

## MEMOIRS

### A. Associates Members

#### 1. Active

*None*

#### 2. Retired



**EMERSON W. ARNTZ** – Born September 4, 1942. Rev. Arntz served: 1979 Uby, Argyle; Feb. 15, 1982 Riley Center, Berville, West Berlin; 1986 Melvindale; 1987 Lakeville, Leonard; Nov. 1, 1992 Jeddo, Central-Lakeport; 2000 Jeddo, Applegate; 2002 South Central Cooperative Parish; Lake Fenton (parish director); 2009 Retired. Died June 4, 2018.

Emerson William Arntz was a husband, father, grandfather, preacher, teacher and friend. He faithfully served churches in the Detroit Annual Conference for 34 years, until his retirement in 2009. Emerson was an intelligent but humble man, who lived out his faith daily. Em was an avid reader, talented wood carver, great listener and proud “Spartan”. He loved to travel, play cards and spend time with family. He is survived by his wife, Ellen; his children, Jillynn (Joe) Keppler, Jeremy (Nicole) Arntz, Paul (Shona) Spratt, and Michael (Kate) Spratt; and his grandchildren, Jordan, Alaina, Justin, Jaiden, Jack, Jamison, Gabriel, Julia Maya and Isabelle.



**BERNARD R. RANDOLPH** – Born October 2, 1915. Rev. Randolph served: 1948 Sanford-Averill; 1952 Mt. Pleasant/Deerfield Center; 1954 Hesperia/East Denver; 1959 Big Rapids Circuit; 1964 Houghton Lake Parish; 1966 Wayland; 1970 Benton Harbor: Grace; 1971 Ludington: St Paul; 1974 Stanwood: Northland; 03/01/75 Whitehall/Claybanks; 1976 Elk Rapids/Kewadin; 1978 Retired. Died July 21, 2018. As the holder of the West Michigan Conference Cane, he was recognized by

the Michigan Conference as the oldest living Elder in West Michigan.



**GERALD M. SEVER, JR.** – Born September 1, 1946. Rev. Sever served: 1994 Wellsville; 1996 Deerfield, Wellsville; 1999 Laingsburg; 2006 incapacity leave; 2012 Retired. Died June 19, 2018.

Minister in the Village Missions and United Methodist Churches, Gerald Sever dearly loved sharing his love of the Lord and exemplified that love in all that he did. He especially enjoyed working in small, rural churches helping them to grow. He ministered for 46 years in New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania and Michigan. In addition to his ministerial duties, Gerald also served as a volunteer fire fighter; and as chaplain for the fire departments and hospitals in the communities where he served.

### B. Provisional Members

#### 1. Active

*None*

#### 2. Retired

*None*

## C. Members in Full Connection

### 1. Active



**BRIAN K. WILLIAM** – Born December 12, 1975. Rev. William transferred 2009 to Detroit Conference. 2009 Birmingham: First (assoc.) (LTFT ½); 2012 West Bloomfield. Died April 16, 2019.

Brian K. William, age 43, passed peacefully in his sleep and went to be with the Lord on April 16, 2019. Brian was a devoted husband, father, pastor, and friend. Brian was born December 12, 1975 in Changhua, Taiwan to Raymond and Nancy William and grew up primarily in Corvallis, Oregon. Brian always had a great interest in the world and its peoples. But it was his love of God that led him to attend Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary where he studied to become a pastor. He first served at the United Methodist Church in Burlington, IL. He next served at Birmingham First UMC where he helped run the contemporary service and missions, and then West Bloomfield UMC as their lead Pastor. There he focused on growing and caring for the multicultural congregation, creating community ties between the diverse religions and peoples, mentoring young people and other pastors, and leading and serving in missionary work from Detroit to Jeremie, Haiti. Brian met the love of his life, Monica, in 1998. His wife and children were the most important things in his life, as he was to theirs. To them he was a goofball, hugger, movie fan, lunch maker, bad 'dad joke' teller, chauffeur & social director, short-order cook, soccer coach, photographer, Lego League coach, dream-maker and biggest fan. He was quirky, loving, accepting, intelligent, silly, curious, personable, kind, an out-of-the-box thinker, a mentor, and a friend to all.

### 2. Retired



**FRANCIS F. ANDERSON** – Born November 3, 1926. Rev. Anderson served: 1957 New Buffalo/Berrien County: Lakeside; 1958 Marcellus; 1961 Portage (Assoc); 1962 Kalamazoo Chapel Hill Parish; 12/09/62 White Cloud; 1966 Lansing: Central (Assoc); 1970 Jackson Haven; 1972 GBGM, World Division, Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas, Belize; 1975 GBGM, MCCA, Trinidad; 09/01/78 Napoleon; UM 1980 MCCA, Savanna- La-Mar, Jamaica; 1986 GBGM, MCCA, Duncans, Jamaica; 11/01/89 Appointed in Other Annual Conferences (¶331.8, ¶346.1) Detroit Conference, Hudson; 1991 Retired. Died October 18, 2018.

**YOUNG BONG YOON** – Born December 29, 1924. Rev. Bong Yoon served: 1951 Sinyangri; 1954 Military Chaplain; 1961 Board of Evangelism; 1964 General Secretary, Korean Conf.; 1968 Bishop's Assistant; 1974 Korean Methodist Church; 1978 Trans. to Detroit Conf., Troy: Korean; 1995 Retired. Died July 24, 2018.



**JUANITA J. FERGUSON** – Born July 8, 1943. Rev. Ferguson served: 1963 Wellsville; 1965 Detroit: Cass Avenue (assoc.); 1973 Springville; 1978 Detroit: Ford Memorial; 1986 Detroit: Redford; 1990 Birmingham: First (assoc.); 1993 Detroit West District Superintendent; 1997 Beverly Hills; 1998 Waterford: Trinity; 2003 School, Chicago Theological Seminary; 2005 Essexville; 2009 Retired. Died November 18, 2018.

Juanita Ferguson born July 8, 1943, died on November 18, 2018 at the age of 75. She served Wellsville; Detroit: Cass Avenue (assoc.); Springville; Detroit: Ford Memorial; Detroit: Redford; Birmingham: First (assoc.); as the Detroit West District Superintendent; Beverly Hills; Waterford: Trinity; Chicago Theological Seminary and Essexville. Juanita loved the city and people of Detroit. The city was her domain, and she loved to be in some form of ministry in the city. She was uniquely qualified in terms of gospel preacher and servant to where she lived. You could find her riding around on her bicycle delivering food, and helping anyone she could in her gentle, caring way. She loved the Detroit Tigers not just for the sport, but for the community engagement. She served God and the people of the Detroit Annual Conference as one of the first clergywomen in the conference. People who came to know her loved her, from camping to urban ministry. Those that knew her remember her with great heart and fondness. One dear friend recalls her as "one of the most gifted people in the history of the conference." She was well admired, respected, endearing, and greatly missed.

**BERT HOSKING** – Born March 7, 1923. Rev. Hosking served: 1959 Detroit: Messiah; 1966 Bay City: Fremont Avenue, Delta College Wesley Foundation; 1969 Bay City: Fremont Avenue; 1971 Detroit: Trinity; Jul. 1975 Executive Director, Retirement Homes of the Detroit Annual Conference; 1979 Canton: Cherry Hill; 1986 Retired. Died May 17, 2018.



**RICHARD C. KUHN** – Born June 12, 1936. Rev. Kuhn served: 09/01/71 Leland/Keswick; [Transferred from Minnesota Conf 1972] 1980 Frankfort/ Elberta; 1982 Buchanan: Faith/Morris Chapel; 1987 St Louis: First; 1998 Retired. Died December 8, 2018.

Richard Charles Kuhn wrote, "As I wrap up my 81st year, I look back with satisfaction on my life." With a Master of Divinity from Boston University, he joined the Minnesota Annual Conference, serving churches at Eden Prairie, Hamline, Nashauk/Pengilly. There he met and married Beth. On voluntary location with the Conference, he moved to Traverse City, Michigan, where he was a Human Resources Specialist for the Economic Development District. Later he became Director of Law Enforcement Planning in Region 10. During that time the couple built their first apartment building. He joined the West Michigan Conference in 1971 till 1998, serving Leland/Keswick, Frankfort/Elba, Buchanan Faith/Morris Chapel, and First UMC in St. Louis. He led Lay Witness Missions, the Emmaus Community, Keryx church camps and prison Bible studies. He brought members, baptized, married, and buried countless believers saying, "The Best is yet to be!" He loved God, his family, and his life. "I am so very grateful that God gave me the Compass who has faithfully guided my life. I've not always followed the Compass as I should have, nonetheless God has blessed me abundantly. See you in the Kingdom ahead!" –Rich



**SALLY A. LAFRANCE** – Born June 26, 1936. Rev. LaFrance served: 1999 Transferred from West Ohio Conf; 10/01/99 Climax/Scotts; 2001 Old Mission Peninsula (Ogdensburg); 2002 Twin Lake; 10/01/04 Retired. Died September 15, 2018.

**GARY V. LYONS** – Born April 12, 1939. 1972 Transferred from Detroit Conf; 1972 Vermontville/Gresham; 04/05/76 Chaplain, US Navy; 1996 Retired. Died February 17, 2019.



**DOUGLAS K. OLSEN** – Born May 24, 1947. Rev. Olsen served: 1972 Detroit: Waterman, Simpson; 1976 Ferndale: First (assoc.); 1981 Stony Creek; 1996 Ann Arbor: Calvary; 2008 Dundee; 2015 Retired. Died July 15, 2018.

Douglas Karl Olsen was born in Ann Arbor on May 24, 1947 to Donald and Marie Olsen. He graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a degree in business administration and earned a Master of Divinity degree from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio. It was there he met his future wife Sandy whom he married on September 9, 1972. Doug retired from the ministry in 2015 from the Dundee United Methodist Church. Prior to that, he served congregations in Detroit, Ferndale, Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor. He was active in the Ann Arbor District and the Detroit Annual Conference. He chaired the district Building and Church Location Committee, was a member of the conference journal committee, and served on the conference secretarial staff. Following a 5 ½ month battle with brain cancer, he went home to his Lord on July 15, 2018. He is survived by his wife Sandy, two children Kristen and James, and his sister Susan Weber.



**MICHAEL L. RAYMO** – Born April 5, 1948. Rev. Raymo served: 1980 Dearborn: First (assoc.); 1985 Sterling Heights; 1988 Chaplain, Army; June 1, 2014 Retired. Died May 1, 2018.

Michael Lawrence Raymo was born on April 5, 1948 in Detroit, Michigan. He attended the United States Military Academy at West Point and served his country for 23 years. Mike married his high school sweet heart, Muriel, in 1971 and enjoyed nearly 47 years as husband and wife. He has two sons, Michael and Mark, and two daughters in "love," Tara and Farrah. He also has two grandsons, two granddaughters and another grandson to be born in August. Prior to Mike being in the military, he was the associate minister at Dearborn First United Methodist Church and the pastor at Sterling Heights United Methodist Church. Mike passed away on May 1, 2018. He touched many lives and was given a "Quilt of Valor" made by one of his colleagues from the Veterans' Administration Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama. Mike is remembered and loved by his family, as well as by the many people whom he touched through his "Word for the Day" devotions.



**MARVIN R. ROSA** – Born June 18, 1937. Rev. Rosa served: 1964 Rosebush/Center; 1967 Augusta/Hickory Corners; 02/15/72 Grand Rapids: Trinity (Assoc); 1979 Clare; 1986 District Superintendent, Grand Traverse District; 1992 Big Rapids: First; 03/31/93 Leave of Absence; 1996 Frankfort/Elberta; Retired 1999. Died February 11, 2019.

Marvin was born to Russell and Jean Rosa on June 18, 1937 in Lake Ann. He attended a one room grade school and graduated from Honor High School. On July 27, 1957 he married Annette Haywood. He attended NMC in Traverse City while serving as Lay Assistant to Rev. Donn Doten. He graduated from CMU while

serving Rosebush/Center Churches. He commuted weekly to Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary while serving Augusta/Hickory Corners Churches graduating with a Master of Divinity. He served churches in Grand Rapids, Clare, Big Rapids, and Frankfort/Elba. He was District Superintendent for the Grand Traverse District, and he and Annette did a pastor exchange in England... a great experience! Marvin loved music, sang, played piano, and danced. He also liked his collection of antique John Deere tractors. He is survived by his wife Annette, 4 sons, 18 grandchildren, and many more family members.



**WARD N. SCOVEL, JR.** – Born December 15, 1935. Rev. Dr. Scovel served: 1978 Muskegon: Central (Assoc); 1980 Battle Creek: Birchwood; 1984 Wyoming Park; 1989 Paw Paw; 1995 Leave of Absence; 03/01/98 Retired. Died October 13, 2018.

Ward Scovel was born December 15, 1935 in Berwyn, IL, to parents Ward Scovel, Sr., and Verna Scovel. What an amazing soul with such a huge spirit! After becoming an ordained minister, Ward received the prestigious Peace Award from the West Michigan Conference of the UM Church. He earned his Ph.D in Death and Dying. After 25 years in ministry, he served as a Hospice Chaplain for 16 years, sharing his near-death experience with his patients to alleviate their fear of dying. Following the death of their two sons, Steve and Carl, he and his wife co-facilitated Survivor of Suicide groups. Ward is survived by Mary A. (Sennema) Scovel, his wife of 62 years; daughters, Marcia Sprague, Kathy (Richard) Rodrigue; grandchildren, Kayla and Devi Sprague; his brother Don (Jan) Scovel, brother-in-law, David Sennema and sister-in-law, Carol Derks, and many nieces and nephews. Ward Norman Scovel made his transition on October 13, 2018.



**MARK E. SPAW** – Born May 24, 1957. Rev. Spaw served: 1983 Hartland (1995-1996 with Hardy); 1999 Trenton: Faith; 2010 Ann Arbor District Superintendent; 2018 medical leave. Died March 8, 2019.

Mark Edward Spaw died 3/8/19 at age 61. Loving son of Robert Jesse and Mildred Ann Spaw. Brother to Bob (Sue), Dorothy (Craig) and Kathy. Loving Uncle to 10 Nieces/Nephews and 16 great nieces/nephews. Attended Detroit Public Schools. Received B.S., Wayne State and Master of Divinity degree - Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. Pastor at Hartland UMC, Trenton UMC and district superintendent of Ann Arbor District. Mark loved being a pastor – it was thoroughly enmeshed in his soul – it wasn't just a profession or vocation. He was proud to serve two long-term appointments, and only two appointments, before becoming a district superintendent. He loved being a DS and always advocated for his Ann Arbor District congregations and clergy. He was proud to have served as DS under three different bishops. Mark had high expectations for both clergy and congregation in our mission of making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. His transition to medical leave/retirement was difficult, but he loved his family and their support. Mark leaves a great legacy of passion for the church and its disciple-making, a great sense of humor, a keen mind, and a forthrightness that challenged and supported others in positive ways.



**SUSAN BENNETT STILES** – Rev. Susan Stiles, 66, passed away on August 31, 2018. Born in Michigan, Susan attended Fenton High School, graduated from Michigan State University and from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. She spent her entire career pastoring several United Methodist congregations in Michigan. Susan Stiles was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. David Stiles. She loved her family, daughter Mary Gardner; son-in-law, Keith Gardner; and granddaughter, Beckett Waverly Gardner.



**HAROLD M. TABER** – Born February 12, 1929. Rev. Taber served: 1949 Springport Parish (Assoc); 1952 Shepherd/Pleasant Valley; 1956 Shepherd/Indian Mission; 1958 Wacousta Community; 1960 Casnovia/Kent City: Chapel Hill; 1962 Houghton Lake Parish; 1964 Middleville; 1966 Middleville/Freeport; 1969 Jackson: Trinity; 1972 Lane Boulevard; 1975 Scottville; 01/25/76 Medical Leave/Granted

Disability; 1977 Burr Oak; 1978 Medical Leave/Granted Disability; 1980 Retired. Died August 18, 2018.

Harold M. Taber died on August 18, 2018, in Grand Rapids. While serving pastorates he introduced the West Michigan Conference to audio recording of annual conference sessions and the use of media resources for School of Christian Mission and Pastor's School. He also served the United Methodist Conference as secretary for the Board of Missions and Board of Ministry and in its camping ministries as dean, registrar, and counselor for various camps. He is the son of the late Rev. Marcius and Mearl Taber and brother of Rev. Margery (Gordon) Schleicher, who survives him. Also surviving him are his wife of 69 years, Miriam; daughters, Sally Taber (Dean Tousley) and Norma Taber; son Paul (Kathye) Harrington-Taber; sister, Carolyn (Werner) Klisch; sister-in-law, Ann Taber; and five grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.



**JAMES F. THOMAS (AND JOYCE A. THOMAS, DIACONAL MINISTER)** – JAMES F. THOMAS : Born June 1, 1933. Rev. James Thomas served: 1954 Decatur, IN: Calvary; 1955 Kewanna Circuit, IN; 1958 Wanatah, IN: Zion; 1960 Porter, IN: First; 1964 Parma, OH (Minister of Education), (E OH Conf); 1968 Boardman: First (Minister of Education); 1972 Farmington Hills: Nardin Park & Orchard (Minister of Education; 1980 Farmington Hills: Orchard (assoc.); 1982 Grand Blanc;

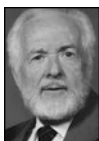
Jan. 1, 1990 Saginaw: First; Sep 1, 1994 Swartz Creek; 2000 Retired. Died June 2, 2018.

James and Joyce Thomas served faithfully in the United Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren denominations for 60 years as an ordained elder and consecrated diaconal, respectively. They served churches in the conferences of Indiana, East Ohio, Detroit, and Desert Southwest (retired). Their passion for Christian Education guided their ministry in each location and was the principal focus of their work as a Minister of Education and Director of Christian Education. In addition, Joyce worked as a Hospital Chaplain in Flint and Saginaw. A car accident on May 31st, 2018 tragically claimed both of their lives. Their tireless service to God and the Church has touched many lives.



**GREGORY R. WOLFE** – Born February 10, 1948. Rev. Wolfe served: 1973 CPE Program, Milledgeville State Hospital; 1974 Pottersville/West Benton; 10/16/78 Keeler/Silver Creek; 11/16/83 Grass Lake; 1994 Clare; 2003 Portland; 2008 Kalkaska; 2013 Retired; 2013 Napoleon (LTFT ¾). Died April 15, 2019.

Greg was the love of my life and I was his “Sweetie.” It was a blessing and a joy to serve Christ together. Each appointment brought new challenges: new opportunities to grow leaders, to make new friends, and to be blessed by the people of God. Greg spent his life loving people, and being the best son, husband, Dad, and Poppa he could. He had a quick wit, great sense of humor, and unfailing faith in God. He loved to make music – lots and lots of music. Through his preaching, people were blessed, encouraged, grew in their faith, and were given hope for eternal life. He was down to earth, genuine, caring, and fun. Great hugs were his specialty – and always that SMILE! We all experienced God through Greg’s servant heart. He shared the love of Jesus with everyone who knew him. Now he lifts his voice with the angels.



**PATON M. ZIMMERMAN** – Born May 22, 1925. Rev. Zimmerman served: 1981 Ann Arbor: Glacier Way; Feb 1. 1990 Warren: Wesley; 1995 Retired. Died November 27, 2018.

Paton Zimmerman was born in Beirut, Syria of the Ottoman Empire. His parents returned the family to the United States in 1938. Following high school, he enrolled in GMI in Flint, where in 1947 he received a BS in Mechanical Engineering. Employed by GM until 1977 when he began attending Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. He was licensed first as a Local Pastor in 1977, Ordained a Deacon in 1978, and subsequently an Ordained Elder in 1983. In his active pastoral ministry, he served a 3-point charge in Maryland, and churches in Ann Arbor and Warren, MI until his retirement in 1995. Since 2002, he had lived with his daughter, Elizabeth, ultimately residing for the past 13 years in North Carolina.

#### **D. Deacons in Full Connection**

##### **1. Active**

*None*

##### **2. Retired**

*None*

#### **E. Local Pastors**

##### **1. Active**

*None*

## 2. Retired



**REX E. BEAN** – Born August 8, 1923. Rev. Bean served Chase-Barton 1982; Retired 1987. Died August 19, 2018.

Rex was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He served God his entire life. He started out as an educator but was called into the ministry. He attended Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and served South Haven and Chase-Barton UMC. After retiring he and his wife Margaret went back to their hometown of Muskegon and continued their ministry by helping at Temple UMC in Muskegon Heights. They then moved to Clark Retirement Community in Grand Rapids, where they continued to serve God daily until their deaths. They were true disciples of Christ!



**LEO E. BENNETT** – Born September 19, 1926. Rev. Bennett served: 1956 South Cadillac; 1961 Alden and Kewadin Indian Mission; 1965 Cedar Springs; 1970 Wayland; 1979 Lawrence; 1986 Hinchman and Oronoko; 1989 Jackson: First (Associate Pastor). He retired in 1993. Died October 31, 2018.

Leo (Bud) Elwood Bennett passed away peacefully on October 31, 2018, at American House, Holland. He was born in Jackson, Michigan on September 19, 1926, son of Lewis and Leona (Kast) Bennett. He graduated from Lansing Technical High School in 1943. From October 1943 - April 1946 Leo served in the United States Navy, SF 2c USNR onboard the USS Denver (CL-58) and received a Purple Heart in the Pacific Theater. He married the love of his life Joyce "Dolly" Jean Bement on June 28, 1947. Leo attended Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Illinois and was ordained into the United Methodist Ministry. Leo and Joyce served church appointments in the West Michigan Conference. Upon retirement they made their home in Holland, Michigan. Leo enjoyed traveling with his "Dolly" in their motor home, wintering in Arizona. Leo was preceded in death by his wife; parents, brothers Lewis (Hazel) Bennett, Lynne Bennett, Lyle Bennett; sisters Lorraine (Lester) Burch, Leah (Wilfred) Orton, daughter-in-law Michelle Bennett. Surviving are sister: Rev. Loyce Thrush of Cottage Grove, Minnesota; sons Terry (Linda) Bennett of Grand Rapids, Michigan; Dennis "DK" Bennett of Bluffton, South Carolina; granddaughters, Morgaine (Harry) Bell of Hardwick, Vermont; Amy (Gerald) Sebolt of Grand Rapids, Michigan; and Krista (Charles) Savinsky, of Wayland, Michigan, great grandchildren Cassandra Bell, Zachary and Nathan Savinsky.

## F. Diaconal Ministers



**JOYCE A. THOMAS, DIACONAL MINISTER (and REV. JAMES F. THOMAS)** – Joyce Thomas served: 1981 Methodist Children's Home Society; 1988 Davison; 1990 PT Chaplain, Saginaw General Hospital; 1998 Retired. Died June 2, 2018

James and Joyce Thomas served faithfully in the United Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren denominations for 60 years as an ordained elder and consecrated diaconal, respectively. They served



churches in the conferences of Indiana, East Ohio, Detroit, and Desert Southwest (retired). Their passion for Christian Education guided their ministry in each location and was the principal focus of their work as a Minister of Education and Director of Christian Education. In addition, Joyce worked as a Hospital Chaplain in Flint and Saginaw. A car accident on May 31st, 2018 tragically claimed both of their lives. Their tireless service to God and the Church has touched many lives.

### G. Clergy in good standing from another denomination

#### H. Other Clergy



**HAROLD M. DERKS** – Born May 17, 1927. Died February 9, 2019.

Harold F. Derks was born 91 years ago in Grand Rapids, and he died February 9, 2019. Harold spent most of his life in West Michigan. He graduated from Central High School and served in the Army as an MP at Los Alamos, New Mexico. Afterward, he went to GRJC and Michigan State College on the GI bill, becoming a civil engineer. Later, he attended Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary and became an ordained Methodist minister. The Derks family moved to Holland, MI, in 1963 where Harold was appointed as the Associate Minister at First Methodist Church. He returned to engineering in a couple years becoming Holland's City Engineer and then working for the State of Michigan Department of Transportation as the Contracts Administrator. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Carol Sennema Derks, and his three children and seven grandchildren.

**WILLIAM D. CARR** – Born February 17, 1938. Rev. Carr served: 1983 Belding; 10/16/83 Galien: Olive Branch; 04/16/86 Indiana Conference, Hamilton Grove, New Carlisle; 10/15/88 Personal Leave; 1989 Bear Lake; 1989 Arcadia; 1993 Honorable Location; 03/01/03 Honorable Location – Retired. Died November 8, 2018.



**EARL W. DOWNING** – Born June 25, 1928. Rev. Downing served: 1974 Executive Director, Detroit Baptist Children's Home; 1979 leave of absence; 1984 Honorable Location; 1993 Honorable Location, Retired. Died December 6, 2018.

Born June 25, 1928 – Detroit MI. Died December 6, 2018 – Brighton, MI Married Gloria Klepser February 10, 1951 Earl served as a minister in the Detroit area and Ohio (1950–1962) and as director of children's homes in OH, IA, NE and MI, (1962-1979). In 1993 Earl retired from the MI Dept. of Social Services. Earl also held positions in social welfare agencies regarding youth, alcoholism, and mental health. Earl led mission trips with Volunteers in Mission to Poland and Russia and received 'Volunteer of the Year Award' (2002). He loved the performing arts with acting roles in local community theaters (Tevye from 'Fiddler' was his favorite) and singing with community choral groups. Earl's infectious "roll up your sleeves" and "can do" positive attitude evaluated the lives of everyone around him. The world was a better place with Earl, and he is missed by his family and friends. Alumni: Mackenzie High ('46), Wayne State University (BA '51 & MSW '62) and the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology (MDIV '54).



**J. CHRIS SCHROEDER** – Born June 2, 1944. Rev. Schroeder served: 1976 Central Lake; 1976 Alden; 1982 Sebewa Center; 1982 Sunfield; 11/16/84 Sunfield; 01/01/92 Leave of Absence; 1998 Honorable Location; 2011 Honorable Location – Retired. Died January 19, 2019.

On January 19, 2019, Chris Schroeder, age 73 passed into eternity after a battle with Parkinsons' Disease. He is survived by his wife Carolyn, 4 children - Kristen (Ed) Lamber, Rebecca (Skye) Shansby, Katharine (Todd) Broberg, Dave (and Callie) Schroeder; 8 grandchildren - Mikala, Katelyn, and Kiarra Lambert, Lily, Eleanor, Peter and Margeret Broberg, and Grace Schroeder; and sister RoxAnne (Lee) Evison, brothers Alan and Steve (Connie) Schroeder. Born in Charlotte, MI he graduated from Michigan State University and then served his country as an engineer with the CIA. He was then called by God to attend seminary and went on to pastor four churches in Alden and Sunfield, MI before he and Carolyn went to Eastern Europe as missionaries. He and Carolyn spent their retirement serving in Madison Square Church as Elder and Prayer Servant and leading retreats for hurting pastors and spouses with PastorCare and Shepherd's Heart Ministries.

**ROBERT E. SMITH** – Died June 30, 2018. Robert was a Local Pastor at the time he served Barryton, Hastings, and Barry County Woodland.

**I. Missionaries**

*None*

**J. Missionaries Spouses**

*None*

**K. Deaconesses**

*None*

**L. Certified Candidate for Ordination**

*None*

**M. Clergy Spouses**

**MARILYN JOYCE ACKERMAN** – Marilyn Joyce Ackerman of Wixom, formerly of Clawson and Frankenmuth, was born January 27, 1936 in Detroit, Michigan to Truman Thomas Huey and Mildred Fern (nee: Burkett) Sanders. She died August 22, 2018 at the age of 82. Mrs. Ackerman is the beloved wife of 60 years to Reverend Gordon Earl Ackerman. She is the loving mother of Kim (Michael) VanErp, Lisa Ackerman and the late Cheryl (the late Scott) Schlosser. Grandmother of Ariel, Shelbie and Dakota. She is also survived by her dear friend Shirley Ann Klockenga. She was a devoted, faithful and loving wife, mother and grandmother and she will be dearly missed by all that knew and loved her.



**BARBARA A. PARR BURTON** – Born February 18, 1934, Barbara A. Parr-Burton (Baldwin), age 85, went to be with her Lord on Tuesday, May 7, 2019. She will be greatly missed by her friends and family, especially the grandchildren whom she adored. Barbara was the surviving spouse of Rev. M. Clement Parr who served in the Detroit Conference.



**MARGE J. DAHRINGER** – Marjorie J. Dahringer, age 83, was born August 23, 1935 in Bad Axe, MI and passed away, September 6, 2018, surrounded by her family. Marge was a member of Howell First United Methodist Church and was married to the late Rev. Ed Dahringer. Marge graduated from Saginaw General Hospital and worked as a RN for Ypsilanti State Hospital, Pediatric Nursing Director of Beyer Hospital, also in Ypsilanti, and was the school nurse for Brighton

Elementary schools. She enjoyed quilting, sewing and traveling, but most of all boat rides and sunsets on Lake Chemung. Her greatest joy was her family and she will be remembered as a loving mother, grandmother and sister.

**JOANNE DAYRINGER** – Born October 27, 1929 – Died December 25, 2018. Loving wife of 60 years to the late Rev. Leon E. Dayringer. Joanne was an elementary teacher for 20 years. After she retired she traveled in a 5th wheel for several years before moving to Arizona. After 15 years she moved back to Michigan to live at Clark Retirement Community and to be near her 4 children, 9 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. She was an accomplished seamstress and loved to quilt, knit and find new crafts to do. She loved to spend time with family, and her grandchildren, even when they were wild and crazy. She will be deeply missed.



**IRMA EIDENS** – Born May 4, 1919 – Died July 24, 2018. Irma was born in Kuldiga, Latvia to Otto and Rozalija Benke. On October 6, 1940 in Kuldiga, Latvia she married Eduard Eidins. The family moved to America on May 26, 1948 and in 1955 she received her final citizenship papers. She loved flowers, spending time with grandchildren and singing. Irma was very thoughtful and always took the time to send notes and cards to family and friends on their birthdays and other

special times. Being a pastor's wife, she had the opportunity to serve alongside her husband at several churches throughout his career. She was a member of the United Methodist Church of Cadillac where she was active in the choir and women's circles.



**GROVENOR "KIP" GRIMES** – Died January 5, 2019. Kip graduated from Cooley High School, went to Ferris and then transferred to Michigan State, where he earned his civil engineering degree. He later earned his masters and became a professional engineer. He worked his entire career at MDOT, in later years becoming in charge of public transportation for the State of Michigan. While he loved his career, he considered just as important his role as

helpmate to his wife of 47 years, Pastor Lynn Grimes. He was constantly on stage-building duty, running sound boards, filling in various roles in Lynn's plays (Wise Man), and just helping her wherever and whenever he could. He was a lifetime member of the United Methodist Church, beginning at Metropolitan in Detroit and

ending at Holt. Kip had two sons: Christopher (Leigh) and Matthew (Laura) and the light of his life, three grandchildren: Kaden, Maddox, and Ella. He loved sailing at Torch Lake, the family cottage, woodworking, was a master gardener (roses were his specialty), attending grandchildren events, and any MSU game... especially hockey and basketball. Three years ago, he married longtime friend Rebecca Hilbert. Shortly after, he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer which he fought with the determination he had exhibited in everything he had undertaken in his whole life.

**ELIZABETH HAERING** – Died February 25, 2019, at age 92. Spouse of Rev. Emil Haering, who passed in 2010.



**RUTH P. HOOVER** – Born July 14, 1921 – Died January 19, 2019. She was the spouse of Rev. Russell Hoover (2004). While raising her children and teaching piano, Ruth served as a pastor's wife for some 35 years at Wynn, Eagle, North Muskegon, Breckenridge, Jackson, and also at Leslie Congregational Church and Grass Lake Federated Church. They were active members of the congregation at Brookside

Methodist Church. Ruth and Russell together managed Hoover Music on Wisner Street in Jackson. Ruth is survived by three sons, and one daughter; eight grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.



**MARY LOU JURY** – Mary Lou Jury of Chelsea, MI, age 98, died Saturday, September 1, 2018 at Chelsea Retirement Community. She was born March 15, 1920 in Detroit, Michigan, the daughter of Fred Palmer & Mary (Costello) Todd. Mary Lou taught Church school, sang in the choir, led small exercise & discussion groups. She worked on many committees in the ministers' wives' groups. She worked for Blue Cross & Blue Shield and a library during her early life, then focused on

being a mom and minister's wife. She was active at Chelsea Retirement Community and volunteered in their Thrift Shop and Gift Shop. On June 26, 1943, she married Rev. John S. Jury at the Metropolitan Methodist Church in Detroit, and he preceded her in death on Feb. 8, 2003. Survivors include two sons, Theodore John (Elaine) Jury of Utica, MI and Stephen Todd Jury of Flushing, MI; two grandchildren, Matthew & Andrew Jury of Denver, CO; and many nieces & nephews. She was preceded in death by five brothers, Stayton Todd, David F. Todd, J. Beecher Todd, Fred P. Todd, Jr., Wesley R. Todd.



**WILLIAM H. POPE, JR.** - Born March 9, 1950, died January 8, 2019. Spouse of Rev. Marva Pope, currently serving Wayne-Westland FUMC.



**LOIS POWELL** - Lois Powell, aged 94, of Kalamazoo, Michigan went home to be with the Lord on April 10, 2019. Lois was born July 8, 1924 to the late Robert and Estella (Humphrey) Shimmons in Sterling, Michigan. Lois was raised by her step-mother, Lena (Sandy) Shimmons, and brought to Spring Arbor College, where she met the love of her life, the late Rev. Henry Powell in 1942. Together they

served numerous Free Methodist and Detroit Conference United Methodist congregations, including Pontiac: Elmwood, Davisburg: Mt. Bethel, Ida, North Branch, and Midland: Homer, until his retirement after 40 years of service. Henry and Lois enjoyed spending time at their rustic cabin in Grayling, Michigan and eventually owned a home in Lakeland, FL. After Henry's death, Lois remained in Lakeland for ten years before moving back to Michigan. She enjoyed many activities and trips with the Portage Senior Center and her dear friend, Bill Perrin. Lois eventually moved to The Fountains of Bronson Place and delighted in all the people, activities and desserts. Lois was the quintessential pastor's wife and was most passionate about making a difference in the lives of children. She lovingly taught Sunday School and VBS, and "fostered" many a child when they needed a place to stay. She was a devout Christian and continued leading and participating in Bible studies into her tenth decade.



**LORING ROSSMAN** - Loring was born on September 26, 1931 and passed away on May 5, 2018. He was the spouse of Rev. Dorothy Myers who preceded him in death on July 12, 2011. Loring was a resident of Gaines, Michigan at the time of passing. He was a graduate of Fenton High School in 1950 and a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving during the Korean War.

**LINDA SCHWEIZER** - Linda of Grand Blanc, was born June 14, 1941 and went to be with our Lord on July 22, 2018. She was the spouse of Rev. Allen Schweizer. Linda was born in Detroit, MI. She is survived by her husband Allen; three children, 8 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.



**BLANCHE TAYLOR** - Born June 22, 1926, died August 7, 2018. Blanche Taylor grew up in a family of clergy. Born in Ohio to Rev. and Mrs. C.D. Osborn, her childhood filled with love, ministry, and music prepared her for life as a pastor's wife. Her marriage to Larry Taylor in 1948 began a shared ministry that lasted for over 50 years. As Larry served appointments throughout Michigan, Blanche taught Sunday

School, sang in and directed choirs, and served as a nurturing anchor at home to their three children, Dan, Sue, and Annette. Following Larry's death in 1999, Blanche continued her ministry by directing the choir at Clark Retirement Community and playing piano for weekly prayer services, even to the last weeks of her life. Her ministry of kindness to all, faith by example, and a listening ear blessed her family, and all those who knew her.



**BETTY WALLACE** - A wife, a mother, a grandma too, this is the legacy we have from you. You taught us to love and how to fight, you gave us strength, you gave us insight. A stronger person would be hard to find, and in your heart, you were always kind. You fought for us all in one way or another, not just as a wife, not just as a mother. For all of us you gave your all and now the time has come for you to rest. So go in peace, you've earned your sleep, your love in our hearts, we'll eternally keep.



**HELEN L. WHITTERN** - Helen L. Whittern, 97, of Hudson, passed away Tuesday, January 15, 2019, at Drews Place at Village Green in Hillsdale. She was born February 15, 1921, in Wright Township. She married Rev. Keith Whittern on December 24, 1942, and he preceded her in death on October 1, 1957. Helen was a 1938 graduate of Waldron High School. She obtained a degree in Education from Taylor University in Indiana in 1942, later earned her Master's Degree in Education at the University of Michigan in 1960, and completed Doctoral studies at Ball State University in Muncie, IN in 1970. Surviving Helen are two children; ten grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; four great-great grandchildren; a daughter-in-law; and three sisters-in-laws.



**VICKIE WOJEWSKI** - Vicki was born May 24, 1959 in Mt. Clemens, MI and died Friday, February 1, 2019 in Caseville, MI. She was the spouse of pastor Donald Louis Wojewski. Vickie was a 1977 graduate of Brablec High School in Roseville, MI. She studied graphic arts at South Macomb Community College. Vickie was employed by General Motors and Ford Motors as a Technical Illustrator. She and Don had lived in the Imlay City and Almont area for 20+ years before the ministry began taking them to different parts of Michigan. She was an active part of Don's ministry. Music was a very important part of her life; playing the flute and saxophone during many church worship services. She also used her graphic art talents as a secretary for the churches to which she and Don were assigned. She is survived by her husband: Donald and two daughters.

#### N. Child of the Parsonage



**ANDREW GARTH BROOK** – Died April 5, 2019 at age 38. Andrew was the son of Rev. Patricia and Roger Brook. As a son, brother, husband, father, teacher, coach, colleague, and friend, Andy always found his people. He found them, he cared for them and he loved them; and in return Andy became deeply and widely loved. It turns out the equation is simple. Be honest, be kind to those you know and those you don't, and above all be good, and people from all points will know you as friend and family. Andy was many things, but most of all a dear and devoted husband to Anne and a loving and amazing father to Penelope and Finnian. Now they will learn Andy's story, will know his soul, and will carry on his legacy. The world is a better place for having had Andy in it, and it will be better for the lives he touched and will continue to be better for his beautiful children he leaves behind.



**CHLOE ROSE OSTEMA** – Chloe was born on September 21, 1995 in Charlevoix, MI to Dale and Debbie Ostema. She died March 20, 2019. Chloe was the beloved sister of Jay and Alison. Chloe graduated from Traverse City Central High School in 2014 and Western Michigan University in 2019. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and was in the process of planning for her Master's Degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and was accepted into the programs at Western and Andrews University. Chloe was a bright light in this world and had a radiant smile. She loved being with her family and friends. Her favorite places included local beaches, Sleeping Bear Dunes, and the mountains of New

Hampshire where family resides. Chloe was a gifted artist and crafted beautiful pieces of jewelry. She had a deep faith in God and was a follower of Jesus.



**JON YOUQIANG SURGEON RIDER** – January 10, 1995 - March 27, 2019. Jon was born in Shenzhen China on January 10, 1995. He attended Marcellus and Jackson schools and graduated from Big Rapids High School in 2014. Jon resided in many locations in Michigan, Texas, and California. However, he found his heart's home in Glendale, Colorado. Jon worked in a variety of occupations such as tower technician, sales representative, computer installation, delivery, and

Uber. Jon was a collector of many things. He appreciated the beauty in gemstones and rocks, and frequently gifted them to his loved ones. Jon bought and re-sold collectables; he was talented in creating a profit doing this. He often shared music with his sister and debated philosophy with his mother. He took great pride in his Chinese heritage and continued learning about his culture and traditions. Jon was a natural with children, especially babies, and one of his dreams was to help children with cleft palate.

#### O. Diaconal Ministers' Spouses

*None*

#### P. Lay Persons (Professionally Related to the Conference)



**KAYTE ASPRAY** – Katharine Ellen (Serumgard) "Kayte" Aspray, 72, of Bay City, died Friday, June 15, 2018, at Saginaw Covenant Cooper Hospital with her family by her side. She was born May 5, 1946 in Elmhurst and grew up in Yonkers, New York before moving to the Bay City area. She graduated from SUNY at Geneseo with a Bachelor's degree in 1968 and a Master's in 1969. Her career began at WUCM-TV at Delta College as the first female TV producer in the Tri-Cities

area. Kayte retired as the Associate Academic Dean from Northwood University in 2012 after 39 years with the school. Kayte was a public service advocate. She served on the Bay City School, President of the Board for Bay County Habitat for Humanity; Secretary of the United Methodist Church's Global Ministry from 2001 – 2016; and Chair of the Detroit Conference Liberia Task Force 2015 - 2017. Kayte is survived by her two sons.

**SAMUEL CARTER, SR.** – Samuel Carter, Sr., was born in Mississippi on October 19, 1943. Sam was called home to his Heavenly Father on January 2, 2019. Sam was a lifelong Christian and served faithfully in many capacities. He began his faith journey at Mt. Gideon CME Church in Mississippi as a child, with his final church home being First United Methodist Church of Ferndale, Michigan. Sam was a well-respected leader in the church, and served as a Lay Leader and Lay Speaker, Sunday School superintendent, and church trustee for many years. He was especially passionate about his role as the chair of the General Commission on Religion and Race of the Methodist Church, and worked hard to build awareness, understanding and tolerance among people of all backgrounds. Throughout his life, Sam's faith in God and his love for his family were constant, unwavering fixtures. His smile, warmth and sincerity will be fondly remembered by his family and friends. He is survived by wife, Charlestein "Dot" Lovette, four children and many loving family and friends.



**SHIRLEY JOAN CHAPIN** – Shirley Joan Chapin was a wonderful mother and wife. She believed that we all should “Live Simply so Others may Simply Live”. Joan worked tirelessly as a Peace Advocate for the United Methodist Church for 35 years. She served with the United Methodist Women, Women’s Division and Board of Global Ministries. Joan actively worked for Peace and Justice for all, from standing with the Puerto Rican’s on the Island of Vieques to denouncing the hate of the KKK in her own home town. She also had the amazing ability to cook love into a pot of homemade bean soup! It is her family’s hope that Joan’s love will continue to vibrate through the United Methodist Church via the work of the United Methodist Women, Women’s Division, the Board of Global Ministries and all who knew her.



**CARROLL J. CHRISTOPHER** – Carroll J. “Chris” Christopher, age 89, of Novi, formerly of Troy, died January 15, 2019. He was born June 3, 1929 in Columbus, OH. He served many years as the treasurer of the Board of Ordained Ministry and was very active in his church. Surviving are his wife, Kimberly; 4 children and 2 grandchildren.



**KENNETH HALTER** – Kenneth Halter, age 88 years, of Grand Blanc, passed away on March 25, 2019 at Brookdale Memory Care. Kenneth was born on October 16, 1930 in Eaton Rapids, MI, to the late Gladwin and Beatrice Halter. He graduated from General Motors Institute with a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration. He worked at Buick for 40 years. He was a member of the Grand Blanc UMC, where he served as a lay preacher. He also was Detroit Conference Lay Leader, president of the Flint Jaycee’s, life member of the Flint Masonic Lodge, life member of the Flint Rotary, where he received the Paul Harris Fellow Award, and member of the Grand Blanc Chamber of Commerce. He served as president on both the Buick Retirees and Flint Men’s Retirees. Served as an Army M.P. in the Korean War. He is survived by his wife, Joyce (Kosal) Halter; children Susan and Tony Rizzo of Oxford; Lynda and Jeff Volker of Grand Blanc; grandchildren Matthew and Lisa Rizzo, Kimberly Rizzo, Joseph Volker, and Thomas Volker whom he loved very much. He was preceded in death by his children Steven Halter and Patti Halter.

**CARMEN ARLENE MISNER** – Misner, Carmen Arlene - Age 76, of Flint, died November 3, 2018. Carmen was born August 24, 1942 in Ann Arbor, the daughter of Rev. Emeral Everett and Norma Arlene (Raymer) Price. She married Earl Misner in Mt. Pleasant on August 14, 1965. Carmen was proud of her Native American heritage and actively helped serve the Native community throughout Michigan. She worked with the United Methodist Indian Mission churches throughout the state and across church conferences. Carmen was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church and sang in the choir. She served the congregation as both lay leader and lay speaker. In addition, she served the United Methodist Church as a whole, attending various conferences and committees throughout the state and country.

One of the accomplishments serving the church that she was most proud of brought together her love for the Native community and her love of her faith. She worked tirelessly to help enable Native members of the United Methodist Church in



Michigan to become lay speakers and lay leaders for their congregation and to pursue being ordained as ministers.

Carmen is survived by: her sons Michael and Jonathan Misner, both of Flint; nephews Todd (Sarah) Price, Jeff Price; nieces Cheryl (Brent) Hamelink, Lesa Price (Larry) Betz. She was preceded in death by her husband Earl and brother David.



**PAT PROCTOR** – Patricia Ann Proctor, age 87 of Fremont, passed away Friday, June 8, 2018. Pat had been very active in the United Methodist Women where she had served as a National Officer holder and had traveled the world with the United Methodist Women. She had been a Sunday School Teacher and Youth Group Leader for 25 years at the Fremont United Methodist Church as well. Pat had been the

janitor at the Fremont United Methodist Church for 25 years until her retirement and had been a homemaker raising her family prior. Family always came first with Pat. Pat is survived by her 6 children, 27 grandchildren, numerous great and great great grandchildren. Pat was preceded in death by her husband Darrell and her son Michael.

**MORRIS C. TABER** – Morris C. Taber was an active member of First Ypsilanti UMC and for many years was lay delegate to the Detroit Annual Conference, where he also served on mission boards. For several years he and his wife Ann coordinated multiple Volunteer in Mission projects to Old Mutare and Africa University in Zimbabwe. In Zimbabwe they also started several school libraries, facilitated scholarships for students, and organized shipments of books and school and medical supplies. He was also a tireless community activist, frequently donating his time and resources to causes such as Cass Community Social Services in Detroit and Justice for Our Neighbors. He is the son of the late Rev. Marcius Taber, brother of the late Rev. Harold Taber, and brother of Rev. Margery Schleicher, who survives him. Also, surviving him is his wife Ann, sons Mark (Colleen) and Steve (Julie) Taber, and sister Carolyn (Werner) Klisch.

## ROLL OF DECEASED CLERGY MEMBERS

For Roll of Deceased prior to July 1, 2018, consult West Michigan Conference or Detroit Conference Minutes of 2018 and before.

Name	Date of Death	Place of Death	Age	Conference & Admission Date
Dennis G. Buwalda	12/21/2017*	Holt, MI	74	West Michigan 1968
<i>* correction of death date in previous entry: 2017, not 2018</i>				
James G. Simmons	4/24/2018	Chelsea, MI	90	Detroit 1952
Gilson M. Miller	4/25/2018	Heber City, UT	70	Detroit 1971
Michael L. Raymo	5/1/2018	Hoover, AL	70	Detroit 1978
Bert Hosking	5/17/2018	Louisville, KY	95	Detroit 1956
James F. Thomas	6/2/2018	Grand Rapids, MI	82	N. Indiana 1952
Amerson W. Arntz	6/4/2018	Macomb Township, MI	75	Detroit 2000
Gerald M. Sever, Jr.	6/19/2018	Grand Blanc, MI	71	Detroit 1997
Douglas K. Olsen	7/15/2018	Dundee, MI	71	Detroit 1970
Bernard R. Randolph	7/21/2018	Mecosta, MI	102	West Michigan 1956
Young Bong Yoon	7/24/2018	Moreno Valley, CA	93	Korea 1951
Harold M. Taber	8/18/2018	Grand Rapids, MI	89	West Michigan 1950
Susan Bennett Stiles	8/31/2018	Charlotte, NC	66	Detroit 1975
Sally A. LaFrance	9/15/2018	Spring Lake, MI	82	West Ohio 1995
Ward N. Scovel, Jr.	10/13/2018	Penn Valley, CA	82	West Michigan 1976
Francis F. Anderson	10/18/2018	Holt, MI	92	West Michigan 1960
Juanita J. Ferguson	11/18/2018	Detroit, MI	75	Detroit 1972
Paton M. Zimmerman	11/27/2018	Southfield, MI	93	Detroit 1978
Richard C. Kuhn	12/8/2018	Perrinton, MI	82	Minnesota 1959
Marvin R. Rosa	2/11/2019	Lake Ann, MI	81	West Michigan 1968
Gary V. Lyons	2/17/2019	Gallatin, TN	79	Detroit 1972
Mark E. Spaw	3/8/2019	Farmington Hills, MI	61	Detroit 1982
Gregory R. Wolfe	4/15/2019	Napoleon, MI	71	West Michigan 1973
Brian K. William	4/16/2019	West Bloomfield, MI	43	Detroit 2004
Bruce M. Denton	5/5/2019	Lake Orion, MI	68	Detroit 1973
Donald S. Weatherup	5/13/2019	Canton, MI	57	Detroit 2002
Ross Neil Nicholson	6/29/2019	Marquette, MI	86	Detroit 1959
Charles F. Garrod	7/25/2019	Grand Rapids, MI	89	West Michigan 1957
George R. Grettenberger	7/28/2019	Okemos, MI	89	West Michigan 1954
Kenneth D. McCaw	9/5/2019	Grand Rapids, MI	85	West Michigan 1962

## HISTORICAL SESSIONS OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

For the listing of previous sessions of the former Detroit Annual Conference and West Michigan Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, please refer to each conference's 2018 Journal, pages 322 and 298 respectively.

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.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date Began</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Bishop</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
1	May 30, 2019	Traverse City, MI	David A. Bard	Joy A. Barrett



## CONFERENCE CANE

The Michigan Conference Cane replaces the two canes previously awarded by the Detroit and West Michigan Conferences. It will be used in ceremonies to honor the oldest living clergy person who has been under appointment to the Conference (and predecessor Michigan Area conferences) for a minimum of thirty (30 years). The thirty years need not be continuous, and the recipient need not be a resident of the state of Michigan at the time the award is made. The Commission on Archives and History sponsors the presentation. The current holder of the conference cane is Arthur L. Spafford.

The body of the cane is made of wood from the church in Adrian where the Detroit Conference was organized. There are inserts representing different historical periods, including: wood from the first Methodist Episcopal Church erected in Michigan in 1818 at River Rouge; wood from the desk of Reverend Seth Reed, who joined the Michigan Conference in its earliest years and died at the age of 100; wood from a tree near the resting place of Barbara Heck, a pioneering Methodist woman in America; wood from the church where Judson Collins, our first missionary to China, was converted; and wood from the pulpit used by Robert Strawbridge, pioneer of Methodism on the American continent.

The Detroit and West Michigan conferences both began the tradition of presenting canes to a senior member in 1904, during the celebration of the centennial of the first two visits to Michigan by Methodist preachers. Over the years, fifty-nine retired ministers received these cane awards (28 in West Michigan and 31 in Detroit). Recipients have included ministers not only from the United Methodist Church, but also some who began their careers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, Methodist Protestant Church, Evangelical Church, United Brethren in Christ, and the former Lexington Conference (a segregated African-American conference). The two older canes have been retired to the Conference archives.

Detroit Conference Cane holders and year presented:

David A. Curtis, 1904; Francis A. Blades, 1904; Seth Reed, 1905; Phillip I. Wright, 1924; David Casler, 1928; David B. Millar, 1929; James E. Jacklin, 1941; Samuel Graves, 1944; George Tripp, 1948; Thomas Mott, 1950; Carl S. Risley, 1951; David N. Earl, 1953; Edwin D. Dimond, 1954; James T.M. Stephens, 1959; H. Addis Leeson, 1960; Richard C.G. Williams, 1964; Charles Bragg, 1966; William A. Gregory, 1967; Frank Purdy, 1971; Henry I. Voelker, 1973; Russell D. Hopkins, 1975; Benjamin F. Holmes, 1984; Myron R. Everett, 1990; George M. Jones, 1993; Walter C.B. Saxman, 1998; Ira L. Wood, 2002; Alvin Burton, 2003; Konstantin Wipp, 2005; William D. Rickard, 2013; Donald O. Crumm, 2014; Arthur L. Spafford, 2014

West Michigan Conference Cane holders and year presented:

John H. Pitezal, 1904; Riley C. Crawford, 1906; Lorin M. Bennett, 1911; Daniel S. Haviland, 1912; Thomas T. George, 1917; John K. Stark, 1919; John Graham, 1920; James H. Potts, 1921; Leander S. Matthews, 1942; William D. Rowland, 1949; Howard D. Skinner, 1950; August H. Coors, 1953; Harley H. Harris, 1955; Charles P. Ostrom, 1964; Albert T. Cartland, 1965; Grant L. Jordan, 1971; Floyd M. Barden, 1974; Lloyd A. Mead, 1975; Alvin G. Doten, 1980; Edward F. Rhoades, 1986; Richard D. Wearne, 1988; Harley L. Lane, 1989; Glenn M. Frye, 1991; Wayne M. Palmer, 1996; Chester J. Erickson, 1999; William A. Blanding, 2005; H. James Birdsall, 2007; Bernard R. Randolph, 2008 (died 2018)



## SURVIVING SPOUSES

Amstutz, Jean – 4495 Calkins Rd., Apt 109, Flint, MI 48532-3574 .....	(810) 230-0514
Anderson, Virginia A – 4090 Tall Oaks Dr, Grand Ledge, MI 48837 .....	(517) 627-7895
Anderson, Winona – Great Lakes Christian Homes, 2050 S Washington Rd Apt 1012, Holt, MI 48842-8634 .....	(517) 694-3084
Arntz, Ellen – 47280 Savannah Dr, Macomb, MI 48044-2792 .....	(586) 468-6464
Atherton, Tom – 10400 Smith Rd., Gaines, MI 48436 .....	(989) 271-8757
Atkins, Gertrude – 6206 S. Friends Ave., Whittier, CA 90601-3726	
Baggs, Betty L – Timberline Lodge, 3770 Colwood Road, Caro, MI 48723 .....	(989) 672-2525
Bamberger, Fern – 2439 Winona Street, East Tawas, MI 48730 .....	(989) 362-5810
Bank, Dorothy – 255 Mayer Rd., 266 Loehe Haus, Frankenmuth, MI 48734 .....	(989) 652-4266
Bates, Barbara (Joyce) – 2525 N Elm St Apt 38, Miami, OK 74354-1421	
Bates, Wanda – 6321 Noel Dr., Brentwood, TN 37027	
Baumgart, Gloria – 3871 England Dr, Shelbyville, MI 49344 .....	(269) 672-2152
Beach, Barbara – 200 Fairway West, Nicholasville, KY 40356-9414	
Becker, Jeanne – 2985 Hillcrest Drive, New Era, MI 49446 .....	(231) 861-5799
Beeker, Carol – 17425 Bunker Hill, Mt., Clemens, MI 48044 .....	(586) 263-1712
Beers, Helen – 553 Gidley Ave Apt H, Grand Haven, MI 49417-2358 .....	(616) 844-4272
Benner, Joan – 21660 Meadow Lane, Franklin, MI 48025-4850 .....	(248) 723-0676
Benton, Katherine – 8530 Elkwood St., Byron Center, MI 49315 .....	(616) 878-1405
Betts, Shirley – 501 King St. #114, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827 .....	(517) 663-1626
Beynon, Hester W – 212 Chandler, Flint, MI 48503-2140	
Blankenburg, Marilyn Jean – 9459 Orchard Street, PO Box 394, New Lothrop, MI 48460-0247 .....	(810) 638-5722
Blue, Joan – 12198 SW Torch Lake Dr, Rapid City, MI 49676-9330 .....	(231) 322-4420
Boal, Linda – 320 W. Main St, Marquette, MI 49855 .....	(231) 871-0781
Bolitho, Mabel – 2315 40th St., R.F.D.#2, Hudsonville, MI 49426-9626	
Bollinger, Evelyn – 201 Bedford Trail, Apt. 132, Sun City Center, FL 33573	
Bough, Carolyn – 7341 Villamuer Rd, West Bloomfield, MI 48322-3307 .....	(248) 788-1431
Bourns, Carol Lynn – 144 W 4th St Apt 403, Clare, MI 48617-1483 .....	(989) 544-2719
Bowen, Barbara – 9387 Oakley Rd., St. Charles, MI 48655	
Bracken, Claudia – 54 S. Avery, Waterford, MI 48328-3400 .....	(248) 894-5902
Braid, Judith – 1850 Helena Ave., Hartland, MI 48353 .....	(248) 887-4312
Branstner, Virginia – 210 E Sherwood Rd, Williamston, MI 48895-9323	
Braun, Carol – 2730 Clyde Road, Ionia, MI 48846 .....	(616) 527-0034
Bray, Jeannette – 16806 Lochmoor Circle W., Northville, MI 48167 .....	(734) 667-4802
Breithaupt, Kathy – 18829 Lakewood Circle, Lake Ann, MI 49650 .....	(231) 620-5508
Brooks, Alice –	
Brooks, Kimberly – 216 Fifth St., Harrisville, MI 48740	
Brooks, Nancy – 3845 Longfore Drive, Bay City, MI 48706	
Brown, Esther – 162 Lakewood Dr, East Leroy, MI 49058 .....	(269) 979-9303
Browne, Llwellyn – 20100 Murray Hill, Detroit, MI 48235	
Buker, Elaine M. – 10100 Hillview Dr. Apt.1213, Pensacola, FL 32514 .....	(850) 607-7743
Bunce, Barbara – 717 Petoskey St., Gaylord, MI 49735	
Burgess, Eula Jean – 422 Seaman Street, St Louis, MI 48880 .....	(989) 681-4129
Burkey, Beth – 45182 W Park Dr Apt 46, Novi, MI 48377-1302	
Burton-Collier, Linda J – 2574 127th Ave, Allegan, MI 49010-9250 .....	(269) 793-7340
Butters, Pamela – 2204 2nd St, Connellsville, PA 15425-5313	
Buwalda, Carol – 3983 Sierra Hts, Holt, MI 48842-7701 .....	(517) 663-4418

Cameron, Doris J – 1103 SW 11th Street, Boca Raton, FL 33486.....	(561) 395-5827
Carr, Carolyn – 5536 Ivy Path, Stevensville, MI 49127 .....	(263) 686-0290
Cermak, Adele – 10540 N Shore Dr, PO Box 839, Northport, MI 49670.....	(231) 386-5204
Chappell, Marilyn – 2401 Stobbe St, Saginaw, MI 48602-4081	
Christler, Betty – 801 W. Middle St. DH 461, Chelsea, MI 48118.....	(810) 338-9696
Christler, Bonnie – 2500 River Rd. #15, Marysville, MI 48040 .....	(810) 841-5296
Cobb, Betty – 6711 Embassy Blvd, 106, Port Rickey, FL 34668-4739.....	(813) 842-3447
Cole, Susan – 25 Arrowhead Estates Ln, Chesterfield, MI 63017-1824 .....	(636) 536-2585
Coleman, Marge – 235 Gateway Dr. #507, Clare, MI 48817	
Collins, Mary – PO Box 17, Northport, MI 49670 .....	(231) 386-5169
Collins, Olo R – 15827 Maddelein, Detroit, MI 48205-2535	
Collver, Joanne – 5619 Bayshore Rd. #135, Palmetto, FL 34221-9232	
Conn, Judith – 1738 E Front St, Traverse City, MI 49686 .....	(231) 995-5294
Cook, Anne – 1013 Castle Drive, Weidman, MI 48893 .....	(989) 644-5903
Cowing, Della – 3800 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC 28215	
Cozadd, Donna Marie – 44 Jasmine Ave., Palmetto, FL 34221	
Cozadd, Fay – 2450 S. Ridgewood #10, Edgewater, FL 32141	
Crawford, Shirley – 3849 William Hume Dr, Zephyrhills, FL 33541-2351 .....	(813) 788-0534
Crotser, Doris Lee – 109 N. 2nd Street, Lawrence, MI 49064-9697 .....	(269) 674-4249
Crum, Grace – 2000 32nd St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49508 .....	(616) 284-5445
Crumm, Barbara – 12640 Holly Rd., Apt B211, Grand Blanc, MI 48439.....	(810) 771-7319
Damberg, Marion – 495 McBride St, Dundee, MI 48131-1120.....	(734) 529-2157
Daniels, Gail – 4282 Occidental Hwy., Adrian, MI 49221 .....	(517) 266-9377
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