27 a.m., Friday, October 24, 2008. He was 59 years old. His sudden departure from this life leaves a void that only God can fill in the lives of his devoted wife, Ethel; his two daughters, Leslie Austin and Teresa Austin; and two sisters, Shirley Austin and Minister Joyce (Jesse) Griffin.

Interment: Maryland State Veterans Cemetery, Crownsville, MD

Submitted by: Ethel C. Austin

BETTY E. BAMERT
March 26, 1930 – October 6, 2008

Betty Bamert was a loving and wonderful wife and mother who devoted herself to assisting Eugene in his ministry and raising their children. Their 31 years of serving churches in the Northern NJ Conference began in Jersey City, followed by Midland Park, The Five Star Parish (Anderson, Port Colden, Changewater, Mt. Bethel and Port Murray), Nyack, NY, and South Orange. During their years of service, they made many lifelong friends, both in their congregations and among other ministerial families who were also serving churches in Northern NJ.

In addition to her home and church responsibilities, Betty at various times worked for The Vintage Car Shop in Nyack, Chrysler Corp., Nyack Public Schools, The Honorable Judge Julius Fielo and Best Foods. No matter the job, Betty negotiated her hiring to ensure that she would have the month of December off for her annual Open House, church activities, and six weeks off in the summer for family time and vacation.

Although Betty suffered a stroke in 2001 that paralyzed her right side, she kept a positive attitude and worked hard with her physical therapists to make a remarkable comeback that enabled her to stay in her own apartment and go on with life. She was a member of Asbury UMC in Allentown, PA and participated in the "Keep In Touch" group making home visits to the elderly. She was also a member of the United Methodist Women.

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Betty loved to talk on the telephone and write letters. Without the use of her right hand, she still sent nearly 80 handwritten Christmas cards each year.

Betty is survived by a daughter, Anita J. Bamert and husband James B. Shaw; a son, Wesley E. Bamert and wife Maureen; and two grandchildren, Ryan and Mark.

Betty and Gene's children, Anita and Wesley, and their families, thank all who sent cards and memories after Betty's death. Cards came from all over the country with many familiar names. Many people shared stories, some previously unknown to Anita and Wes. All of the Bamerts felt that a highlight of being a pastoral family was serving different churches and making friends in many places.

Interment: George Washington Memorial Park, Paramus, NJ

Submitted by: Anita J. Bamert

FREDERICK H. BOWEN
October 13, 1925 – September 14, 2008

The Rev. Frederick H. Bowen was born in Trenton and lived his life in southern New Jersey before retiring to Bradley Beach in 1992. He graduated from Hamilton High School, Trenton. He enlisted in the US Arm, served in Europe during World War II and was the recipient of the Purple Heart and other medals. Following his honorable discharge from the Army, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Rutgers University and his Master of Divinity from Drew University.

He was ordained an Elder in the class of 1951 in the Southern New Jersey Conference. He served as pastor of many churches during his 42 years of ministry. Those churches served were: Jerseyville and Squankum, Hamilton and Wayside, Sayreville and Morganville, Beach Haven and Beach Haven Terrace, First Church Mount Holly, Pedricktown and Haines Neck, St. Luke's Long Branch, Calvary Keyport, and in retirement Adelphia and Jerseyville.

Fred served on many committees in the Conference. He also served in leadership rolls in the communities where he resided. He was a member of the Camps and Conferences Committee and was a counselor and later, camp director at Mt. Misery.

He worked with the Boy Scouts, 4H Club, Lions Club, Epworth League, was a Library Board member and president, and he was Chaplain of PBA of Sayreville.

Fred enjoyed teaching Adult Sunday School and leading Vacation Bible School in many churches. He also was a participant in the Ocean Grove Bible Studies and summer choir. Fred was an avid writer. He was the editor of the St. Luke's monthly *Advocate* that reached two hundred families.

Fred had the ability to draw plans for church buildings. While serving Hamilton Church, they built a much needed Sunday School building. Later while serving Sayreville, an education building was built, and again while serving Morganville, they too built an education building. He had the opportunity to design and build a new church building at Beach Haven Terrace. After he retired he drew the plans for remodeling his retirement home.

He worked with the utility companies to obtain a House of Worship rate for all churches on their electric bills. He worked with many churches as he applied for this program.

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Fred went to be with his Lord and Savior on Sunday morning, September 14, 2008. He is greatly missed by his wife of 57 years, Dolores, sons Timothy Bowen (and wife Susan), and Thomas Bowen, daughters Cynthia Knudsen (and husband Thomas), Sandra Colyer (and husband Stephen), and Rebecca Bowen as well as his grandchildren Rachel Bowen, Kenneth (and wife Katrina), Ryan and Arielle Knudsen, and his Pastor Rev. Sunny Shim.

Interment: Greenwood Cemetery, Trenton, NJ

Submitted by: Dolores Bowen and Rev. Sunny Shim

ELIZABETH S. BROGDON
January 23, 1915 – November 15, 2008

{Mrs. Brogdon's memoir has been edited to meet the word limit set by the annual conference.}

Elizabeth S. Brogdon was born January 23, 1915 to H. Wiley and S.E. Speir and died November 15, 2008. Her concern for others remained strong until the end. To make this time easier on her family she wrote the following profile to be used when they needed it.

"Where He Leads Me I Will Follow" was sung when I walked down the aisle at ten to join church, as well as when I walked down the bank of the Canoochee River to be baptized. This has been the theme song of my life since that time. It has been such a wonderful life! Not always going in the direction I preferred, but always great.

I was born in Bryan County, GA, attended public school there, and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Home Economics from the Georgia State College for women. I did graduate work at the Universities of Georgia and Tennessee.

After several careers with the WPA and my husband, Jim's business, I became involved in the local Methodist Church. During this time, I was also Dean of the School of Christian Missions for four years. When the Conference was divided into six districts, I was elected president of the Northeast District Women's Society of Christian Service. A short time later I was made Conference president, the most rewarding experience of my life.

Probably my greatest thrill was receiving the special membership pin at the close of my term as Conference United Methodist Women's president. The treasurer announced they had gone over the one thousand dollar mark, so I was given a membership pin with a diamond in it.

There have been quite a few "firsts" in my life. I was the first woman elected to the Conference Council on Finance and Administration, where I served four years as president. I was the first woman in my local church to be honored as "Mother-of-the-Year" and the first woman to serve as the chair of the Pastor Parish Relations committee, as well as the first woman to be Lay Member of Annual Conference for my local church.

I served on the Northeast Jurisdiction Council on Finance and Administration, the Conference Boards of Pensions and Missions, the Task Force on Stewardship, the Board of Trustees of the United Methodist Homes, and the National Women's History Committee for the United Methodist Archives and Historical Center. I was the first reserve delegate to the 1984 General Conference and delegate to the Jurisdictional Conference. It is truly the people I have learned to know and love in each of these organizations, along with my wonderful children and husband, who have helped me "To Follow Where He Leads Me". What a privilege it has been!"

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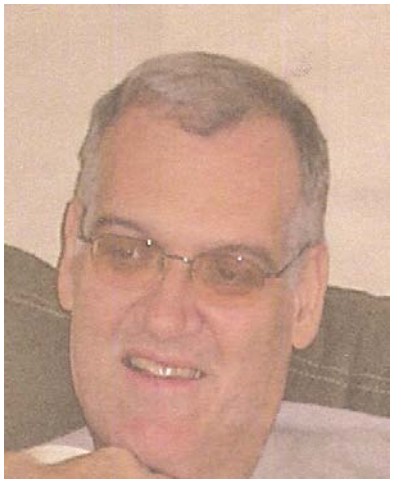
Elizabeth is survived by her children Bill and Diana Brogdon of Mobile, AL, Gene and Carole Brogdon of Richmond Hill, GA; grandchildren Rebecca and Bradley Roe of Mobile, AL, and Jessica Brogdon of Oakland, CA; great-grandchildren Eliza Geraldine and William Wiley Roe; sister-in-law Thelma Speir; sister Peggy & George Bingham; nieces and nephews Kay Speir, Speir and Gail Flanders, George and Cecile Flanders, Raymond and Nordy Meguiar, David and Joyce Smith, Allen and Nancy Smith, Maggie and Bob Hogan, Carolyn and Spencer Helms.

Interment: Methodist Cemetery, Richmond Hill, GA

Submitted by: Gene Brogdon

ESTEVAO S. CANFIELD
November 28, 1955 – January 27, 2009



Estevao Canfield was a visionary man, who would never compromise the principles of God and his faith, a person who loved preaching the word of God and had passion for his family, his ministry, and for souls.

He married Glaucia Canfield, was the father of four sons (one which he adopted seven years ago). Pastor Estevao Canfield was born and raised in Brazil. He was a journalist when he graduated from the Methodist University of Sao Paulo. He then graduated as a pastor from Methodist Faculty of Theology in Sao Bernardo do Campo also in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Pastor Canfield came to the United States, sent by the Methodist Church, to begin ministry with the Brazilian community in New Jersey in 1997, a task he took very seriously.

The New Canaan Church started on June 19, 1997 with a little over 20 people, and became one of the largest growing churches of the international ministries in the state of New Jersey.

It was after Pastor Canfield lost his battle with cancer in early 2009, that the New Canaan Church realized what the great commitment he had for his ministry. The legacy he left forces the entire church to honor and continue the wonderful work that God started through Pastor Estevao's life.

Though saddened by the loss of Pastor Estevao Canfield, the members of the New Canaan Church understand the importance of the task that they have before them, which is to follow God's plan for the New Canaan Church, the Brazilian community, and the kingdom of God, and to assume responsibility for carrying out the works that God trusted to a brave soldier, Pastor Estevao Canfield.

Estevao Canfield is survived by his wife, Glaucia; sons Ricardo and Andre Canfield; parents Bishop Richard Canfield & Benilda Canfield; and all the members of New Canaan UMC.

Interment: North Arlington Cemetery, Kearny, NJ

Submitted by: Renata Cardoso

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HERMAN YAGGI CARR

November 28, 1924 – April 9, 2008

Herman Yaggi Carr, Ph.D., a noted American physicist, the inventor and early pioneer of nuclear magnetic resonance imaging, died peacefully Wednesday, April 9, 2009 in his home at Arbor Glen in Bridgewater, NJ. He was born November 28, 1924 in Alliance, OH, the son of Robert Herman and Jeannette Yaggi Carr. He was the devoted husband of Hilda Hagen Carr who preceded him in death on August 29, 1986.

Dr. Carr, an Alliance High School graduate, was inducted into their Hall of Fame. He served in the U.S. Army as a Sergeant in the 12th Weather Squadron Air Corps during World War II in Italy. He received a Harvard National Scholarship. He graduated summa cum laude in 1948, earned his Masters degree in 1949 and a Ph.D. in Physics in 1953 from Harvard University. His doctoral thesis, published in 1952, described the first techniques for using gradients in the magnetic field and is believed to be the first example of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

Dr. Carr was a member of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ where he continued his pioneering research and provided the groundwork for present-day MRI. Professor Carr was known as a fine teacher and received the Guggenheim Fellowship where he participated in a cooperative research program at Cornell University, Oxford University, and the University of Amsterdam. In addition to numerous scientific publications and presentations, Dr. Carr co-authored the introductory textbook “Physics From the Ground Up”.

In 2001 an anonymous donation created two Herman Y. Carr Scholarships in Physics and Astronomy at Rutgers University. Dr. Carr became Professor Emeritus in 1987 and was actively involved in the area of MRI studies up until his death.

As a professed pacifist he served on the General Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church where he was a representative to Russia during glasnost, promoting Christianity and world peace. He was recognized and honored in 1995 with the Francis Asbury Award for fostering United Methodist Ministries in Higher Education. He was a long time member of the United Methodist Church of New Brunswick where, as an active member, he was dedicated to community outreach, world peace and social justice.

He is survived by a daughter, Amanda Carr Sozer of Alexandria, VA; a son, Robert H (Nancy) Carr of Amsterdam, NY; a sister, Mrs. David (Mary Beth) McFarland of Copeland Oaks, Sebring, OH; three grandchildren: Brendan Carr Sozer, a student at the College of William & Mary; Aubrey Hagen Sozer, a student at Virginia Tech University; and Robert William Carr of Amsterdam, NY; and a step-son, John Kinney of Watchung, NJ.

Interment: Alliance, OH, Ellenville, NY

Submitted by: Amanda Sozer

DOMINIC ZACHARY (ZACK) CIENKOWSKI

April 5, 1937 – May 1, 2008

Zack was born in Philadelphia and was the first son of the late Dominic and Anna (Manuszak) Cienkowski. He attended Villanova University. Zack served in the US Army as a language interpreter and upon leaving the service began his career in the insurance business. First, he worked internally with Allstate and then opened his own State Farm agency in 1964 in Northfield, NJ.

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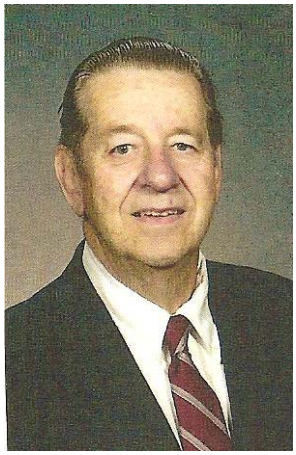
Zack was loved and well known by many in the Northfield area as "Mr. State Farm" for over 35 years. He was a member of the Charter Life Insurance Association, The National Polish American Alliance, the Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries and Lay Leader of Emmaus Methodist Church. He loved the sea and was a member of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and past Vice Flotilla Commander of Fleet 81 of Ocean City, NJ. He spent many happy hours on his sailboat, The Aries, enjoying all the wonders of the sea that the Lord has given.



In the 1960's, Zack was born again at a Billy Graham crusade in Philadelphia, where he accepted the Lord as his Savior. Many years later, he declared his love of the Lord Jesus Christ once again at the altar during another crusade. His relationship with the Lord during his life led him to Emmaus Methodist Church, where he served as church secretary and lay leader to Emmaus, and her sister church, Oceanville United Methodist Church. Zack developed and ran the Medi-Ride Program for the church and volunteered many hours to those in need. He could be found happily servicing the community and his church. His favorite Bible verse was Matthew 16:18 and tried to fulfill the Great Commission of building the church.

Zack will be remembered and missed by many dear friends both in the business world and his church family of Emmaus and Oceanville Methodist Churches. Members still look for the smiling face ready to help at any given moment. One of the greatest things Zack left behind to all who knew him is: "What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal." (Albert Pine) He leaves behind a living legacy of the many lives he has touched with a loving and caring heart through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Zack Cienkowski is survived by sons: Steven Zachary and Keith Daniel; daughters: Bethanne Miller and husband Gary, Karen Jennifer Kelly and husband Butch; sister: Cynthia Amann and husband Walter; six grandchildren: Barbara Jane Sanders, Timothy Sanders, Elizabeth Sanders, Kyal Webb, Christopher Cienkowski, and Grace Kelly; beloved fiancé and companion: Lenore A. Duberson.

Interment: Smithville Emmaus United Methodist Church, Smithville, NJ

Submitted by: Lenore A. Duberson

DOROTHY S. CORSON
December 8, 1923 – March 30, 2009

Dorothy S. Corson died Monday, March 30, 2009 in Collingswood, NJ at the age of 85.

She retired with her late husband, the Rev. Pennington Corson III, in 1984 after a 41-year ministry in the Southern New Jersey Annual Conference. A graduate of Trenton High School, class of 1941, Mrs. Corson was a partner in her husband's ministry in churches in: Fieldsboro, Hamilton, Wayside, Atlantic City, Beach Haven and Beach Haven Terrace, St. Paul in Trenton, and Trinity in Millville. Together they participated in two pulpit exchanges: one in San Diego in 1954 and one in Montreal in 1959.

Dorothy was the wife of the late Pennington Corson III, daughter of the late Eva and Roy Somers, sister of the late Ruth Green, Frances Heath, and Bernice Lyon, and the mother of the late David Corson. She is survived by two sons and daughter-in-laws: Alan and Marsha Corson of Ewing,

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Kenneth and Martha Corson of Chatham; a daughter and son-in-law: Mary and Gerald Spencer of Ewing; a daughter-in-law: June Corson; ten grandchildren: Michelle and James Corson, Kathleen, Sarah, and Anne Spencer, Robert, Samuel and John Corson, Elizabeth and Hiram Thornton, and Rebecca and Ryan Christiansen. She is also survived by her first great-granddaughter, Gwen Christiansen.

Interment: Greenwood Memorial Park, Millville, NJ

Submitted by: Alan Corson

EVELYN J. CRUDDAS
April 11, 1924 – February 7, 2009

Evelyn Jean Snell was born in Falls Creek, PA on April 11, 1924, the second of thirteen children born to W.R. and Lena Snell. Following high school she graduated from DuBois Business College and helped her father with bookkeeping at his business. She also worked at the local hardware store as a bookkeeper. Both she and her future husband held jobs at Jackson Pottery, the key industry in Falls Creek.

After a short courtship, on April 2, 1948, Evelyn married Thomas F. Cruddas, also of Falls Creek. When Tom entered the ministry he attended Clarion State Teachers College and graduated from Allegheny College with Evelyn as his frequent "study coach". She gave birth to their daughter, Nola Beth on April 2, 1955. Shortly thereafter the family moved to East Orange, NJ to serve a Methodist church there and he began studies at Drew Seminary in Madison, NJ.

Evelyn was always a predictable presence in whatever church the family was serving. On the homefront, her goal was always to treat the parsonage as if it were her own and "turn it over to the next family in better shape than I found it!." Whenever there was a rummage sale, church dinner or program of any type, she would usually be found hard at work. Besides their various churches back in Pennsylvania and their first New Jersey assignment in East Orange, she and Tom eventually served in Paterson (2), Hopatcong, and Elizabeth. Their final charge, which they undertook in 1969 was Wesley UMC in Phillipsburg, NJ where they lived until Tom's death in 1983. Evelyn remained in the area for the next 26 years, a stalwart member of Wesley UMC.

Following two strokes early in 2005, Evelyn moved to the Phoebe Home in Allentown, PA where she became quite a fixture. Nurses and fellow residents commented that she always had an upbeat comment to make or a kind word for whoever might be having a bad day. She passed away in the early morning of February 7, 2009 following a massive stroke the previous evening.

Evelyn is survived by a daughter: Nola Beth, wife of Warren Frankenfield, of Easton; three sisters:
Shirley Hazelton, Maxine Slack, Donna Hoover; four brothers: Joseph Snell, Norbert Snell, Theodore Snell and Gary Snell. She was predeceased in death by siblings: Richard Snell, James Snell, Robert Snell, Carol Craft and Marlene Quick.

Interment: Northampton Memorial Shrine, Easton, PA

Submitted by: Nola B. and Warren Frankenfield

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REV. JANE DAWSON EDWARDS

October 22, 1945 – August 18, 2008

Rev. Jane Edwards was born in New London, CT just after the end of WWII, and her family moved immediately to Philadelphia, PA. Her father worked as a welder in the Philadelphia Navy Yard, and her mother worked as a registered nurse in Philadelphia hospitals. Jane attended Philadelphia public schools, including Philadelphia High School for Girls from which she graduated in 1964. She attended McMurry College in Abilene, TX from 1964 to 1967, where she met her husband-to-be, John T. Edwards, and where they married in 1965.

The Edwards moved to New Jersey in 1967, where they both attended Drew University. Jane graduated from Drew's Brothers College with a B.A. Degree in 1969. Ten years later she entered The Theological School of Drew University, where she graduated magna cum laude in 1982 with a Master of Divinity Degree. She was ordained a deacon in the Northern New Jersey Conference in 1983 and was appointed as associate minister of the Summit United Methodist Church. In 1985 she was ordained an elder and was appointed as pastor of the Spring Valley (NY) United Methodist Church. She served there for ten years until traumatic brain injuries from a car accident forced her to go on disability leave in 1995. She continued on disability leave until her death at age 62 on August 18, 2008 in Paramus, NJ, where John was pastor of the Arcola UMC. Her cause of death was pneumonia, which she had had four times in eight months.

Jane was a gifted pastor, preacher, counselor, and scholar. She was working toward a Ph.D. degree at Drew at the time of her accident. Jane's husband, their two sons and their families would attest that her greatest gift was as a loving wife, mother, and grandmother. Her church families would add that for them her greatest gift was as a loving pastor, spiritual teacher and guide. As God had blessed her, so she was a blessing to all who knew her. Our loss was certainly heaven's gain.

Jane is survived by: her husband, Rev. John T. Edwards; son, Curtis Scott Edwards and wife JoAnne and their children Hunter and Meadow; son, Jonathan Mark Edwards and wife Jennifer and their children Lindsey and Daniel; brother, Robert Dawson.

Interment: Cremated

Submitted by: Rev. John T. Edwards

EDWARD R. ELGRIM

April 9, 1935 – June 22, 2008

Edward Elgrim, a retired local pastor of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference passed away on June 22, 2008. He served the Highlands and Seabright Churches (1985), Pemberton (1994), St. Paul's UMC in New Gretna (2000), Emmaus UMC in Smithville (2001).

(No memoir was received at the time of publication)

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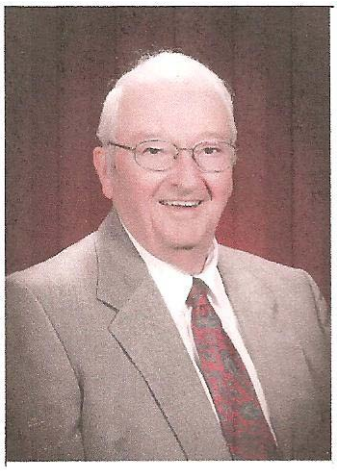
BLANCHE HARGROVE
July 23, 1926 – August 19, 2008

Blanche Hargrove, widow of the Rev. Dr. B. Milton Hargrove, died on Tuesday, August 19, 2008. The funeral service was held at the Union Memorial Church in Baltimore, Maryland on August 27, 2008.

(No memoir was received at the time of publication)

REV. DR. JACK DUER HILL
December 18, 1920 – August 4, 2008



J.D. (Jack) Hill was born in Tarentum, PA. After graduating from high school in 1938, he attended Gettysburg College. His education was interrupted however, with the outbreak of World War II in 1941. Jack enlisted in the US Army and was enrolled in Officer Candidate School, Infantry Training, and Parachute Infantry Training. He served our country in the Pacific, the Philippines, and Japan. Jack retired from the US Army after the war with the rank of Captain.

Soon thereafter, Jack graduated from Lincoln Chiropractic College in Indianapolis, and opened a chiropractic office in Blairsville, PA. In 1962, Jack moved to Lakewood, NJ where he was hired as Music Director at Christ UMC. It was there he met the beautiful Carol Ann Matthews Bower. Together they worked with the youth and the church's music programs. They were married in 1971 in Elkton, MD.

In 1979, their love of the Lord and dedication to His work led Jack and Carol in a new direction in their lives. Jack attended Drew University in Madison, NJ, and then Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. His first pastoral assignment was in Forked River, NJ.

In June 1985, JD and Carol retired and moved to Zephyrhills, FL….but it was just one year later that the Hills came out of retirement to build and lead a new church, Trinity United Methodist. In 1990, they retired once again from the ministry, and moved to Sebastian, FL. Of course, their reputation preceded them and for a short time, Jack pastored the former Fellsmere UMC.

JD and Carol were faithful members of Sebastian UMC and First UMC in Fort Pierce until 2008, when they became founding participants of Friendship Christian Community under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Thomas, Sr.

They are the parents of six children: Sheila Ann Kavanagh, Bruce Michael, Mark Alan, Donald Thomas, Robert Eugene and William Frank, and have thirteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Interment: Fountainhead, Palm Bay, FL

Submitted by: Carol A. Hill

G. ELIZABETH JOHNSON
September 21, 2008

G. Elizabeth Johnson, a lay member to the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference from the Sharptown United Methodist Church, died on September 21, 2008.

(No memoir was received at the time of publication)

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DONALD G. JONES
February 3, 1931 – April 23, 2009

Donald Gene Jones, 78, Emeritus Professor of Social Ethics at Drew University, died peacefully at Morristown Memorial Hospital on April 23, 2009.

Dr. Jones, who was born in Cheyenne, WY on February 3, 1931, attended South Dakota State College before serving in the US Navy from 1951 to 1955. He received a B.A. degree from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, SD in 1957, and Master of Divinity (1961) and a Ph.D. (1969) degree from Drew University. An ordained United Methodist clergyman, he began a long teaching career at Drew in 1966 following several years in the ministry that later made him known to the public as Hillary Rodham Clinton's youth minister in Park Ridge, IL.

Widely recognized as one of the co-founders of the field of business ethics, Dr. Jones was active in exploring and teaching ethics in relation to medicine, business, sports, society, and religion. A beloved professor widely known as a productive scholar and consultant, he gained his greatest satisfaction from teaching, and his course in sports ethics was popular with athletes and non-athletes alike. He received Drew's Scholar/Teacher of the Year Award in 1995, and his many former students celebrated his inspired teaching by creating the Donald G. Jones Scholarship at Drew following his retirement in 2002. The University recognized his keen interest in, and contribution to, Drew athletes by presenting him with the Gold D Award at the 2008 Hall of Fame dinner.

Dr. Jones is survived by: his wife, Karen (Rudolf) Jones; two sons, David R. and Peter D.; two daughters-in-law, Monika and Marsha; and two grandchildren, Kobi and Ezra.

From the Drew University Archives

JEAN KICKASOLA
May 28, 1913 – December 15, 2008

Jean Jacobs Kickasola, 95, entered God's presence on December 15, 2008. Born in Antwerp, Belgium on May 28, 1913, she lived in Paris during WWI. After coming to the United States in her early teen years, she lived in New York City, various places in New Jersey, the Miami area of Florida, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, and finally in the Tidewater area of Virginia.

The widow of Rev. Louis A. Kickasola, she is survived by sons: Raymond Kickasola (Ruth) of Cleveland, SC; Dr. Joseph N. Kickasola (Myrenna) of Virginia Beach, VA; and Louis A. Kickasola, Jr. (Linda) of Jacksonville, FL. Preceding her in death were: her daughter Dr. Lorraine Wray (David) of Georgetown, DE and son John Kickasola (Bonnie) of Buena, NJ. She is also survived by many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Interment: Miami Memorial Park, Miami, FL

Submitted by: Myrenna Kickasola

REV. DANIEL W. KREH
July 3, 1936 – December 13, 2008

Daniel Kreh served many churches in the Southern New Jersey Conference throughout his career as a minister. He was very fond of his many years in Cape May and Pitman. He especially enjoyed working with youth groups and spent many summers with his own family at Camp Malaga. He had an appreciation for the energy and understood the problems many young people face. Dan helped numerous troubled youth, the list is endless.

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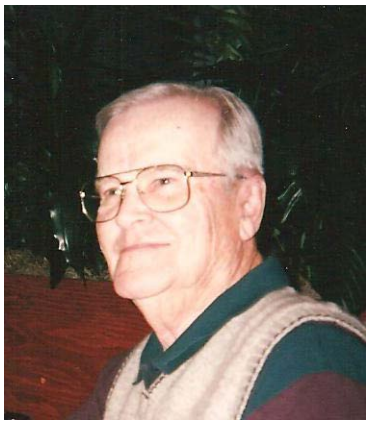
He was well known for his good humor and friendliness to all. He would try to get every person with a frown to smile. Dan's ministry was cut short by a stroke at an early age and he moved into Collingswood Manor. He was very proud to be one of the youngest residents! Dan was very active in The Manor along with his very good friend Bill Wilson, who I am sure misses him very much. In his last weeks at the manor, Dan remained in bed recovering from a badly broken leg. One thing that kept his spirits high was his many visitors. He mentioned that it meant a lot to get to visit with some of his dearest friends.

Dan is survived by: his brother, H. Ronald Kreh; three children: Denise Kessler and her husband, Rich, Janine Kreh, and Paul Kreh; and four grandchildren: Michael Kessler, Elizabeth Kessler, Kelly Surfass, Megan Surfass, who have all learned so much from him. Some of the things we will always remember are: Go ahead and talk to strangers; ride the train as much as you can; no problem is too big to solve…as long as you pray; life is too short to worry about things that are not in your control. Dan leaves behind some very heavy, but healing hearts.

Interment: Northwood Cemetery, PA

Submitted by: Denise Kessler

REV. ERIC G. KULLBERG, JR.
May 25, 1922 – March 2, 2009



Rev. Eric Gerard Kullberg, Jr., 86, of Paramus, NJ, formerly of Teaneck, Bayville and Whiting, NJ, entered into eternal rest on Monday, March 2, 2009.

Before retiring, Rev. Kullberg was a minister of the United Methodist Church in Teaneck, NJ. He previously served as pastor for the United Methodist Church in Barryville, NY, United Methodist Church in Eldred, NY, Drew United Methodist Church in Port Jervis, NY, and the United Methodist Church in Boonton, NJ. After retirement, Rev. Kullberg served as a director with the Bergen County Community Action Program. He also worked for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in the World Trade Center as an administrative assistant. He later assisted in monitoring bus and train scheduling operations for NJ Transit. Prior to graduating from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA, and Drew University in Madison, NJ, Eric honorably served his country in the US Army and was a veteran of WWII.

Eric Kullberg was the beloved husband of the late Anne Florence Kullberg (Nelson); loving father of Eric Gerard Kullberg III and his wife, Gail of Boonton, NJ; Cheryl Anne Nelson of Dallas, TX; John Nelson Kullberg and his wife, Maureen of River Vale, NJ; Douglas Arnold Kullberg and his wife Emi of Douglas, MA. He is also survived by 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Interment: Unknown

Submitted by: Eric Kullberg III

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ROY JOSEPH MARIAN

February 1, 1918 – March 24, 2009

Roy Joseph Marian died March 24, 2009, at home at the age of 91 after a brief illness. He was a member of the Mt. Ephraim United Methodist Church since 1952. He served for forty years as trustees' president and was committed to the continuation of the ministry of the local church.

Roy was born in Hastings, NE on February 1, 1918, and grew up during the Depression. He met Betty Josephine Preston in high school, was married on August 23, 1942, and celebrated 66 years of marriage last August. During the Second World War he worked as an aircraft inspector of B26 bombers for Glenn L. Martin and later served in the U.S. Navy as an Aviation Electricians Mate Second Class stationed in Jacksonville, FL. He graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1949 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering. He moved east in 1949 to accept a position with RCA in Camden, NJ, where he remained for thirty years working on the development of camera and video recording machines for televisions.

Roy was preceded in death by his daughter Carol Jane Nitchie. He is survived by his loving wife Betty; son Robert; son-in-law John Nitchie; grandson William Nitchie; granddaughter Carol and her husband, Matthew McGee; great-grandson John McGee; and great-granddaughter Catherine McGee.

Interment: Eglington Memorial Gardens, Clarksboro, NJ

Submitted by: Betty J. Marian

MARJORIE ELDRIDGE McCLEAVE

January 7, 1916 – Sept 2, 2008

Our mother was born in a lovely small town in what was then rural New Jersey – Pemberton, into a large family who were all active members of the Pemberton Methodist Church. One summer Sunday the substitute minister was a young man, still in seminary, G. Stanley McCleave. My grandmother insisted the "skinny" man come to their home for a chicken dinner – not an offer to be sneezed at, as Grandmother was famous for her cooking. It didn't take long for the young clergyman to fall head over heels in love with her daughter, Marjorie. On their second date, Stan announced he planned on marrying her and the wedding was held in the Methodist church one year later.

As Methodists you know well the habits of the conference, only a few years in each church before being asked to serve in a different one in a different area of New Jersey. Their first church was in Cranbury, NJ during the war; it was here that their first child was born. Marjorie quickly discovered the need within the church for her services and she began helping with the Sunday School and the choir. As they moved from church to church, Marjorie and Stan were a great team as she was always there to step in where help was needed. Not only would Marjorie correct Stan's sermons for spelling and grammar, she would often be given the task of typing up the bulletin and then Stan would run them off on the mimeograph machine. Ah yes, the old days of penny pinching when running a church!

And, while raising a family with three children, Mother was a loyal member of the church choir, the WSCS, and taught in the Sunday school. Eventually, she was asked to write a series of lesson plans to use in church

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schools. Her specialty was the young members of the church families, the sweet little ones in grade school. She would attend lab schools every summer to develop other teachers of church schools by giving them the tools to make their classes interesting and informative.

Marge was raised during the depression with three brothers and a sister. Everyone, except her, went to college, but the money for college was not to be found for her education. This was always a sore point with her. When she was 40 years old she entered Trenton Teacher's College and during the next 10 years (yes, 10) Mother took courses and one by one finally had the necessary credits for her Bachelor of Arts Degree. She and our father were thrilled – we were too. Now, she was fully employed until her retirement. She utilized her skills to increase her development in the area of Christian education.

After her husband died, Marjorie decided it was time to move into the Pitman Manor. Once settled and with her customary energy, she began directing the choir in the Manor. Over time the choir developed into a membership of 30 strong with many requests to sing throughout the conference. She was always looking for men to join the choir, so every man who moved into the Manor would receive a visit from her with a quiet inquiry as to whether he had been a choir member in his church choir. She selected a fabric incorporating musical notes and made ties for each of the male choir members.

Marjorie served as secretary for the Manor's resident board and eventually became the president in addition to president of the conference board for the NJ retirement residences. Each week she would go to the nursing section of the Manor and lead a Scripture meditation for the residents. Like everything else she did, her preparation was extensive and the residents were appreciative of these meetings. With the choir rehearsals, meditations, and conference work, Marge was never disinterested in life. Additionally, she and another minister's widow published "The Echo", the retired minister's newsletter for some time. In the Pitman Manor's library, her review of a new book would be prominently displayed.

Marge had a wonderful hand with embroidery and sewing. She made most of the dresses she wore, as were the matching bow ties for Stan. She hand embroidered many beautiful types of linen for her family and taught her daughter and granddaughter how to cook beautiful pies and traditional recipes.

Marge always said she wanted to "be useful". A few months before she died at 92 she said, "I don't think there is much point to going on if I'm not going to be useful". And to her, useful was serving the Lord Jesus Christ in whatever capacity offered to her. Stan would have said, "Well done thou good and faithful servant."

Marge is survived by: daughter, Geraldine McCleave; sons Daniel McCleave and Stan McCleave; and five grandchildren.

Interment: Unknown

Submitted by: Geraldine McCleave

ROBERT E. MELONEY
March 12, 1922 – November 14, 2008
and
MARGUERITE (GRETCHEN) E. MELONEY
April 12, 1918 – January 21, 2009

Reverend Robert E. Meloney, along with his wife Gretchen, served 5 communities of faith in the Northern New Jersey Conference. Throughout his ministry of 38-years, the United Methodist churches in Green Village, Boonton, Mount Tabor, Dumont, and Denville were lovingly called home. Together with Gretchen, they were a team of faithful stewards of Jesus Christ.

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Bob and Gretchen never left their home state of New Jersey. Bob, raised in Princeton, served as a Marine during World War II. He attended Drew University where he received his B.A. from Brothers College. After graduating from Drew University, he was ordained a United Methodist Minister in 1950.

Gretchen was raised in Bayonne, and returned there after her graduation from Duke University in 1940. A chance meeting on the naval base in Bayonne, where both she and Bob assisted the base chaplain in worship services, began their faith journey as a couple.

Almost 63 years of marriage brought them the joy and happiness of life in their churches and with their two children. Over time the family grew to two children with spouses and the true delight of their lives, four grandchildren. When not involved in church activities, Bob and Gretchen enjoyed over 50 years of summers in their second home state of New Hampshire. In this glorious place they loved so much, surrounded by God's everlasting beauty, Bob and Gretchen will find their eternal rest.

Bob and Gretchen are survived by: daughter, Meredith Olver and husband Clark and children Caitlin and Megan Olver; son, Kirk Meloney and wife, Jean and children Nathan and Laura Meloney.

Interment: Moultonborough, NH

Submitted by: Meredith Olver

MARY KATHARINE MORRIS

May 23, 1923 – March 1, 2008

Mary Katharine Morris was born in Brooklyn, NY, the daughter of Gilbert Eugene Ault and Helen Constance (nee Barker) Ault. She lived in Brooklyn until December 1933 when the family moved to Teaneck, NJ. She graduated from Teaneck High School in 1941 and attended college at the University of Rochester in Rochester, NY, where she majored in Physics and graduated in 1945.

My mom then went to work for Bell Laboratories in New York City for five years where she met my dad, Charles M. Morris. They were married on July 22,1950 at the Hackensack Congregational Church. After my parents married, my mom stopped working at Bell Laboratories to concentrate on raising children, homemaking, and volunteer work.

My mom moved to East Orange after her wedding and joined Calvary Methodist Church in November 1950. Mom and dad moved to Millburn in June 1953. Mom was active with the Brownies and the Girl Scouts in Millburn as well as Circle Seven at Calvary Church; she also served as vice-president of the Women's Society for Christian Service (now United Methodist Women) for 2 years in the 1960's. She became president of WSCS in 1972 and was president as the name changed from WSCS to UMW. She served as president through 1975 and then became secretary for many years except for a two-year period where she served as president once again. She also served as UMW treasurer for one year.

My mom became even more active in the church following my dad's death in August, 1972. She became Church Financial Secretary, a post she held until about two years ago. She also worked in the church office as Church Secretary in the fall of 1973. She held this paid position until 1998. She also served on various committees.

Mom became active in the Conference. She started attending the School of Christian Mission in the 1960's and first went to Annual Conference around 1970 as a reserve lay member from Calvary United Methodist Church

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and served in that capacity through 1982 (in 1974, Calvary UMC and Roseville UMC merged to become Calvary-Roseville UMC). Since 1983, she served as an additional (or equalizing) lay member to Annual Conference in the former Northern New Jersey Conference and the current Greater New Jersey Conference. She also served for many years on the Conference Board of Pensions (including several years as secretary) and the Conference Health Insurance Plan (including several years as chairperson) in the former Northern NJ Conference. She also was a member of the School of Christian Mission Committee for more than 30 years and served as secretary for eight years in the late 1970's and 1980's. At the time of her death, she was serving on the Gateway North District Board of Ordained Ministry.

My mom truly enjoyed serving God and others through church. She is survived by her daughter, Constance E. (Conni) Schuster and son-in-law Stephen E. (Steve) Schuster, and son, Gilbert E. (Bert) Morris. She is also survived by two sisters, Dorothy Stone and her husband, the Rev. William Stone, and Ruth Hadley and her husband, Dr. David Hadley, and by one brother, Wilbur Ault and his wife Elizabeth Ault.

To sum up my mom's life, this phrase fits her life very well, "Well done good and faithful servant".

Submitted by: Gilbert E. (Bert) Morris

KATHRYN MANESS NELSON
December 27, 1912 – October 12, 2008

Kathryn Nelson, widow of the Rev. Otto Nelson, died on Sunday, October 12, 2008 in Rome, GA. Graveside services were held at College Park Cemetery in College Park, Georgia on October 15, 2008.

(No memoir was received at the time of publication)

MARGUERITE W. ODENWELDER
May 14, 1916 – February 9, 2009

Marguerite Odenwelder, widow of the Rev. Mark Odenwelder, Elder of the former Northern NJ Annual Conference, died on February 9, 2009 in Heath Village, Washington Township, NJ.

(No memoir was received at the time of publication)

NATHANIEL PARKER
May 1, 1938 – January 24, 2009

Nathaniel Parker was born again on March 23, 1977, and from that time on, he began to hunger and thirst after righteousness. While reading the Bible, Nat found this Scripture that said "without faith it is impossible to please God, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6). Nat's faith grew and he did please God. Whenever an opportunity presented itself, Nat would stand up for Jesus. He loved sharing Jesus one-on-one with others.

Nat retired in June of 2008 after serving over twenty years at the Venice Park UMC, and then after four days of retirement, he accepted a charge at the Macedonia UMC.

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Nat did it his way, and he loved serving God and helping others to grow spiritually.

Nat will be missed by his wife, Eugenia T. Parker; daughter, Renee Parker Gregory; son, Nathaniel Todd Parker; granddaughter, Jordan Gregory and grandson, Ronald Gregory.

Interment: Egg Harbor Cemetery, Egg Harbor City, NJ

Submitted by: Eugenia T. Parker

PAUL WESLEY PEDRICK
April 1, 1938 – May 30, 2008

Paul Pedrick was born April 1, 1938. He graduated from Millville Senior High School, then Eastern College, and then Palmer Seminary.

His ministry spanned 50 years of service as a pastor, chaplain, musician and evangelist. He served the Minotola Harmony Circuit, Cumberland and Port Elizabeth Churches, Laurel Hill UMC in Bridgeton, Newfield UMC, and West Side UMC. Paul was supervisor of Chaplaincy Services at Bayside State Prison, Leesburg for 25 years when he retired. He became an evangelist with the Francis Asbury Society in Wilmore, KY. Paul was also known as president of Malaga Camp for 30 years.

Paul was a musician and he played alto saxophone in the U.S Navy Band in Washington, DC. He also loved to travel to foreign places and visited the Holy Land twice, The Congo, and India.

Paul is survived by: his wife, Martha Jane Pedrick; daughter, Ruth Joy Sullivan; and granddaughters Alexi Joy and Randi Dru Sullivan.

Interment: Friendship UMC Cemetery, Landisville, NJ

Submitted by: M. Jane Pedrick

JOYCE E. PERRY
February 5, 1946 – July 28, 2008

So, so many lives touched by you, God's Perpetual Light, ever shining through.

Joyce Elizabeth (nee Davis) Perry was born on February 5, 1946, to the late Bessie L. and James Davis in Lamberton, PA. She attended the public schools of German Township, Fayette County, participating in sports, music, playing French horn and singing soprano, while also being academically successful. Her church singing began at an early age as a member of John Wesley AME Zion Church in Uniontown, PA.

Upon graduating from high school in 1964, Joyce moved to Brooklyn, NY and joined the United Methodist UMC in Bushwick. She sang in their great Chancel Choir, directed the Cherub Choir, sang in the Bushwick Trio, and worked as church secretary for some time. Married to Frank in 1968, she had three daughters, Sharese, Joselyn, and Angela. As a member of the United Methodist Women, she began her work in numerous positions on the local, district and New York Conference levels. She became a Lay Speaker and attended seminary at night, all while raising a family and working.

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In 1992, the family moved to Willingboro, NJ, where Joyce found and became a member of The Church of the Good Shepherd UMC. Here she continued her service to the Lord, worked in several capacities in the church, and of course continued her work in the United Methodist Women, again holding positions on the local, district and conference levels in New Jersey.

Joyce served as President of the UMW at Good Shepherd, Assistant Dean, and later, Dean of the UMW Cooperative School of Christian Mission. Being an advocate of nurturing and educating children, Joyce was employed by the Willingboro School District. She also served in other community organizations such as the education associations of Willingboro (WEA), Burlington County (BCEA), and was a delegate to the National Education Association (NEA) Annual Convention, which she had just attended prior to her illness and subsequent death. Joyce belonged to more organizations, too numerous to mention here, not just being a member, but also working endlessly and tirelessly in them. She believed in using and sharing all the God-given talents she possessed as a part of the tithe, and giving back to the community.

Sorely missed by many who knew her, Joyce leaves sisters: Maxine Walton and Mary Davis; brothers Richard (Margaret) and Warren (Victoria); many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, sisters and brothers-in-law, many friends, coworkers, and associates; husband, Frank Joseph Perry; three daughters: Sharese J., Jocelyn A. and Angela E.; and one grandson, the love of her life, Zayvion Landim Lawton.

Interment: Brig. Gen. William C. Doyle Veterans Cemetery, Wrightstown, NJ

Submitted by: Frank J. Perry

WILLIAM WALLACE POYNTER

May 19, 1925 – October 31, 2008

The Reverend W. Wallace Poynter, Retired Elder of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, died on October 31, 2008 in Fargo, ND. A family memorial service was held in Fort Pierce, Florida.

(No memoir was received at the time of publication)

WILMA J. QUANTRILLE

February 26, 1934 – March 23, 2009

The Reverend Wilma J. Quantrille, Retired Elder of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, died on March 23, 2009. A Memorial Service was held May 16, 2009 at the Trinity Episcopal Church in Princeton, NJ.

(No memoir was received at the time of publication)

RICHARD SCHIERMEYER

July 9, 1927 – October 14, 2008

Richard Schiermeyer, born July 9, 1927, was a graduate of Bound Brook High School (1944) and of Rutgers Prep School. He also attended Rutgers University.

Dick served in the US Navy at the end of World War II, and in the Korean War. He was an aircraft machinist's mate on the carrier, Essex (1950-1954).

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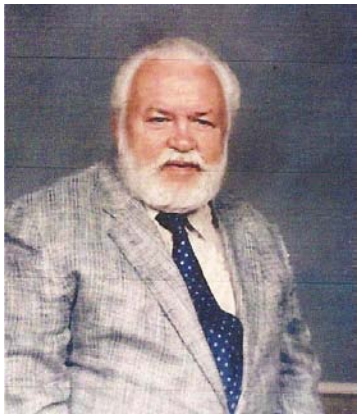
Beginning 1946 until his retirement in 1985, Dick worked for Union Carbide Corporation, first in the chemistry lab, then as Department Manager in the plastics division. He wrote two manuals on extrusion of plastics.



Always a family man, Dick and his wife Rev. Geraldine Schiermeyer were married 53 years, during which time they did a lot of camping with their children, Lee Ann and Kip.

Dick had many other hobbies. His favorite was fishing – and he was good at it. He was adept at woodworking and he made many pieces of fine furniture. Another hobby he loved was gardening. He started many seedlings, but his favorite flower was the iris. In his later years he made jewelry for the women of the family. In grocery stores, young children often thought Dick was Santa Claus, and at Christmas, Dick loved playing Santa.

Dick is survived by his wife, Geraldine; daughter, Lee Ann Anderson; son, Richard K. Schiermeyer. Despite illness in his last years, Dick was thankful for his family, especially Lee and Kip and six grandchildren, in whom he delighted and of whom he was very proud.

Interment: Bound Brook Cemetery, Bound Brook, NJ

Submitted by: Geraldine Schiermeyer

JEAN E. STADNICK
June 8, 1932 – February 5, 2008

Jean Stadnick was the lay member to conference from Ewan UMC, Ewan, NJ. She very much enjoyed attending church. It was an important part of her life. She made friends there and loved them like family. Jean enjoyed being part of a team that was guided by Christian faith and she enjoyed the fellowship. She gave time and talents that all churches need to grow and remain vibrant.

During her last few months, Jean was not well enough to attend church so her church came to her. She would receive letters, cards, phone calls and visits almost everyday. She felt she was blessed to have so many people who cared about her. Faith was there for her during one of the most difficult times, and as God has promised, it eased her pain and fear.

Jean is survived by her daughter, Mary Jean Fries, and son William Stadnick, Jr., and four grandchildren: Cheryl, Kristan, Allison and Bill.

Submitted by: Mary Jean Fries

ELIZABETH H. STRUDWICK
May 13, 1916 – May 1, 2008

Elizabeth (Betty) H. Strudwick, 91, of Port Orange, FL (formerly of Green Creek, NJ) passed away May 1, 2008 at her Port Orange residence.

Betty was born in Wellsville, NY, to Minerva (Minnie Morgan) and Walter Hollenbeck and grew up in Philadelphia, PA. She received her RN Nursing degree from the Germantown Dispensary School of Nursing, Philadelphia,

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PA. She was also an accomplished pianist and organist, and for many years served several churches in this capacity with her husband, the former Rev. Frederick W. Strudwick, who was a minister with the United Methodist Church. Most recently, Betty served as organist and choir director at Bethel United Methodist Church, Green Creek, NJ, retiring in 2002. She was an excellent Bible teacher, an avid reader, and enjoyed working with crafts. She relocated to Florida in 2003, where she resided with her daughter.

Betty was preceded in death by her husband; her son, Robert F. Strudwick; her mother and father; and her brother, Robert Hollenbeck. She is survived by her two daughters, Ruth S. Erickson of Port Orange, FL, and Elizabeth A. (Edward A.) O'Sullivan of Palm City, FL; and two grandchildren, Christian S. Erickson and S. Austin Strudwick.

Interment: White Marsh Memorial Park, Ambler, PA

Submitted by: Ruth Erickson

ROBERT L. STURDIVANT
December 1, 1929 – January 12, 2009

Robert Lee (Bob) Sturdivant died on Monday, January 12, 2009 surrounded by loving family and friends at his home in Chapel Hill, NC after an extended battle with cancer. He was 79.

Bob was born on December 1, 1929 in Cary, NC. He was the son of Annie Mann and L. Edward Sturdivant. He graduated from Cary High School and attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He served in the US Navy in the Pacific area during the Korean War before receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree from Long Beach (Calif.) State College. He was married there to his first wife, Meredith Geer.

He worked for 17 years at Congoleum Corporation in Kearny, NJ beginning as a salesman and working his way up to president of the resilient flooring division of the international floor covering company in 1976. After Congoleum was bought out in the late 1970's, Bob worked as a business consultant, director of alumni affairs at Drew University in Madison, NJ, and for Mid-State Tile in Lexington, NC.

Bob was married to Nancy Turner in 1965 and they began their married life in Maplewood, NJ, where he served on the Board of Trustees at Morrow Memorial UMC and was active in many other capacities while a member there. He was an avid reader with a quick wit and was a lover of music, especially jazz, blues and folk songs. He was a loving father and husband. As a clergy spouse he supported and gave much needed encouragement to his wife who served as pastor in both New Jersey and North Carolina.

Bob is survived by his wife of 43 years, Nancy T. Sturdivant; a brother, Joe Sturdivant of Cary, NC, and wife Edna Earle; three children, son Joseph Sturdivant of Haiku, Hawaii and wife Suzy; son James Sturdivant of Haverford, PA and wife Stephanie; daughter Elizabeth Sturdivant of Chapel Hill, NC; as well as two grandchildren, Maxwell and Eva, of Haverford, PA, and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

A memorial service was held on January 17, 2009 at the First United Methodist Church in Cary, NC.

Interment: Private

Submitted by: Nancy T. Sturdivant

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EDGAR C. THOMAS, JR.

Edgar Thomas, husband of the Reverend Clara E. Thomas, Retired Deacon of the Greater New Jersey Conference, died on February 17, 2009.

Edgar Thomas is the retired Chief School Administrator for the East Windsor Regional School District (1980-1992). He held various positions in the school district for over 40 years, beginning as the Hightstown High School music teacher, where he touched the lives of many teachers and students. He also held various positions at Westminster Choir College. He graduated from West Chester University, PA with a B.S. in Music Education, and from Rutgers University with an Ed.M. in School administration, and an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction. He was a Bandsman in the Army Air Force, an Ordained Elder and Choirmaster of the Chancel Choir of the First Presbyterian Church of Hightstown, Secretary and Song Leader in the New Jersey Schoolmasters Club, Chairman of the Mayor's Cannon Monument Committee of the Borough of Hightstown, Chairman of the Hightstown-East Windsor 250th Anniversary Celebration, Founder and Conductor of the Hightstown-East Windsor Community Band, Director of the Meadow Lakes Village Sunday Hymn Service, Organizer and member of the East Windsor School Orchestra, Trustee of the Hightstown-East Windsor Historical Society, Member of the Commission on Higher Education of the United Methodist Church Southern New Jersey Conference, and a member of The New Jersey Association of School Administrators, American Association of School Administrators, National Association of Elementary School Principals, National Council on Year-Round Education, Phi Delta Kappa, Horace Mann Society, and The Coterie of Hightstown.

He is predeceased by his parents, Edgar, Sr. and Helen Thomas; his first wife June D. Thomas; and his great-granddaughter Nyah Vargas. He is survived by his wife, Clara Thomas; brother David Thomas; three daughters and sons-in-law, Suzanne and Clark Hutchinson, Pamella and Tony Screws, and Elizabeth and Keith Jackson; five grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; two step-daughters; two step-grandchildren.

Interment: Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hightstown, NJ

Obituary from *The Trenton Times*, February 19, 2009

EDNA VON DREELE

October 23, 1915 – June 12, 2008

Edna was born in Newark, NJ on October 23, 1915. She attended Roseville Methodist in Newark, NJ. Edna married Herbert von Dreele on June 26, 1937.

Edna served in many areas of the church. She was a church school teacher, Wesleyan Service Guild president, spiritual growth secretary of the Women's Society of Christian Service, and a leader for the Girl Scouts. She was a Girl Scout for fifty years. She later became district officer of the United Methodist Women and president of the Conference Minister's Wives Association.

In 1952 Edna and Herb were encouraged by their pastor to take the examination for a local preacher's license, and enrolled in the Conference of Study, which was given by correspondence. She received her local preacher's license and in 1972 was asked to pastor a small church in West Portal. She met with the congregation and returned home, sure that God had answered her prayer. Edna served as pastor of the church from 1972 until 1977. In June 1977, she was appointed as a full-time pastor at Grace United Methodist Church in Plainfield. Edna was ordained as a deacon in 1976, completed the course of study in 1977 and retired in 1981.

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Under the *Discipline* of the United Methodist Church, local pastors have never been permitted to vote at sessions of the annual conference. At the 1979 session of the Northern New Jersey Annual Conference, Edna asked the conference to petition the upcoming General Conference of 1980 to amend the *Discipline* to permit voting rights at annual conference for local pastors appointed to a local church pastorate. Her petition was approved by the annual and general conferences and the change in the *Discipline* was effected.

Edna moved to the Masonic Home of New Jersey in November 1999 and while there, she led Bible studies and wrote over 100 poems. She resided there until her death on June 12, 2008.

Edna is survived by two daughters: Patricia M. von Dreele Seeley and Marilyn R. von Dreele Ostrander. She had five grandchildren: Scott Ostrander, Craig Ostrander, Jill Ostrander Yellen, Karin Seeley and Kim Seeley. Edna also had six great-grandchildren: Logan Ostrander, Kendalyn Ostrander, Curtis Ostrander, Austin Yellen, Jared Yellen and Kayla Yellen.

Interment: Restland Memorial Cemetery, East Hanover, NJ

Submitted by: Marilyn Ostrander

WILLIAM L. WELLER

August 14, 1919 – December 6, 2008

Bill Weller was born in Guthrie Center, IA, and came to New Jersey as a boy, when his dad became a resident engineer for the Burlington Bristol Bridge. His family moved to Somers Point when his dad became the resident engineer for the bridge from Somers Point to Ocean City.

Bill graduated from Ocean City High School and soon thereafter, his family moved to Merchantville. Bill attended Drexel University and graduated in 1941. He and his family had been attending Trinity United Methodist Church in Merchantville, where they became active members.

Following his graduation Bill moved to Maryland to work for the Glen L. Martin Co., an aircraft company. He married Shirley and they had one son. He was then commissioned into the U.S. Navy. At the end of WWII, he and his family made their home in New Jersey.

Bill took a position with the Piasecki Helicopter Co., later known as Vertol, after which a merger took place with the Boeing Co. He was project engineer for several of the well known helicopters.

Bill was active in the life of Trinity UMC. He served in a number of capacities – church school superintendent, Sunday school teacher of a class of boys and later a senior's class. He also served as Lay Leader before taking on conference responsibilities such as chair of several committees, Council on Ministries chair, and Conference Lay Leader, a role that he humbly felt honored to fill.

Bill served as a delegate to Jurisdictional and General Conferences several times. These responsibilities he assumed with a prayerful attitude. He served as Trinity's Lay Member until he was no longer able to do so.

Bill was active in Trinity's Boy Scout Troop 119. He served on its committee.

After 37 years in the helicopter designing field, he retired. Still serving, Bill and his wife delivered Meals on Wheels and sang with Pennsauken's AARP chorus, which entertained retirement homes and health care

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facilities. He loved sports and was an avid attendee of this grandson Chris' baseball games. Chris was the only close grandchild.

Bill and Shirley moved to the Wiley Retirement Community in 1996, still active in the work at Trinity and volunteering until the Lord said, "It is time to slow down."

Bill spent his last couple of years in Bible study, still volunteering and in the summer, he worked in his vegetable garden, always happy to share his tomatoes, green beans, peppers and cucumbers. Bill was always giving of himself until his Heavenly Father called him home.

Bill is survived by: wife, Shirley; three sons, Lee (wife, Mary Lou), Craig (wife, Cynthia), Gary (wife, Susan); seven grandchildren, Jim, Amy, Anna, Stephen, Todd, Jeff, Chris; and four great-grandchildren, Kathryn, Natasha, Melissa, and Joshua.

Interment: Eglington Cemetery, Clarksboro, NJ

Submitted by: Shirley Weller

EDNA B. WHITE
January 12, 1927 - February 19, 2009

Edna B. White, age 82 of Woodstown, NJ died Thursday, February 19, 2009 in Elmer Hospital.

Born in Reading, PA and raised in Trenton, she was the daughter of the late Herman & Ada (Burroughs) Bastian.

She and her husband, the late Rev. John N. White, moved to Woodstown in 1961 when he was appointed pastor of Asbury UMC in Woodstown. She retired in 1989 as administrator of the Snelbaker home in Woodstown after 26 years of service. After her retirement, she moved to Friends Home where she served as the president of the resident's council. She enjoyed music and had been a member of her church's choir; she also loved to crochet and read mysteries.

Mrs. White is survived by her niece, Bertha M. Howard and her nephews, Richard Eager and Donald Bastian. She is also survived by her stepsons, J. Norman White and Donald R. White, her stepdaughter, M. Grace Whidden, and their families, and many dear local friends.

In addition to her parents and husband, she is predeceased by her nephew, George R. Bastian, Jr.

Obituary from *Today's Sunbeam* of Salem County, NJ - February 22, 2009

DAVID A. WILSON, JR.
July 6, 1912 – January 8, 2009

Rev. David A. Wilson, Jr. died January 8, 2009 at the age of 96. He was a resident of the Fountains at Cedar Parke in Atco, NJ, formerly of Cherry Hill, NJ.

Rev. Wilson was born in Philadelphia in 1912, the son of David A. Wilson and Clara A. Rockett. He grew up in Berlin, NJ, was a graduate of Haddon Heights High School (1930), Dickenson College (1934), and received his S.T.B. from the Temple School of Theology.

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Rev. Wilson was a full member of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference and during his 45- year career served pastorates in Navesink, Quinton, Island Heights, Tuckerton, Pennsville, Keyport, Wenonah, Haddonfield, and Milltown. He was appointed in 1965 as the Director of Administrative Services and Treasurer of the Conference and retired from that post in 1981. Rev. Wilson was an exempt volunteer fireman, a member of the F&AM Blue Lodge, a 32nd Degree Mason of the Excelsior Consistory A.A.S.R. Valley of Camden, Union League member, and charter president of the lower Penns Neck Rotary.

Rev. Wilson is predeceased by a son, David A. Wilson III. He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Esther S. Wilson (nee Stone) of Atco, NJ; a son, Robert S. (Deborah) Wilson of Dagsboro, DE; four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Interment: Haddonfield Baptist Cemetery, Haddonfield, NJ

Submitted by: Robert S. Wilson

LORRAINE C. WOODWARD
November 23, 1940 – November 9, 2008

In Matthew 22:30, we learn that the resurrected to Heaven are like angels of God. To many people here on this earth, Lorraine Woodward was like an angel of God. She was blessed to leave her temporary home on earth and gleefully gaze into the face of her Lord on November 9, 2008.

Lorraine was born in Bloomsburg, NJ on November 23, 1940. She moved to Salem, NJ in 1996, with her husband to serve in ministry as a pastor's wife. She leaves many a sorrowful heart behind to mourn her leaving, yet there is great rejoicing that her victory has been won! As Lorraine journeyed along the pathways of life, she left behind a trail of love and caring that continually glorifies Jesus. She truly was a living testimony of faith, hope and love.

When Lorraine was not busy serving her Lord or His Church, her favorite pastime was her garden. She loved to raise a wide variety of flowers and herbs and the garden was a sight to behold from early spring until the frost took its toll, which never failed to cause her grief. She also was an accomplished artist, except in her own eyes. Her love for her Kitty Kats was all but legendary and as each one passed she mourned for weeks. Only Lily remains to mourn for Lorraine. Her failing health in these past couple of years has hindered her from much of what she loved to do, but she never stopped praying every day for her many precious family members and dear friends.

She was the beloved wife of the Rev. Emerson T. Woodward Jr.; devoted mother of Jeffrey Young of Montoursville; and Susan Devine of Espy; stepmother of Wanda Gilley, Emerson T. Woodward II, Karen Brown, and George Woodward; sister-in-law of Shirley Miller; grandmother of 16, and one great-granddaughter. She is also survived by niece, Jennifer Rudrow; and nephew, Matt Miller.

Interment: Hillside Cemetery, Catawissa, NJ

Submitted by: Emerson Woodward

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