

YEARBOOK AND MINUTES

OF THE
ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION

**SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

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OF

The United Methodist Church



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IX. MEMORIALS

Robert Alexander Anderson

Robert Alexander Anderson was born in Bluefield, West Virginia on October 10, 1896. His father, also Robert, was deceased at the time of his son's birth. His mother's name was Pearl Moore Anderson. Bob attended schools in West Virginia and Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky. Later, he attended Princeton and Columbia Universities.

While attending Asbury, he met his wife, Ruth Stevens Williams. They were married in Starr City, Arkansas on October 18, 1922. Two children graced their home, Robert A., Jr. and Ruth Alice.

During World War I, Robert enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He crossed the Atlantic 16 times on the troop transport, U.S.S. Madawaska.

Robert Anderson entered the ministry of the Indiana Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1922, transferring to the New Jersey Conference in 1942. He was ordained Deacon by Bishop Edwin Holt Hughes in Atlantic City in 1926 and Elder by Bishop Joseph F. Berry in 1928.

During World War II, Robert was one of many Conference members to join the ranks of Chaplain. He was appointed Lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserves, retiring in 1946 as Lt. Commander. Following his naval duties, he preached and taught at Arkansas College for five years before returning to the active pastorate at Neptune City, the last church he served before retiring to Farmington, Missouri.

Besides Neptune City, Bob pastored the Navesink, Point Pleasant: Central, Morganville and Villa Park Churches

Robert Anderson entered his heavenly home on September 18, 1990 at the age of 93 years, 11 months and 8 days. At the time of his death, he was the second oldest Conference pastor in years served.

Funeral services were held at the Taylor Funeral Chapel in Farmington, Missouri. A graveside service was conducted at the Oakland Cemetery, Russellville, Arkansas, where he lies buried beside his beloved wife.

My best and strongest memories of my father are of a man dedicated to giving aid and encouragement to his fellow men, regardless of their color, religion or sex. He loved his country and was proud to have been able to serve in World War I and II. I was very fortunate to have him as a father.

— Robert A. Anderson, Jr.

Julia Mae Banse

Julia, wife of the Rev. Albert L. Banse, was born November 11, 1891 in the Kensington section of Philadelphia. Walter Scott and Mary Frances (Garton) Megronigle were her parents. As a girl, she was raised in Philadelphia and Camden, where she attended elementary schools and Methodist Episcopal Church and Sunday Schools. Due to her father's poor health, her education was limited to elementary school. Julia said, "From that time on, I educated myself by listening to those who were educated, by reading, by asking how to pronounce words, by asking questions, and by keeping alert to what was going on around me."

Julia was converted at Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church, Camden in 1901 and joined the church that year. She taught Sunday School, sang in the church choir and was often the soprano soloist.

She and Albert were married in her parents' home in Camden on her 20th birthday. The Rev. James Eckerly of Bethel Church officiated.

After working for ten years for the Victor Talking Machine Company in Camden, Albert was appointed to serve the Magnolia Church



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