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ONE HUNDRED FORTY-FIFTH SESSION  
SINCE THE ORGANIZATION OF  
METHODISM IN OKLAHOMA

*and the*

## Twenty-First Annual Session

*of the*

# OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE

*of*

## THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*held at*

### ST. LUKE'S United Methodist Church

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

May 31-June 3, 1988

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Survivors include his wife, Ruth of Wichita Falls, Texas; two sons: Bill of Woodward and Charles of Tulsa; a daughter, Frances Ruth Matkin of Bishop, Texas and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held September 8, 1987 at the Beverly Drive United Methodist Church in Wichita Falls, Texas. Burial was at the Chico Cemetery at Chico, Texas.

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### ELZIE LEONARD STEWART

Elzie Leonard Stewart, born January 4, 1898 in Hope, Arkansas, to the Rev. Nelson and Mary R. White Stewart, died April 21, 1988 in Tulsa.

Raised on a farm in Hempested County, he graduated from high school at Clow, Arkansas and served as associate pastor of a CME church while attending Lanes College.

He later attended Philander Smith College and received his bachelor's degree in sacred theology at Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta.

Licensed to preach in 1913, he was ordained elder in 1933 in the Southwest Conference.

He served the following churches: Anadarko; Hennessey-Crescent; Pine Bluff, Arkansas; Hugo-Grant-Colbert; Boley-Shawnee; Guthrie-Langston; Seminole-Wewoka; Davis-Wynnewood-Sulphur; and Purcell-Anadarko. He was a district superintendent from 1964 until he retired in 1970.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Lola, in 1974, and by his wife, Elsie, several years ago. There are no known survivors.

Services were April 27, 1988 at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Tulsa, with the Rev. Janette E. Kotey officiating, assisted by the Rev. Don Scott and Dr. Joe Harris. Burial was at the Crown Hill Cemetery in Tulsa.

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### JOHN JOEL STOWE, JR.

John Joel Stowe, Jr., born June 11, 1908 in Clarksville, Tennessee, died in Lawton on December 10, 1987. A daughter, Mary Virginia Stowe, preceded him in death November 20, 1987.

Dr. Stowe earned degrees from Emory University and George Peabody University, and studied theology at Duke and Vanderbilt Divinity Schools. Oklahoma City University awarded him an honorary doctorate in 1964.

A fifth generation Methodist minister, he was ordained Elder in 1935 in Tennessee, where he was a pastor for sixteen years before moving to Oklahoma in 1950. His pastorates in Oklahoma included: Hugo; Lawton, First; Okmulgee, First; Durant; Woodward, First; Tulsa, Rose Hill and Oklahoma City, Mayfair. He also served at Highland

Church in Odessa, Texas, and was superintendent of the Woodward and Lawton Districts. Following retirement in 1978, he became pastor of Snyder-Mountain Park, where he continued his ministry four more years.

With his wide-ranging interests and talents, Joe was active in leadership positions in community and Annual Conference, chairing numerous boards and committees. A contributor to various church publications, he also served as book editor for two major newspapers and reviewer for many others. His work with Boy Scout Executive Councils was recognized with the Silver Beaver Award.

Funeral services for Dr. Stowe were held December 15, 1987 at the First United Methodist Church in Lawton, with the Revs. Joe Stewart, Gilbert Brothers, Ralph Patterson and Richard Gibbens officiating. Burial was in Sunset Memorial Gardens in Lawton.

Dr. Stowe is survived by his wife, Evalyn, whom he married in 1932; one son, John J. Stowe III of Frederick; four daughters: Mrs. Sue Khalifa of Cairo, Egypt; Mrs. Kay Moore of Lubbock, Texas; Mrs. Louise Johns of Montgomery, Alabama; and Miss India Stowe of Lawton; his brother, Bishop W. McFerrin Stowe of Dallas; and seven grandchildren.

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### W. ROY WELTON

W. Roy Welton, born March 19, 1897 in Arkansas, died in the Midwest City Hospital December 14, 1987.

For twenty-five years Roy worked as a postman in McAlester, and served as superintendent for LeFlore County. During World War I he served in the Marines.

He married Beulah Aurelia Kelly in 1920 at Hodgens. She died in 1977.

The churches he served as a part-time local pastor include Savanna, Pittsburg, Calvin, Kiowa Circuit and McAlester Circuit.

Funeral services were December 17, 1987 at the Grand Avenue United Methodist Church in McAlester, with the Rev. Robert Majors and the Rev. Richard House officiating. Burial was in the Oak Hill Cemetery at McAlester.

Survivors include three sons: Bill of Henryetta; Jack of McAlester; and George of Harrah; nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

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### EDWARD LOUIS WHYTLAW

Edward Louis Whytlaw, born July 4, 1912 to John and Phyllis Whytlaw in New York City, died May 24, 1987 at Northfield, Minnesota.