

Official Minutes Of The Southern New England Conference

The United Methodist Church

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The Tenth Session

(The One Hundred Eighty-Third Session of the former New England Conference)

(The One Hundred Thirty-Ninth Session of the former
New England Southern Conference)

Edward G. Carroll, President

John E. Post, Secretary

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Reverend Horatio F. Robbins

Horatio F. Robbins was born in 1904, in Brownsville, Indiana the son of the Rev. and Mrs. Merlin Robbins. At the age of 16 he already was preaching to congregations in Southern Indiana. He continued to serve churches in a more formal way during his college years. He graduated from Evansville College in Evansville, Indiana in 1924. During that same year, he was ordained deacon. In 1928 he graduated from Boston University with a Master Degree.

Brother Robbins was married to Eleanor Hill of Boston in 1929. In 1932, he became a full member of the Indiana Conference and was ordained elder. However, the time he spent in New England along with marrying a woman from Boston resulted in his return to the area where he assumed the pastoral appointment of Fairview Church in Holyoke and became a member of the New England Conference in 1933. Other appointments included Ware and Belchertown, Mittineague in West Springfield, Leominster and Oakdale of East Boylston.

According to his wife, Eleanor, Horatio was especially proud of the fact that six people entered Christian ministry under his leadership while in Leominster. This was a high point in his ministry.

After retirement in 1969, Brother Robbins served as assistant pastor in Shrewsbury and associate pastor at Epworth in Worcester. Rev. John O. Parker, former pastor of the Epworth Church, says about Horatio during his tenure in that church, "He was a fatherly figure (who) seemed to relate to all generations. He taught a church school class of high school aged youth. He visited and often provided taxi service for elderly. I never knew him to be stopped by rain, ice, sleet or snow from any agreed-upon service he was to fulfill. . . he was a man of determination."

Horatio Robbins entered the church eternal on August 9, 1978, with burial at High Plains Cemetery, Oakdale. He was survived by his loving wife, Eleanor and two sons: Professor Frederic Robbins of Franklin Pierce College in Rindge, New Hampshire and Dr. Philips Robbins of Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



Reverend Forrest L. White

Forrest L. White was a man greatly dedicated to caring for the needs of children which became manifested through many forms in his shortened ministry. He was born March 5, 1929, in Gloucester, Massachusetts, son of Forrest and Evelyn F. (Tucker) White.

Forrest was educated in the public schools of Gloucester, graduating from High School in 1947. In 1952, he was awarded the Bachelor of Arts Degree from Gordon College. He also received the S.T.B. and M.A. from Boston University. In 1959 Forrest was ordained elder in the former New England Conference.

Forrest's first appointment was to serve as Youth Director for the Conference Board of Education from 1957-1963. He later was appointed to Saugus: Dorr Memorial, St. James in Stoneham and in 1972, to First Church of Everett.

During his pastorate in Stoneham, Brother White was elected to the Stoneham School Committee which he served for six years, the last four of which he was chairman. His

