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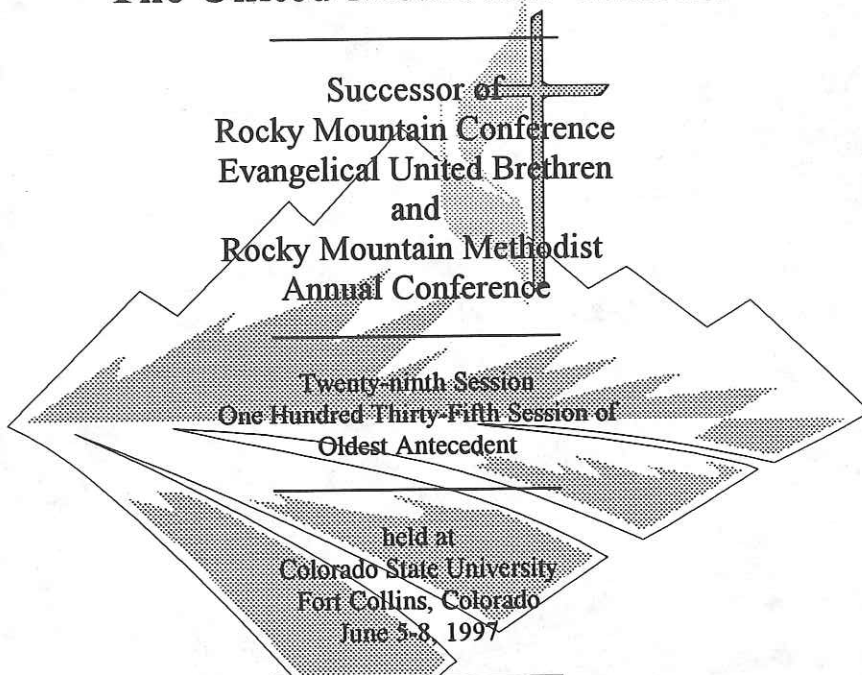
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**1997
YEAR BOOK AND
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**of the
Rocky Mountain Conference
of
The United Methodist Church**



1997 Journal Production Team: Darlene Allen, Pamela Anderson, Sachi Boyer, Nancy deSimone, Dave Dolsen, Janet Forbes, Donna Hite, Jamie Noble, Patricia Vestal, Richard Vickery, Lowell Uda, Secretary & Journal Production Manager

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g is under control."



MEMOIRS

In loving memory of all clergy and their spouses of the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church who have died during this conference year, the following memoirs are submitted. Sincere thanks goes to family members and others who submitted information on which this report is based.

Richard A. Vickery, Jr., Section Editor

The Historic Roll for the Conference Year 1996 - 1997 reads:

NAME	BIRTH DATE & PLACE	DATE OF DEATH & PLACE
Howard A. Hanke	December 13, 1911 Thurber, Texas	March 14, 1996 Wilmore, Kentucky
Harold C. Knudsen	May 13, 1919 Chicago, Illinois	July 27, 1996 Denver, Colorado
Martha Preuss Felberg Senn	May 19, 1903 Wolhynia, Russia	August 23, 1996 Denver, Colorado
Charles Edwin Brown, Jr.	December 31, 1911 Coldwater, Kansas	August 23, 1996 Sun City, Arizona
Reginald F. Goff	December 7, 1905 Clarksburg, Ontario, Canada	September 23, 1996 Tucson, Arizona
J. Stanley Fixter	May 4, 1922 Toronto, Canada	January 11, 1997 Ft. Collins, Colorado
Laird V. Loveland	July 6, 1910 Palmyra, New York	January 11, 1997
Ruth Marie Talla	June 15, 1917 Comanche County, Oklahoma	January 30, 1997 Colorado Springs, Colorado
Viola A. Young	August 16, 1899 Avon, Ontario, Canada	May 1, 1997 Cody, Wyoming
Grace Roberta Fiester	1910 Pierre, South Dakota	May 6, 1997 Aztec, New Mexico

GRACE ROBERTA FIESTER



Roberta Fiester was born in Pierre, South Dakota to Robert D. and Inez T. Wilson Dexheimer. She graduated from Yankton High School in Yankton, S.D. in 1926. Her father was an Evangelical United Brethren minister and the family moved to the eastern plains of Colorado where Roberta preached her first sermon at the Siebert Church prior to her departure for Westmar College in LeMars, Iowa. There she majored in English and minored in religion and history, graduating in 1931. She was later named Distinguished Alumnae of her undergraduate alma mater.

Upon graduation she taught school in Montana for four years. She attended seminary in Naperville, Illinois, planning to go to Japan as a teaching missionary. However the Sino-Japanese War intervened, and no female missionaries were allowed to travel abroad. It was in Naperville that she met

her husband Mark. They were married on June 12, 1937 and shared fifty-nine years together until Mark's death in 1996.

They immediately moved to Jersey City, New Jersey to Mark's first pastorate. They were there for over a decade and it was there that daughter Pam and son Ken were born and adopted. In 1948 they left Jersey City and moved to the Church in Ordway, Colorado. Roberta taught during those years in Sugar City. In 1958 they moved to Denver for Mark to assume the Pastorate at Grace Evangelical Church. Roberta taught sixth grade during those years.

She served twenty-two years in the Jefferson County R-1 School District being named Outstanding Elementary Teacher of America in 1972 and retiring in 1975.

When Mark took the Breckenridge appointment, Roberta stayed in Denver as a media specialist and library supervisor. When she joined him in the ministry to Summit County, she began to write. Four publications resulted: A Small Book of Small Spectaculars, Friends in Fur and Feathers, an anthology of poetry and prose, was published in 1992; A Strew of Wonder was published in 1993; and Stalking the Wildflower in 1996.

Roberta and Mark will be remembered as a team. Together they were honored as Outstanding Citizens of Summit County by the Summit Foundation in 1995.

Roberta was in love with everything around her. To have contact with her was to have known her vibrancy and enthusiasm for all of God's creation, for life and love. Her eyes would constantly sparkle as she spoke of her love for family, friends and Mark.

She died on May 6, 1997 at her son's home in Aztec, New Mexico.

St. Clair
L. S. Co
E. J. Lar
F. P. Ov
George
E. L. Ba
D. P. Co
Abraham
George
Charles
E. E. G
Mrs. E.
W. H. M
William
Allen R
Louis G
John Sa
William
John H.
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