

X. MEMOIRS

A. Associates Members

1. Active

None

2. Retired

None

B. Provisional Members

1. Active

None

2. Retired

None

C. Members in Full Connection

1. Active



JEFFREY L. REESE – Born September 26, 1953. Rev. Reese served 1991 Red Bird Mission and Thousandsticks UMC, Red Bird, KY; 1993 Edwardsburg; 1996 Adamsville; 1996 Edwardsburg: Hope. January 1, 2017 Medical Leave. Died March 8, 2018.

Jeff Reese lived a full life. He was an engineer, owned multiple businesses, consulted in engineering and for churches, as well as being a pastor. He grew up in New Castle, PA, where life revolved around Wesleyan beliefs and the activities of the King's Chapel UMC. His schooling at General Motors Institute in Flint brought him to Michigan and his partnership in business brought him to Sister Lakes, where he met and married Carin (Gould). Jeff and Carin helped found the mid-Michigan Chrysalis Community and served at Red Bird Mission in Kentucky, where Jeff preached in the mountain churches and attended the Appalachian Local Pastor's School (ALPS). He served for 24 years at Hope United Methodist Church in Edwardsburg, MI. Of his many accomplishments in life, he was most proud of his family – daughter Caitlin and her husband Nate, and daughter Casey and her husband Aaron.

2. Retired



DENNIS G. BUWALDA – Born February 16, 1943. Rev. Buwalda served 1968 Adamsville; 1975 Berrien Springs; 1978 N Muskegon: Community; 1982 Holt; 1989 Lansing: Trinity; 1992 Grand Traverse District Superintendent; 1999 Development Director, United Methodist Foundation; 2008 Retired; in retirement, 2009 Lansing District Superintendent Interim. Died December 21, 2017.

Denny was a loving husband, father, and grandpa. He was a dedicated and tireless pastor, counselor, administrator, and leader who used his various skills in serving our Lord in many capacities during his 53 years in ministry. In his youth he wanted to become a baseball coach before being called to the ministry. But later in his ministry he created and founded Christian Athletic Camp where he could use his coaching skills. He enjoyed coaching congregations as well both as a pastor and district superintendent. His coaching skills later would be used as the director of new church development in encouraging and guiding new church pastors in Michigan and beyond. His last years were spent as a loan officer for the Michigan United Methodist Foundation. Throughout his life he reached thousands of people for Christ in his various leadership roles. His life made a difference. He is greatly missed, but we know his spirit is rejoicing with the angels.



JOHN E. CERMAK – Born January 4, 1934. Rev. Dr. Cermak served 1953 Battle Creek: Washington Hts; 1956 Appointed In Other Annual Conferences N.E. Co. Cont. Myricks/Dighton; 1959 Oakwood; 1966 Okemos Community Church; 1974 Sabbatical Leave; 1975 Okemos Community Church; 1987 Jackson: First; 1994 Retired. Died August 8, 2017.

John died at his home in Northport, Michigan. He enjoyed a long retirement with his wife Adele in the place he was always happiest. John graduated from Albion College and later Boston University School of Theology. He had the honor of sharing the commencement stage at Boston with Martin Luther King and enjoyed a casual relationship. John, along with Adele, served the Okemos Community Church for 21 years and later retired from Jackson First United Methodist Church. He and Adele retired to Northport in 1994 where Adele still resides. Those who knew John will remember him for his love of his apple orchard, hunting and fishing on the Leelanau peninsula as well as his service to the church.



LLOYD R. HANSEN – Born July 4, 1925. Rev. Hansen served 1950 Cloverdale (EUB); 1952 Galien (EUB); 1956 Capac (EUB); 1959 Three Rivers (EUB); 1960 Mendon (EUB); 1963 Benton Harbor: First (EUB); 1964 Mt. Pleasant (EUB); 1967 without appointment; 1969 Voluntary Location; 1973 Readmitted; 1973 Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation, Kitwe, Zambia, Africa; 1976 Scottville; 1980 Cedar Springs/East Nelson; 1983 West Mendon;

1987 Augusta: Fellowship; 1988 Retired. In retirement, 1990 Alto/Bowne Center; 1990 Lowell: Snow/Vergennes; 1994 Evangelical Seminary, Puerto Rico; 2002 Sand Lake/South Ensley. Died August 22, 2017.

I, Beth, lived 72 years with a man who truly believe that “He who knows to do good, and doesn’t do it, to him it is sin.” And so, he went about doing good. He was a thinker and a doer: a willing servant of his Lord. He was ever a loving husband and father. The world is a better place because he lived. His going was a release from Alzheimer’s and he is now resting in heaven and still singing God’s praises.



MILTON J. TENHAVE – Born May 30, 1925. Rev. TenHave served 1963 Climax; 1965 Mesick/Harrietta/Brethren; 1967 Evart; 1970 Galesburg; 1973 Bellevue/Kalamo; 1977 Alanson/Harbor Springs; 1979 Riverdale/Elwell; 1986 Munith/Pleasant Lake; Retired 1990. Died November 26, 2017.

Milton served his country in the United States Army during WWII. He farmed in Allegan County before becoming a schoolteacher in Allegan and Kent counties. Milton had been a pastor since 1961 serving in the West Michigan Conference until his “retirement” in 1990. He then went on to serve at Trinity U United Methodist Church in Zephyrhills, Florida, until 2009. As a husband, father, grandfather and friend he showed unconditional love and acceptance to everyone. Milton never knew a stranger and loved to share stories of how God had protected, blessed and guided him throughout his life. He was a longtime active member of the Eaton Rapids Holiness Camp Meeting Association. Milton is survived by his wife of almost 56 years, Mary, with whom he had 5 children.



KENNETH R. VAUGHT – Born July 9, 1931. Rev. Vaught served 1968 Hastings: Hope; 1983 Battle Creek: Christ; 1986 Leighton; 1991 Nashville; Retired 1994. In retirement, 1998-2011 Quimby. Died December 16, 2017.

Ken was born in Terre Haute, IN, the son of Elbert C. and Eula (Reid) Vaught. He attended Terre Haute Schools, and Indiana State University. Ken graduated from Indiana Central College (University of Indianapolis) and the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Naperville, IL (now Garrett-Evangelical Seminary). Ken married Helen Montgomery on August 26, 1955. They were blessed with 62 years of marriage. Ken loved people and enjoyed preaching and calling on people. Ken enjoyed music and could play both the piano and organ. He enjoyed watching sports and he had a wonderful sense of humor.

D. Deacons in Full Connection

1. Active

None

2. Retired

None

E. Local Pastors

1. Active

None

2. Retired

None

F. Diaconal Ministers

None

G. Clergy in good standing from another denomination

JOHN M. STERNER – Born November 5, 1942. Pastor Sterner served 2012 Colon; 2012 Burr Oak. Died January 28, 2018.

John grew up in the First Presbyterian Church of Flint. He and his siblings sang in the church choir. In his early 20s, he decided to actively follow God's lead and was ordained in Assemblies of God Church. He began as a youth pastor in Flint and served the congregations of several churches over the years. His ministries include Teen Challenge, Prison Ministry, Genesis Project, Fifth Sunday Fellowship, Theology of Tap and the Burr Oak Cantata. He joyfully served as pastor at Colon and Burr Oak United Methodist churches for five years.

H. Other Clergy

None

I. Missionaries

None

J. Missionaries Spouses

None

K. Deaconesses*None***L. Certified Candidate for Ordination***None***M. Clergy Spouses****MARDELLE BATES** – *Widow of Gerald R. Bates*

Born July 2, 1929 Died December 21, 2017

JOYCE J. BENNETT – *Wife of Leo (Bud) E. Bennett*

Born August 30, 1928 Died July 17, 2017

CATHERYN BOEHM – *Wife of James W. Boehm*

Born October 13, 1934 Died February 6, 2018

BRUCILLA BROYLES – *Widow of Merle D. Broyles*

Born December 9, 1917 Died December 4, 2016

MARTHA J. BURGESS – *Wife of Ray W. Burgess*

Born October 5, 1940 Died August 4, 2017

LEE (SAM) CABOT – *Husband of Roberta (Bobby) W. Cabot*

Born September 18, 1934 Died October 2, 2017

CHARLOTTE COURTER – *Widow of Wilbur E. Courter*

Born April 26, 1925 Died January 1, 2018

JOAN DOHERTY – *Widow of R. Paul Doherty*

Born July 8, 1939 Died January 5, 2018

FREDITH V. EASTON – *Widow of Clifford R. Somerville,
Widow of Walter S. Easton*

Born May 9, 1921 Died February 19, 2018

HELEN T. STASER – *Widow of Carl W. Staser*

Born March 8, 1928 Died March 11, 2018

ALICE G. VERMEULEN – *Wife of Bertram W. Vermeulen*

Born January 11, 1933 Died September 8, 2017

N. Child of the Parsonage**MARJORIE E. HANEY**

Born November 29, 1959. Died August 26, 2017. Parents Bev and George Lawton

O. Diaconal Ministers' Spouses*None***P. Lay Persons (Professionally Related to the Conference)****KAREN (KIP) BRUNSON**

Born February 15, 1934. Died April 16, 2018

BARBARA J. HENRY

Born May 13, 1934. Died February 17, 2018

LEAH SPRAGUE-FODOR

Born November 4, 1968. Died September 17, 2017

XI. ROLL OF THE DEAD

For Roll of Deceased prior to July 20, 1938, consult Minutes of 1938 and before
 For Roll of Deceased prior to June 12, 1967, consult Minutes of 1967 and before
 For Roll of Deceased prior to April 7, 1977, consult Minutes of 1977 and before
 For Roll of Deceased prior to June 2, 1986, consult Minutes of 1986 and before
 For Roll of Deceased prior to July 1, 1994, consult Minutes of 1994 and before
 For Roll of Deceased prior to July 1, 2005, consult Minutes of 2005 and before
 For Roll of Deceased prior to July 1, 2007, consult Minutes of 2014 and before
 For Roll of Deceased prior to July 1, 2015, consult Minutes of 2016 and before

Name	Date of Death	Place of Death	Age	Entered Reg. Ministry	Joined West Mich. Conference
David L. Miles	8/1/2015		76	1964	1967
Dwight M. Benner	9/25/2015	Beverly Hills MI	71		1970
David Yingling	12/10/2015	Marshall, MI	70		1972
Timothy J. Miller	12/27/2015	Wyoming, MI	59		1992
Joan K. Hamlin	3/6/2016	Holland, MI	84	1983	1984
Wesley E. Smith	3/30/2016	Grand Rapids, MI	86	1977	1981
Robert L. Pumfery	6/6/2016	Grand Junction MI	80	1965	1965
James A. Richie	6/14/2016	Newnan, GA	73	1994	2000
Elmer J. Faust	7/1/2016	Delton, MI	88	1954	1961
Stanley A. Finkbeiner	9/26/2016	Grand Rapids, MI	86	1970	1974
Robert W. Eckert	10/21/2016	Rockford, MI	62	2001	(PL)
Wilbur E. Courter	10/25/2016	Kalamazoo, MI	75	1967	1970
Dean I. Bailey	1/18/2017	Lowell, MI	81	1956	1958
Raymond R. Sundell	4/14/2017	Ionia, MI	60	1987	1993
David L. Crawford	4/15/2017	Grand Rapids, MI	89	1949	1950
Robert C. Smith	4/20/2017	Grand Rapids, MI	97	1940	1945
Charles William Martin	6/3/2017	Clare, MI	92	1948	1950
Mary L. Soderholm	6/10/2017	Harrisville, MI	70	1986	1986
John E. Cermak	8/8/2017	Northport, MI	83	1953	1957
Lloyd R. Hansen	8/22/2017	Grand Rapids, MI	92	1950	1968
Milton J. TenHave	11/26/2017	Clinton, IN	92	1961	1962
Kenneth R. Vaught	12/16/2017	Hastings, MI	86	1952	1968
Dennis G. Buwalda	12/21/2018	Holt, MI	74	1968	1968
Jeffrey L. Reese	3/8/2018	Wayland, MI	64	1991	2005



XII. HISTORICAL SESSIONS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

For information regarding previous sessions of the former Conferences of Evangelical United Brethren Church, refer to the Journal of the 107th Annual Session of the Michigan Conference (EUB) Pages 25 and 26 dated May 20-23, 1968.

For the Listing of previous Sessions of the West Michigan Annual Conference of the Methodist Church, please refer to the Journal of the West Michigan Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church Pages 240-241, dated June 12-15, 1974. (Note: Session no. 28 in 1996 refers to the 28th session of the United Methodist Church, as formed with the merger of the Methodist and EUB churches in 1968.)

No.	Date Began	Place	Bishop	Secretary
133	June 4, 1968	Albion, MI	Dwight E. Loder	H. A. Kirchenbauer
134	June 18, 1969	Albion, MI	Dwight E. Loder	H. A. Kirchenbauer
135	June 18, 1970	Albion, MI	Dwight E. Loder	H. A. Kirchenbauer
136	June 17, 1971	Albion, MI	Dwight E. Loder	H. A. Kirchenbauer
137	June 14, 1972	Albion, MI	Dwight E. Loder	L. R. Taylor
138	June 13, 1973	Albion, MI	Dwight E. Loder	L. R. Taylor
139	June 12, 1974	Albion, MI	Dwight E. Loder	L. R. Taylor
140	June 11, 1975	Albion, MI	Dwight E. Loder	L. R. Taylor
141	June 9, 1976	Albion, MI	Dwight E. Loder	L. R. Taylor
142	June 2, 1977	Albion, MI	Edsel A. Ammons	L. R. Taylor
143	June 14, 1978	Albion, MI	Edsel A. Ammons	E. K. Eldred
144	June 13, 1979	Albion, MI	Thomas M. Pryor	E. K. Eldred
145	June 11, 1980	Albion, MI	Edsel A. Ammons	E. K. Eldred
146	June 10, 1981	Albion, MI	James S. Thomas	E. K. Eldred
147	June 9, 1982	Albion, MI	Edsel A. Ammons	E. K. Eldred
148	May 31, 1983	Albion, MI	Edsel A. Ammons	Paul E. Patterson
149	May 29, 1984	Albion, MI	Edsel A. Ammons	Paul E. Patterson
150	June 11, 1985	Albion, MI	Judith Craig	Paul E. Patterson
151	June 10, 1986	Albion, MI	Judith Craig	Paul E. Patterson
152	June 9, 1987	Albion, MI	Judith Craig	Paul E. Patterson
153	June 14, 1988	Albion, MI	Judith Craig	Ronald B. Grant
154	June 13, 1989	Albion, MI	Judith Craig	Ronald B. Grant
155	June 12, 1990	Albion, MI	Judith Craig	Ronald B. Grant
156	June 11, 1991	Albion, MI	Judith Craig	Ronald B. Grant
157	June 9, 1992	Albion, MI	Judith Craig	John H. Hice
158	June 15, 1993	Albion, MI	Donald A. Ott	John H. Hice
159	June 14, 1994	Albion, MI	Donald A. Ott	John H. Hice
160	June 13, 1995	Albion, MI	Donald A. Ott	John H. Hice
28	June 11, 1996	Albion, MI	Donald A. Ott	Gail L. Friedrick
29	June 10, 1997	Albion, MI	Donald A. Ott	Gail L. Friedrick
30	June 8, 1998	Grand Rapids, MI	Donald A. Ott	Gail L. Friedrick
31	June 2, 1999	Grand Rapids, MI	Donald A. Ott	William C. Johnson
32	June 1, 2000	Grand Rapids, MI	Donald A. Ott	William C. Johnson
33	May 31, 2001	Grand Rapids, MI	Linda Lee	William C. Johnson
34	May 31, 2002	Grand Rapids, MI	Linda Lee	William C. Johnson
35	June 6, 2003	Grand Rapids, MI	Linda Lee	William C. Johnson
36	June 3, 2004	Grand Rapids, MI	Linda Lee	William C. Johnson
37	June 2, 2005	Grand Rapids, MI	Jonathan D. Keaton	Kathryn S. Cadarette
38	June 1, 2006	Grand Rapids, MI	Jonathan D. Keaton	Kathryn S. Cadarette
39	May 31, 2007	Grand Rapids, MI	Jonathan D. Keaton	Laura B. Clark
40	June 5, 2008	Grand Rapids, MI	Jonathan D. Keaton	Laura B. Witkowski
41	June 4, 2009	Grand Rapids, MI	Jonathan D. Keaton	Laura B. Witkowski
42	June 3, 2010	Grand Rapids, MI	Jonathan D. Keaton	William W. Chu
43	June 1, 2011	Grand Rapids, MI	Jonathan D. Keaton	William W. Chu
44	June 6, 2012	Grand Rapids, MI	Jonathan D. Keaton	William W. Chu
45	May 29, 2013	Grand Rapids, MI	Deborah L. Kieseey	Greg Buchner
46	June 11, 2014	Grand Rapids, MI	Deborah L. Kieseey	Greg Buchner
47	June 4, 2015	Grand Rapids, MI	Deborah L. Kieseey	Greg Buchner
48	June 9, 2016	East Lansing, MI	Deborah L. Kieseey	Greg Buchner
49	June 1, 2017	Traverse City, MI	David A. Bard	Joy A. Barrett
50	May 31, 2018	Traverse City, MI	David A. Bard	Joy A. Barrett

PLAN OF ORGANIZATION – see **LEGISLATION**, page 154.

RULES OF ORDER – see **PLAN OF ORGANIZATION**, section § 5, page 186.

