

CLERGY

REV. DONALD L. BATES

Born July 16, 1923. Served 1949 Mayville; 1956 Macon; 1958 Flintstone, MD; 1962 Harrisville; 1969 Pontiac: Aldersgate, Elmwood; 1970 Sabbatical; 1971 Deerfield, Petersburg; 1976 Gladwin; 1984 Capac: First & Zion; Oct. 15, 1987 Memphis, Lamb; 1991 Retired. Died June 13, 2017.

REV. TERRY D. BUTTERS

Born October 16, 1947. Served 2001 (Church of the Brethren); 2001 Kingston, Deford; 2003 Kingston, Clifford; 2005 incapacity leave; 2013 Retired. Died September 10, 2017.

REV. EDWARD C. COLEY

Born December 16, 1925. Served 1950 Lane, TX; 1952 Leonard; 1953 Chaplain, Air Force; 1955 Trans. to Detroit Conf., Bessemer; 1956 Iron Mountain: Trinity; 1961 Detroit: St. Andrew's; 1968 Dearborn: Mt. Olivet; 1978 Trenton: Faith; 1984 Livonia: Newburg; 1988 Retired. In retirement, 1991-1996 Farmington: Orchard. Died June 27, 2017.

REV. OTTO F. FLACHSMANN

Born November 6, 1929. Served 1953 North Ewart, Brooks Corners; 1956 Scottsville; 1959 Bainbridge; 1964 Grant Center, Hersey; 1969 Pontiac: Baldwin Avenue; 1976 Davisburg; 1981 Capac: First, Zion; 1984 Fairgrove, Gilford; 1992 Retired. Died June 11, 2017. Otto's children were proud to have called Otto and Audrey their parents. As God plans "places" us in accordance to his plan, they are grateful. Through their Dad's (and Mom's) 39 years of ministry he kept focus on God's work and ministry in the Church and extended the same throughout the community. He would attend "city forums" in order to understand the dynamics of the area. And in several appointments, he was a Volunteer Fireman/Chaplain and was also a certified EMT. In retirement, He kept the ministerial element of his life active as well. He sang in the choir, baptized three granddaughters, was able to officiate two granddaughter marriages, and baptized three great-grandchildren. Sunday June 11, 2017. He was 87 years old.

REV. BONNIE M. FREY

Born October 1, 1940. Served 2006 Lulu; 2012 Retired. Died January 7, 2018. Pastor Bonnie was born in Oak Park, IL, the daughter of James and Violet (Holpuch) Myrick. She graduated from high school in Illinois. She went on to earn her bachelor's degree at Wayne State University, Detroit. She married Ken Frey. She was pastor of Lulu United Methodist Church, Ida, for 12 years. She Founded God's Work in 2000 and WINGS Mission in 2006 (voted #1 mission in Ann Arbor area in 2015). She loved to read the Bible, study the history of the Bible and loved helping the needy. Bonnie died January 7, 2018 at the age of 77.

REV. JOHN N. GRENFELL, JR.

Born December 27, 1930. Served 1952 Moravia; 1958 Mt. Horeb, WI; 1960 Trans. to Detroit Conf., Livonia; 1968 Port Huron: First; 1974 Marquette District Superintendent; 1980 Plymouth: First; 1993 Retired. John was born to the late John and Dorothy Grenfell in Detroit. He graduated from Cass Technical High School, Detroit and Vennard College, William Penn University and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. He served

United Methodist churches in Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan for 41 years and as District Superintendent on the Marquette District. In retirement he was camp director at Simpson Park Camp for seven years. One of the great joys of ministry was a six-week pulpit exchange in Truro, Cornwall, in 1986, which enabled him to visit remaining family members and experience the land of his father's birth. John was a man of strong conviction, deep faith and loyal commitments. His love of God, family and friends inspired many throughout his life. John died June 25, 2017.

REV. DR. RICHARD O. GRIFFITH

Born June 11, 1941. Served 1964 Finesville (N. NJ); 1965 East Rutherford: Carlton Hill (N. NJ); 1967 Smithtown, LI (assoc.); 1969 school (Detroit: Waterman, Campbell Avenue); 1970 Trans. to Detroit Conf., Detroit: Waterman, Campbell Avenue; 1972 Detroit: Fourteenth Ave., Preston; 1974 Greenfield; 1976 Managing Editor, Michigan Christian Advocate; 1979 Novi; 1984 Trenton: Faith; 1989 Belleville: First; 1991 Retired. Dick could not remember when he didn't want to be a minister. After graduating from Adrian College, he attended Drew Theological School where he earned a BA and his doctorate. He served churches in the inner-city and suburbia as well as being an editor for three years at the Michigan Christian Advocate. Upon retirement, he stayed active by working as an interim minister for several Presbyterian churches as they searched for permanent pastors. Toward the end of his life, he appreciated hearing from people whose lives he had touched. Dick died January 25, 2018.

REV. GEORGE A. LUCIANI

Born July 18, 1935. Served 1957 Ewen; 1960 Britton; 1962 Ingham Circuit; 1963 White Pine; 1968 Hancock; 1980 Ishpeming: Wesley; 1993 Sault Ste. Marie: Central, Algonquin; 1998 Retired. George accepted God's call to ministry in high school. He felt blessed to serve in his native Upper Peninsula. He loved people, music, laughter, and being a pastor. George loved his family deeply, including being married to Carolyn 61 years. He also loved working with youth. Many summers were spent at Camp Michigamme, where he found joy leading teens to Christ and helping them grow in their faith. He loved to travel and was able to visit nearly every continent, often in ministry. He enjoyed two stints as pastor in England, and he led several groups to Israel. George died January 10, 2018.

REV. MYLES LESTER (LES) MCCABE

Born August 14, 1929. Served 1988 Monroe: Frenchtown; 1990 Detroit: West Outer Drive, Livonia: Clarenceville; 1993 Retired. Les was born to Leona and George McCabe in Elkhart, KS. The family moved to Arkansas in 1930. They were poor, but, by his own account, Les had an idyllic childhood. After graduation from high school in 1943, Les joined the Navy and served in the South Pacific until 1945. Les and Billie Dean Wilson were married in Arkansas in 1947. They were blessed with four children, eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. They celebrated their 65th anniversary before Billie's passing in March 2012. Les' first vocation was in public education. In 32 years at Redford Union Schools he touched the lives of countless people with the grace of God that flowed through him. In 1986 Les retired and began a career as a United Methodist minister. Over the next several years he served Frenchtown, West Outer Drive and Clarenceville UMCs, all in the Detroit area. Les retired in 2006 but he never stopped ministering. His mission in life was to lead others to Christ. Les died February 24, 2018.

REV. DR. GILSON M. MILLER

Born October 23, 1947. Served 1973 Marquette: First; 1975 Rochester: St. Paul's; 1978 Kingston, Deford; 1983 Highland; 1992 Livonia: Newburg; 1997 Brighton: First; 2008 Retired. Gil was born in Lapeer, MI, to Donald and Joy Miller. He received a BS from Asbury University, a MDiv from Asbury Theological Seminary and a D. Min. from Drew University. Gil and Beth Ziegler were married in 1973. They have three children and six grandchildren. Hallmarks of Gil's ministry include: teaching small groups, leading adult mission trips in the US and abroad, youth, adult and family backpacking and camping trips and creating innovative drama and new worship services. Several times churches he served were granted the Church Growth Award. In 2010, Gil and Beth moved to the mountains of Utah. Gil became a full-time ski and snowboard instructor. He was the oldest to receive Adaptive Snowboard Instructor certification. Gil liked to say, "My ministry now is going downhill!" Gil crossed the threshold into eternity after three years of living with Mesothelioma and one lung, on April 25, 2018.

REV. GEORGE H. MORSE

Born April 13, 1930. Served 1991 Glennie, Curran: Sunnyside; 2000 Retired. George was born in Grand Rapids, MI, to Margaret (Bellamy) and George Morse. In the last semester of high school, he joined the U.S. Army and served five years in both Korea and Japan with seven months in combat. While yet in the Army, he passed his GED and first year of college. George was honorably discharged and received a Purple Heart. George graduated from Michigan State University in 1967, with a B.A. in Social Sciences, by taking advantage of the GI Bill. He married Lorna Kitch in 1964 and they raised six children. In 1983, George retired from the State of Michigan as a Youth Counselor at Boys Training School, Camp LaVictor and Camp Shawono. He was a licensed local pastor in The UMC, serving 10 years, and also worked as a substitute teacher at Grayling High School. He is survived by his wife, Lorna, of 53 years; 6 children, 18 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. George shared his caring spirit by serving in many humanitarian and community activities including Crawford County Arts Council, Crawford County Peace Seekers, Drum Circle at Mercy Manor, local theater productions, Red Cross Blood Bank volunteer, and many other worthy causes. George died February 2, 2018.

REV. DR. WILLIAM K. QUICK

Born May 20, 1933. Served 1953 Richmond: Broad Street; 1954 Camp Glenn Circuit, Morehead City; 1955 Bahama Circuit; 1959 Zebulon: First; 1963 Greenville: St. James; 1969 Durham: Trinity; 1974 Trans. To Detroit Conf., Detroit: Metropolitan; 1998 Retired. Bill was born in Marlboro county, eldest son of Douglas and Virginia Stubbs Quick. He attended Pfeiffer College, Randolph-Macon College and Duke University Divinity School. All three institutions have named him a "Distinguished Alumnus." He was awarded honorary doctorates from Pfeiffer College, Albion College and Union College. Bill was recruited by the Dean of Duke Divinity School to teach. For 15 years he taught classes in Leadership, Administration, Stewardship and Finance. He also taught for eight years in the Duke Course of Study, both weekend and summer. He preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ on every continent but Australia. He served the global Church in many capacities: Associate General Secretary of the World Methodist Council; coordinator of Partner Churches in Latvia and Lithuania; a delegate to six General and Jurisdictional Conferences and eight World Methodist Conferences. Dr. Quick was the keynote speaker for the 1991 World Methodist Conference, Singapore. In 1996 the World Methodist Council presented him its "Seat of Honor" during the General Confer-

ence, Denver. He is the author of *Signs of Our Times* (Abingdon, 1989) *The Past Speaks to the Future* (Abingdon, 1995), and *Good News from Detroit* (Morris, 1998). Dr. Quick is survived by his wife, Mary Levack Quick, 4 children, and 5 grandchildren. Bill died September 17, 2017.

REV. DARREL L. RICE

Born May 26, 1940. Served 1998 Livingston Circuit: Plainfield, Trinity; 2003 Retired. Born in Reading, MI, Darrel (known as "Skip" since early boyhood) became the first in his family to attend college. Service in the Air Force during the Vietnam War interrupted his years at Central Michigan University. Following Saigon, he returned to CMU, obtained his degree, married his wife Sue, and settled in Livingston County. Skip used that degree (and his subsequent Master's from MSU) for over 25 years as a biology and photography teacher at Brighton High School. During those years, Skip and Sue were blessed with a daughter and a son. While always active in his local United Methodist church, in the mid-1990s Skip felt called in to ministry. During his first year at Asbury Theological Seminary, an offer to pastor near his residence via the Local Pastor route resulted in his entry into preaching. Failing health resulted in his second retirement. His final years were blessed with the new role of "grandpa. Skip preached and lived the belief: "God is good ... all the time." Skip died August 4, 2017.

REV. DR. DAVID A. RUSSELL

Born April 13, 1933. Served 1966 Carleton; 1971 Ironwood; 1977 Oxford; 1985 St. Ignace; 1987 Garden City: First; 1990 Howell; 1997 Retired. David was born in Auburn, MA, to Charles and Reina (Mitchell) Russell. On July 1, 1955, he married Marjorie Carol Pierce in Worcester, MA, and together they would raise seven children. David earned a degree from Clark University, Worcester, and moved to Michigan in 1960, when his employer, Riley Stoker Co., transferred him. He then entered seminary to become a pastor. He spent 32 years serving the church until his retirement. He served the Owosso United Methodist Church for 20 years after his retirement as a member and a teacher. David was known as the Puzzler II because of making wooden jigsaw puzzles. He loved a good game of golf with his friends at Twin Brooks Golf Course in Chesaning. Rev. Russell is survived by his 7 children; 18 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. He died September 26, 2017.

REV. JAMES G. SIMMONS

Born March 28, 1928. Served 1951 Weston; 1952 Ridgeway, Wellsville; 1953 Towner (CO); Oct. 1953 Willoughby Hills (OH); 1953 Zion (OH); 1956 Clinton; 1959 Detroit: Strathmore; 1961 Ferndale: First; 1964 Detroit: Metropolitan; 1965 Hartland; 1966 Voluntary Location; 1968 Librarian, Adrian College; 1976 Linden; 1980 Hudson; 1984 Carleton; 1986 Chaplain, Chelsea Retirement Home; 1992 Retired. Husband, Father, Grandfather, Great Grandfather, Minister, Teacher, Counselor, Researcher, Preserver of History, Sharer of God's Word, Loved Others, Listener, sought first to understand and then to be understood. In one word: LOVE. His life work focused on service to others. He served his country in the US Navy. He was Chaplain for CRC and served as Archivist for The United Methodist Church Detroit Conference. His example was one of love. James passed away peacefully at his home in Chelsea Retirement Community on April 24, 2018. His loving wife, Charlotte, whom he married 68 years ago, survives him.

REV. CLARE M. TOSCH

Born April 21, 1924. Served 1948 Cloverdale, Maplegrove Circuit; 1950 Jackson: Francis Street, Zion; 1958 Blissfield, Ogden; 1963 Pigeon: Salem; 1968 Saginaw: West Michigan Ave.; 1973 Milan: Marble Memorial; 1983 Sanford; 1985 Cheboygan. Thoughtful, well-spoken, loyal, steadfast, jovial! As teens, Clare and his wife June felt God's calling for a life of full time Christian Ministry. During the 68 years together, Clare and June faithfully served in eight churches throughout 40 years of active service. Following his official retirement, he served as interim pastor to four area United Methodist churches. Clare had a lifelong passion for woodworking. He was well known among his family and friends for his fine craftsmanship. He left not only treasured pieces for them, but he also skillfully completed major woodworking projects for beautification of several of the churches that he served. Clare and June had three children, Carol, Jim and Karen. They rejoice in the assurance Clare and June are home with our Lord Jesus and hearing the words, "well done, my good and faithful servants." Clare died August 13, 2017.

REV. ROBERT K. TOWNLEY

Born March 30, 1933. Served 1956 Scottville (Phil. Conf.); 1960 Midland: First; 1972 Program Consultant for Religious Affairs, Clinton, Ingham and Eaton County Health Board Drug Program; 1977 Retired. Robert died August 29, 2017.

REV. DONALD A. WITTBRODT

Born April 3, 1926. Served 1954 Prescott, Alger; 1956 Gordonville; 1957 Emmanuel (Phil. Conf.); 1959 Hardy; 1961 Pontiac: First; 1962 Millington; 1965 Akron, Bethel; 1969 Ogden; 1972 sabbatical leave; 1977 leave of absence; 1978 Honorable Location; 1997 Honorable Location, Retired. Donald, raised as a Catholic, had a passion for singing and was drawn to the Methodist church as a teen. Working to pay his own way, Donald graduated from Asbury College, Wilmore, KY, in 1953. At Asbury he met his future bride, Mery Quiñones. They were married in February of 1956 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and honeymooned in Bariloche. Back in the states, Donald completed his Master of Divinity at Temple University School of Theology and served as a pastor from 1959 to 1984. Donald died October 14, 2017.

SPOUSES

MRS. CAROL BEEMER

Born January 14, 1935. Carol always cared about everyone. She was known for her hospitality and sending cards for everyone's birthday and any holidays. She always wrote thank-you notes for everything, too. She was very involved in her church at Owosso First sewing UGLI quilts for the homeless, on the board for the daycare, visiting the shut-ins, and many more. She loved her church family. She loved her family, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, sisters, cousins. Birthday and holiday dinners at her house were always the best. She loved decorating her house for each holiday and especially her tree that changed almost monthly. Carol was very giving and generous with her time, talents and finances. We always knew we were the most important thing in her life next to God. She would do anything for us. She helped us through the good times and bad. She always attended every sporting event and band competition when we were growing up and as many of our children's events as she could. She always had a big smile and that is how we remember her! Carol died November 13, 2017 joining her husband Rev. Richard Beemer in heaven.

MR. CARL BOUVIER

Born July 25, 1936. Died July 9, 2017.

MRS. PATRICIA SANFORD BROWN

Born December 13, 1931. Resident of Chelsea Retirement Community , B.A. Albion College 1953, Distinguished Alumna Award 1978. Virologist at Parke-Davis in Detroit during Dr. Salk's polio vaccine creation, married Tom Brown II in 1955. Detroit Conference: President Equitable Salaries 1975-79, National Board E.S. 1975-94, Treasurer 1984-94. President Michigan Ecumenical Forum 1983-86, United Methodist Women (WSCS) 1957-2018, Michigamme Methodist Family Camp lead family, 1968-1975, State President, Church Women United 1979-82. Pat's music: Albion College Choir 1953 and 2000-2004, Midland Chorale, Madrigal Choral of Detroit and National Association of Teachers of Singing. Our family has begun at Albion College the Sanford-Brown Family Memorial Endowed Scholarship for Music. Self-published 2 books: A Charge to Keep, 1959 and Seasons for Growing – Diaries of Lizzie Dravenstaat, 1992. Lived in Boston and Malden, MA, Dearborn, St. Clair Shores, River Rouge, Iron Mountain, Roseville, Hemlock, Warren, Flint, and Albion, MI. A caring, creative person, mother to Steven, Peter and Mary. Pat died February 26, 2018.

MRS. BLANCHE N. CHAPKO

Born February 4, 1921. Blanche was born in Allegan, MI, to Jay and Vena VanOrder. She married Stephen Chapko on September 4, 1943. They were married 50 years. He preceded her in death on November 5, 1993. She is survived by two daughters, two granddaughters and their spouses, and five great-grandchildren. Blanche died May 17, 2017

MRS. MARY E. CLAYTON

Born August 16, 1927. Mary died February 1, 2018.

MRS. NIDA DONAR

Born January 2, 1940. Nida's personal and career choices were greatly impacted by her lifelong passion for justice and her sense of calling to be an advocate for the disenfranchised and oppressed. The soul and center of Nida's life was love in action for others. Her love for her family was unconditional. She was a loving wife, best friend and co-conspirator with her husband of 37 years. The love Nida gave to her family she also brought to her work as an advocate standing with (not for) the oppressed. Whether organizing a chapter of Michigan Welfare Rights, as the executive director of Hunger Action Coalition, and Citizens for Better Care, or as an Adjunct Professor, Mentor Supervisor and Advocate for social work students at Wayne State, Nida confronted oppression wherever she found it but was never consumed by it. She embodied the Scripture "Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good." Nida died November 4, 2017.

MRS. LOIS LEINEKE

Born November 6, 1929. Lois was one who carried many different names or titles: wife, mother, grandmother, friend, and teacher. What sticks in our minds is her love for teaching. In early years it was helping her kids with schoolwork or teaching them piano. In later years she continued her love of teaching while working for the General Board of UMC Field and Finance. In retirement, she continued her passion of teaching by helping her five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. During an unpopular time in history she taught immigrants, documented or not, the English language. Lois was a spirited one who loved her Church and the ministries and missions of The UMC. She would always have a song for her kids so today her song would be "It Is Well with My Soul." Lois died November 15, 2017.

MRS. LOLA M. LOBB

Born April 17, 1928. Lola was raised in the Millington Methodist Church and invited Jesus into her heart as a child. She married Dick Lobb, her best friend and the love of her life, on November 19, 1949, six weeks before he started seminary. Rev. Lobb passed away in September of 2006. Lola felt called to share in ministry with her husband in all five of their churches, and in their work at Simpson Park Church Camp. She taught confirmation classes, countless Bible studies, was a youth group leader, and was active in the United Methodist Women. Her greatest ministry was to her three children, five grown grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. It brought her immense joy to know that all of the adults are committed Christians. Lola loved music, reading, old movies, old TV shows, studying the Bible, and praying for her family. She leaves a legacy of faith and love. Lola died December 7, 2017.

MRS. MARY L. MILLER

Born November 13, 1937. Kind and compassionate are two words that describe Mary. She was a blessing to everyone she encountered. A loving daughter, sister, wife, and mother, Mary was the epitome of living the Christian faith. Her character was impeccable and her accolades are endless. Certainly, she will be remembered as a woman of grace and beauty, but far more importantly, she will be forever revered for the exemplary life she led, and the clear example she provided for others to follow. Mary died January 10, 2018.

MRS. DORIS E. PARKIN

Born July 29, 1920. Doris was the wife of Rev. Arthur R. (Bud) Parkin. They were called to ministry while members of the Clarenceville Methodist Church led by Rev. Elsie Johns. Doris stood beside Bud, and sometimes behind him and in front of him: Whatever it took to help Bud fulfill his call and to be true to her own call as a beloved child of God. They served at the former Preston Church in Detroit (1959-1963); Whittemore and Hale when they were a two-point charge (1963-1972); and at Auburn (1972-1977). She was the mother of four, including Pastor Penny Parkin. Doris is best remembered as the person you wanted to contact when you or your situation were in need of prayer. She was a firm believer in the power of prayer and brought others to share that belief. Doris died December 1, 2016.

MR. FREDERICK A. SCHIPPERT

Born June 19, 1926. Wherever he lived – Detroit, Grosse Pointe Woods, Berlin, Germany, Mexico City, Forestville or Harbor Beach – Fred welcomed people into his home. When he walked down the road in Mexico, people would call out to him and wave him down because they knew he'd greet them warmly. While living in longterm care, Fred would quickly spot a new face and engage them in conversation, whether his new friend could talk or not. Fred loved life and shared that love through music, stories, planting trees and telling jokes. He was a beloved educator in the Detroit Public Schools, a hard-working volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, a naval officer during WWII, a member of the Odd Fellows, and a tireless worker in the church. Fred is survived by his soul-mate and wife of 30 years, Rev. Ellen Schippert, as well as six children and 12 grandchildren from his first marriage Fred died June 13, 2017.

MRS. MARY E. SECRIST

Born August 13, 1930. Mary Evelyn was a southern belle, born in Florida and raised in North Carolina. She attended Asbury College. She and Robert were married on graduation day and made their way to Maryland, where Robert would attend seminary and she would teach elementary education, devoting 21 years to teaching. In retirement, she enjoyed living in Fairfield Glade, TN. She was a member of the bell choir of the Glade United Methodist Church and a Koinonia group leader. For ten years she was the vice president of the Cumberland County Hospital volunteers in charge of recruiting and training of volunteers. She is survived by her husband Robert, three daughters and ten grandchildren. Mary died September 2, 2017.

MRS. MERY M. WITTBRODT

Born March 15, 1924. Mery Melba (Quiñones) Wittbrodt completed her first degree in teaching from Normal Teachers' School in her teens. Under the tutelage of her father, her first sermon was preached at the age of 16. Mery completed studies at Medical Science University in Rosario, Argentina, specializing in Biochemistry and Pharmacy. She toured Europe for a year as a delegate to the World Congress of the Student Christian Movement (SCM). She spoke multiple languages including French, which she used visiting refugee homes in France. In Switzerland, on scholarship, she studied the Bible, World, and Church, specializing in youth movements. Mery completed a Bachelor's of Divinity degree at Asbury Theological Seminary in 1955, married Donald Wittbrodt in 1956 and had two children: Deborah and Donald. She taught in chemistry and science in the public schools. Her students reported great success in science at the university level due to her teaching skill. Mery was a positive, endearing soul who loved the Lord and brightened the lives of all those around her. At Emmanuel United Methodist Church, in Blissfield, she participated in the prayer chain ministry and shared her passion for missions over many years. Mery died December 24, 2016.

ROLL OF DECEASED CLERGY MEMBERS

For Roll of Deceased prior to June 1968 see Conference Journal of 1968 page 212
 from June 1968 through 1971 see Conference Journal of 1973 page 784
 from 1972 through March 1976 see Conference Journal of 1976 page 378
 from April 1976 through June 1989 see Conference Journal of 1989 page 1067
 from June 1989 through March 1992 see Conference Journal of 1992 page 294
 from June 1992 through December 1992 see Conference Journal of 1993 page 329
 from January 1993 through December 1993 see Conference Journal of 1995 page 315
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 from January 2005 through December 2006 see Conference Journal of 2008 page 207
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 from January 2009 through March 2011 see Conference Journal of 2011 page 299
 from June 2011 through May 3, 2012 see Conference Journal of 2012 page 297
 from May 21, 2012 through March 2013 see Conference Journal of 2013 page 307
 from March 2013 through April 2014 see Conference Journal of 2014 page 311
 from June 6, 2014 through April 19, 2015 see Conference Journal of 2015 page 349

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Place of Death</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Conference & Admission Date</u>
Dennis N. Paulson	July 19, 2015	Alger, MI	65	Detroit 1973
Richard J. Wood	August 1, 2015	Indianapolis	78	Detroit 1960
Harrison M. Brakeman	August 6, 2015	Clyde Twntp.	93	Detroit 1963
Ronald K. Corl	August 16, 2015	Spring, TX	81	Detroit 1964
Gary R. Imms	October 5, 2015	Florida		Detroit 1973
Jesse R. DeWitt	November 26, 2015	Dexter	96	
King W. Hanna	January 16, 2016	Ann Arbor	76	Detroit 1963
Steven A. Gjerstad	March 19, 2016	Pittsburgh, PA	68	Detroit 1981
Margery H. Host	March 22, 2016	McMillian	73	Detroit 2004
Robert P. Garrett	March 23, 2016	Cass City	86	Detroit 1957
Joanne R. Bartelt	April 13, 2016	Port Huron	64	Detroit 1996
Robert L.S. Brown	October 3, 2016	Chelsea	91	Illinois 1969
Robert E. Burkey	June 13, 2016		81	Detroit 1966
James A. Craig	June 1, 2016	Palm Springs	87	Illinois 1956
Bruce W. Garner	June 1, 2016	Owosso	85	
Robert E Horton	October 20, 2016		88	Detroit 1950
Wilfred E. Johnson	September 13, 2016	Silver Springs	77	West Virginia 1979
Levon King	July 22, 2016	N. Ohio	80	
Donald J. Milano	February 28, 2017	St. Charles	82	Detroit 1972
Craig A. Pillow	January 7, 2017		68	Detroit 1994
Samuel J. Pooley	February 22, 2017	Adrian	64	Detroit 2014
Lillian G. Richards	May 4, 2017	Hancock	90	
William Lyndon Stone	January 14, 2017		90	Detroit 1950
Mary T. Tame	August 24, 2016		73	Detroit 1989
Phillip D. Voss	March 8, 2017		73	Dakotas 1979

HISTORICAL STATEMENTSessions of the Detroit Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church

No.	Date	Place	Bishop	Secretary	Clergy Members	Conf. Members
1	June 09, 1969	Adrian	Dwight E. Loder	A. Gray	768	182,203
2	June 11, 1970	Adrian	Dwight E. Loder	A. Gray	700	186,581
3	June 08, 1971	Adrian	Dwight E. Loder	A. Gray	695	184,173
4	June 07, 1972	Adrian	Dwight E. Loder	J.W. Bray	795	176,374
5	June 06, 1973	Adrian	Dwight E. Loder	J.W. Bray	786	171,658
6	June 05, 1974	Adrian	Dwight E. Loder	J.W. Bray	700	166,384
7	June 04, 1975	Adrian	Dwight E. Loder	J.W. Bray	698	159,689
8	June 02, 1976	Adrian	Dwight E. Loder	J.W. Bray	691	155,450
9	June 08, 1977	Adrian	Edsel A. Ammons	J.W. Bray	663	151,823
10	June 07, 1978	Adrian	Edsel A. Ammons	J.W. Bray	664	149,570
11	June 06, 1979	Adrian	Edsel A. Ammons	J.W. Bray	650	146,514
12	June 03, 1980	Adrian	Edsel A. Ammons	J.H. Bunce	683	146,309
13	June 02, 1981	Adrian	Edsel A. Ammons	J.H. Bunce	678	143,632
14	June 01, 1982	Adrian	Edsel A. Ammons	J.H. Bunce	684	141,992
15	June 07, 1983	Adrian	Edsel A. Ammons	J.H. Bunce	685	137,589
16	June 12, 1984	Adrian	Edsel A. Ammons	J.H. Bunce	671	131,019
17	June 04, 1985	Adrian	Judith Craig	J.H. Bunce	666	128,540
18	June 03, 1986	Adrian	Judith Craig	J.H. Bunce	701	125,637
19	June 02, 1987	Adrian	Judith Craig	J.H. Bunce	695	123,157
20	June 07, 1988	Adrian	Judith Craig	J. Schairer	679	120,856
21	June 06, 1989	Adrian	Judith Craig	J. Schairer	687	118,081
22	June 05, 1990	Adrian	Judith Craig	J. Schairer	705	116,661
23	June 04, 1991	Adrian	Judith Craig	J. Schairer	708	115,355
24	June 02, 1992	Adrian	Judith Craig	J. Schairer	706	113,915
25	June 08, 1993	Adrian	Donald A. Ott	M.J.Jewell	707	113,066
26	June 07, 1994	Adrian	Donald A. Ott	M.J.Jewell	730	111,553
27	June 06, 1995	Adrian	Donald A. Ott	M.J.Jewell	754	110,385
28	June 04, 1996	Adrian	Donald A. Ott	M.J.Jewell	714	108,585
29	June 03, 1997	Adrian	Donald A. Ott	D.Hammond	759	107,520
30	June 02, 1998	Adrian	Donald A. Ott	D.Hammond	775	105,121
31	May 21, 1999	Adrian	Donald A. Ott	D. Hammond	768	104,813
32	May 19, 2000	Adrian	Donald A. Ott	D. Hammond	769	104,735
33	May 18, 2001	Adrian	Linda Lee	L. A. Schramm	778	104,364
34	May 17, 2002	Adrian	Linda Lee	L. A. Schramm	727	103,990
35	May 16, 2003	Adrian	Linda Lee	L. A. Schramm	772	105,351
36	May 21, 2004	Adrian	Linda Lee	L. A. Schramm	717	104,668
37	May 20, 2005	Adrian	Jonathan D. Keaton	L. A. Schramm	736	103,777
38	May 19, 2006	Adrian	Jonathan D. Keaton	L. A. Schramm	737	102,428
39	May 18, 2007	Adrian	Jonathan D. Keaton	L.A. Schramm	746	100,384
40	May 17, 2008	Adrian	Jonathan D. Keaton	L.A. Schramm	732	100,441
41	May 16, 2009	Adrian	Jonathan D. Keaton	Tracy N. Huffman	726	96,951
42	May 20, 2010	Adrian	Jonathan D. Keaton	Tracy N. Huffman	726	96,825
43	May 19, 2011	Adrian	Jonathan D. Keaton	Tracy N. Huffman	735	92,626
44	May 17, 2012	Adrian	Jonathan D. Keaton	Tracy N. Huffman	724	92,573
45	May 16, 2013	Adrian	Deborah L. Kiesey	Tracy N. Huffman	717	88,749
46	May 15, 2014	Adrian	Deborah L. Kiesey	Tracy N. Huffman	718	85,350
47	May 14, 2015	Adrian	Deborah L. Kiesey	Tracy N. Huffman	722	83,145
48	June 8, 2016	Adrian	Deborah L. Kiesey	Tracy N. Huffman	715	83,036
49	June 1, 2017	Traverse City	David A. Bard	Joy Barrett	708	77,470
50	June 2, 2018	Traverse City	David A. Bard	Joy Barrett	696	75,352

COVENANT RELATIONSHIP

“Partnership in Mission”

LIBERIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH AND THE DETROIT ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Be it resolved that the Detroit Annual Conference approve the following Covenant of Partnership in Ministry and Working Understandings with the Liberia Annual Conference. The Covenant Jesus said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul... and with all your mind.” This is the greatest commandment. And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” (NRSV Mt. 22:37-39)

The Liberia Annual Conference and the Detroit Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church desire to seek God’s will together as we reach out to the world’s peoples in both our countries and conferences. Remembering Jesus’ words, we agree to establish a Partnership in Ministry between our two conferences, and do hereby covenant to:

- Support each other by our prayers and gifts of mind, body and wealth.
- Educate the laity and clergy of both conferences about the faith; ethnic groups, tribes and races; customs; social issues; geography; politics and other aspects of both countries. We shall seek, while learning from each other, to develop connections between individuals, families, communities, and congregations.
- Seek opportunities for two-way visitations and Volunteers in Mission teams.
- Find creative ways in which we can support each other through the established Channels of The United Methodist Church.
- Evaluate our Partnership in Ministry relationship quadrennially.

Working Understandings

1. The Partnership in Ministry between the Liberia Annual Conference and the Detroit Annual Conference is a mutually agreed upon relationship. The boards and agencies of the two conferences will be involved in its implementation and evaluation. Any change in this covenant requires mutual agreement.
2. The conference Board of Global Ministries will represent the Detroit Annual Conference while the Liberia Annual Conference will be represented by its executive committee. Each entity shall designate the persons that will represent it in the administering and evaluation of this covenant.
3. Coordination of all partnership activities within a conference shall be the responsibility of the respective conference. The sister conference may appoint a representative to coordinate the work with those responsible within the conference.
4. Any request for funding shall be for projects that have been approved by the United Methodist Committee on Relief, as General Advance Specials by the 310 Covenant Relationships 2013 Advance Committee of the General Council on Ministries or by both the Liberia and Detroit Annual Conferences.
5. All projects shall be socially just and ecologically sustainable.
6. In regard to Volunteers in Mission teams and visitations, efforts shall be made to
 - a. Encourage our people to work side by side in both countries.
 - b. See that teams not displace indigenous labor.
 - c. Seek opportunities for visitations of persons from both conferences.
 - d. Have any groups from either of the two conferences be inclusive as applicable

with regard to race, tribe, age, sex, financial capability, clergy, laity and geographical areas.

Approved by the Liberia Annual Conference 1997. Signed for the Liberia Annual Conference, Arthur Flumo Kwiah, Bishop Approved by the Detroit Annual Conference 1997. Signed for the Detroit Annual Conference, Benjamin Bohnsack, Chair, Board of Ministries.

**EXCERPTS FROM THE JANUARY 5-15, 2012 REPORT OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT, KOKOYAH DISTRICT CONFERENCE,
LIBERIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

The Kokoyah District is highly pleased to commend God first and the Rev. Dr. John G. Innis, Bishop of the Liberia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church for our appointment as the seventh District Superintendent for Kokoyah. Commendation also goes to the Detroit Annual Conference, USA and the Illinois Great River Conference for their humane and passionate partnership support to the Mission and Ministry of our District and Church. They are indeed true United Methodists with open hearts and minds....

We are thankful to God first and to the Detroit Annual Conference for granting to two of our female students four years scholarship in the field of nursing. The scholarship is called "Douglar Rench Memorial Scholarship." This scholarship was work out or put into place by Rev. Billie Rench of the Owosso UMC (sic.) of the Detroit Annual Conference.

May the Almighty God continue to bless the work of their hands. Also the Quest UMC, the Grace Urbana MC, the Tuscola UMC and other churches of the IGRC are also in constant support of our village scholarship and reconstruction programs, which we are very much grateful to God and to these partners for their love and support. Thanks to the Detroit Annual Conference who is also supporting our village scholarship program and our pastor salary support program. Not a pastor on our District would tell you that they have not benefitted from this program. God bless our partners....

Rev. Benedict Greene, Sr.

COVENANT RENEWAL WITH EGLISE METHODISTE D'HAITI DISTRICT

Motion: Be it resolved that the Detroit (West Michigan) Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church enter into a revised Covenant Relationship with the Eglise Methodiste d'Haiti District of the Methodist Church of the Caribbean and the Americas as described in the following document; and

Be it further resolved that this Covenant Relationship be in cooperation with the West Michigan (Detroit) Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, thus re-authorizing the Michigan Area Covenant with the Eglise Methodiste d'Haiti District of the Methodist Church of the Caribbean and the Americas.

In thankful recognition and faithful allegiance to the call of the Holy Spirit who equips and enables the church community to be in ministry and mission together, we join in partnership for the advancement of Christ, and we respond in faith and love reaching beyond our geographic boundaries in mutual servanthood. The Eglise Methodiste d'Haiti District of the Methodist Church of the Caribbean and the Americas and the Michigan Area of the United Methodist Church join together our gifts and graces in shared vision of ministry. We will partner together for the advancement of Jesus Christ and jointly commit ourselves to:

1. Pray for each other on a regular and recurring basis;
2. Work together in a supporting and mutual relationship as the pastors, people, congregations, circuits, and districts;
3. Help the people in the District and the Conferences to learn about each other, including our history and cultures, our blessings and challenges, our faith and life;
4. Encourage church-to-church, and pastor to pastor relationships for mutual learning, support, and growth;
5. Exchange information and establish processes to evaluate the various projects and their socio- economic impact through joint partnership teams and establish a means for effective and regular communication among the leaders of both the District and the Conferences;
6. Develop procedures that will assist in timely, accountable, and transparent transfer of funds for us in implementing the projects and ministries made possible through this covenant;
7. Exchange leadership between the District and the Conferences to interpret the work and mission and to generate understanding and support;

NOTES