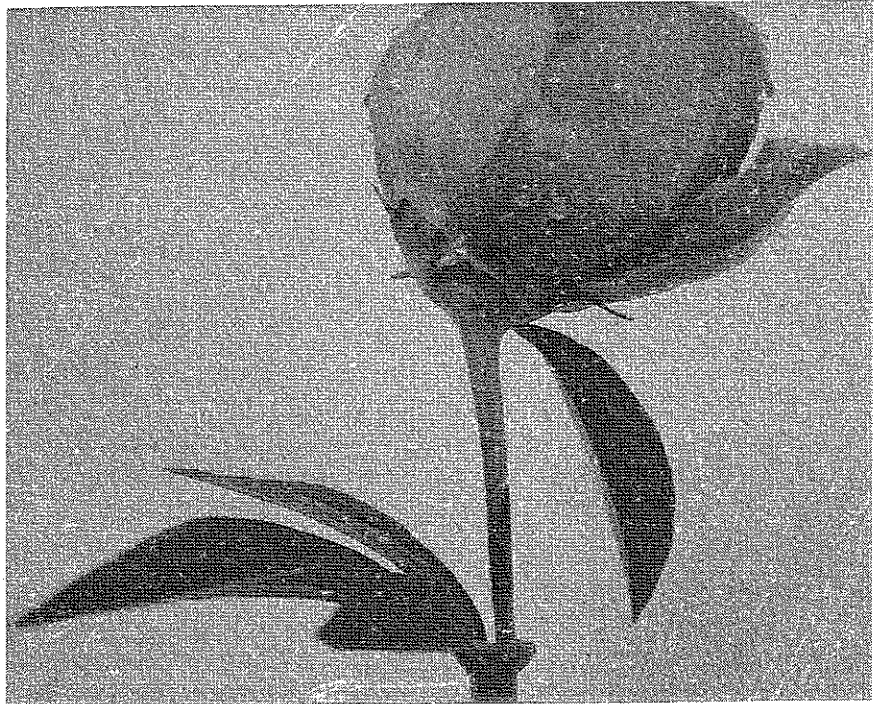


WESTERN NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The United Methodist Church

“Our Mission for the Western New York Annual Conference is to recruit, resource, release and refresh spiritual leaders of excellence through connectional relationships, resulting in growth and service in the world in the name of Jesus Christ.”



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274 Western New York Conference

Rev. Glenn E. Bucher

1909-2004



The Reverend Glenn Ernest Bucher was born in Rochester, NY on March 27, 1909, the eldest son of Grover Cleveland and Elizabeth Barr Bucher. He married Maxine Armstrong of Alfred, NY on July 14, 1940. They were married for more than sixty years when she died on June 29, 2001. They had three children, Elizabeth (Dean) Woolever, Robert, and Pamela.

At the time of his death, Rev. Bucher was a Patriarch of the Western New York Conference, being the second oldest living pastor. He regularly attended Annual Conference and District pastoral functions until the last months of his life. His father was also a Methodist pastor; together they served the Genesee and Western New York Conferences for 84 consecutive years, including a period when they both served in Hornell, at different churches.

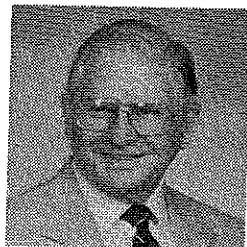
Glenn graduated from Alfred University in 1938 and received his Masters of Theology degree from Drew Theological Seminary in 1941. He was received by the Genesee Conference as a probationary member in 1937, and as an Elder in 1940. He served as a student pastor at East Groveland and at Venice Park, New Jersey. His full-time pastorates included Lake Avenue (1941-44), Park Church in Hornell (1944-54), Monroe Avenue (the "greenstone church" 1954-63), Wellsville (1963-70), and Hartland and Quaker Road (1970-74). He also served as chair of the Board of Ministerial Training and Qualifications (now Board of Ordained Ministry). In retirement, Glenn and Maxine settled in Alfred, NY, and were active in the ministry of the Alfred United Methodist Church.

Glenn was a mentor to many people, young and old alike. He lived by his word, having great integrity. His unfaltering faith affected all who knew him. He loved the church. These qualities, along with an enthusiastic, friendly, and kind nature, influenced many to follow in his footsteps into a life of ministry.

Glenn Bucher was a devoted father, grandfather, brother, and son. He loved to drive and visit various relatives, or just take road trips with the family. He loved family reunions. He entered peacefully into the loving arms of our Father at St. James Hospital in Hornell, NY on Sunday morning, January 25, 2004, after a short illness and a long rewarding life.

Rev. Kenneth Earle Traxler

1921-2003



Rev. Kenneth Earle Traxler was born on December 30, 1921 in Alachua, FL, son of Earl and Jewel (Godwin) Traxler. He graduated from Alachua High School in 1939 and from the University of Florida in Gainesville (UF) in 1943. Upon graduation from UF he entered the United States Navy and served as a naval officer in the South Pacific during World War II. After the war, having become an accomplished pianist during his high

Memoirs 275

school and college years, he decided to attend Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, MD. He graduated from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, GA earning the Master of Theology degree in 1951 after completing his Bachelor of Divinity.

Ken met Marjorie Maeder of Niagara Falls, NY, his future bride and life's companion, while attending Peabody Conservatory. It was during this time that they both felt God's call to serve Him in the ministry of the Gospel of peace and love in Jesus Christ. They were married for 54 devoted years and had three children, Cathy Averill (husband Doug) of Rochester, NY, Marilee LoPresti (husband Mark) of Grand Island, NY, and Stanley Traxler (wife Allison) of Newburyport, MA. There are eight grandchildren. Ken was a much-loved father and grandfather.

After serving the Methodist Church in Groton, NY for one year and working at Cornell University in preparation for foreign missionary service, Ken and Marge with their 1½ year old daughter sailed to Brazil where they lived and worked, building churches and bringing Christ into the lives of many people for 12 years. A significant number of young people accepted Christ and became valuable leaders in the Brazilian Methodist Church through Ken's love and care in their lives. Bishop Paulo Ayres Mattos, Raimundo Guimaraes, and Rick Bonfim have been life-long friends and brothers in Christ who were strongly influenced by Ken's ministry.

Upon returning to the United States in 1966, Ken served as pastor of United Methodist Churches in Pultneyville, Niagara Falls (Wesley), Sanborn, and Attica, NY. After retirement he continued in ministry in significant ways at St. Paul's and St. James United Methodist Churches in Niagara Falls. Ken never lost his passion for ministry and was still envisioning ministry events for Niagara Falls when he passed away, August 28, 2003.

Ken's continued interest and talent in music led to his organization of a wonderful presentation of Handel's Messiah in Niagara Falls. At home, he had a vinyl record collection of over 10,000 albums and a few hundred CDs. His wonderful sense of humor and his love for God's people gave purpose to his life and won him to the hearts of the people he served and his colleagues.

Marjorie L Traxler
David W Kofahl

Rev. Leland Wesley Webster 1917-2003



"The measure of a man's greatness and success is not beheld by men, but only in the eyes of our Lord." Rev, Leland Wesley Webster was a man of great success in the eyes and the heart of his heavenly Father as he followed in the footsteps of his Lord. Leland also followed in the footsteps of his earthly father, Rev. Elmer O. Webster, as did he and his father before him. Leland was the fourth consecutive generation of Websters to be ordained in the Methodist Church. That succession of ministry has continued to Leland's nephew Rev. Wilbur Wesley Pollock and, further, to the sixth generation with Rev. Andrew Wesley

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