

30th Session
West Ohio Annual Conference 1999
The United Methodist Church

One God
One Baptism
One Table



Journal Volume II
Record of the Annual Conference
June 6-10, 1999

MARTHA PROVINE LEACH TURNER



Martha Provine Leach Turner, surviving spouse of The Reverend Mr. Ewart E. Turner, died May 12, 1999, in Lima, OH. She was born November 1, 1906, in Pekin, IL, to William James and Dell Nelson Leach. She married Mr. Turner on June 19, 1929. He preceded her in death on July 31, 1987.

An only child, she had the benefit of her parents' minds and learning; she wrote plays and poems as a young girl, and produced her plays through her high school, Peoria (Illinois) Central High, and college at Ohio Wesleyan University. She graduated OWU in 1929, a member of Phi Beta Kappa. A deep appreciation of the classics, literature and music, was instilled in her from birth. She especially loved Wagnerian opera, up close and personal in Berlin when Mr. Turner served as pastor of the American Church there from 1930 to 1934, when Hitler was coming to power. After the war, with his unique perspective, he returned to Germany each summer as a correspondent for Religious News Service. One of Martha's many talents was expressed in her ability to fill the

pulpit on the Sundays he was gone.

Mrs. Turner was a former editor at CSS Publishing and served as pastor of New Hartford First Methodist Church, NY. She assisted her husband in several churches, including St. Paul's Methodist Church, Toledo, and Grace United Methodist Church, Lima, where she held membership until her death. She was active in the Civil Rights Movement, picketing for lunch counter equality at the Woolworth store in Syracuse, NY. She was a housing advocate for poor people in several organizations. She served in many capacities of leadership with the Methodist conference, district and local Women's Society of Christian Service. She was an eight-year officer for the Methodist Northeastern Jurisdiction Society and former chair of Methodist District Schools of Religion and a teacher in several mission schools.

In Lima, OH, she was a founding member of the Allen Metropolitan Housing Authority, serving for 10 years; Church People for Change, serving as a board member for 11 years; and Rehab Project, serving as a trustee. She co-founded Kibbey Corners, one of Lima's first neighborhood associations, earning the respect and appreciation of community leaders such as the Mayor of Lima, David Berger, who spoke eloquently at her memorial service. She was also a member of the League of Women Voters, active in the Lima, state and national communities. She supported the arts through the Veterans Memorial Civic Center.

Now, Martha, you have waited for the Lord: it is time to go, to run and not be weary, to walk and not faint, to soar with wings like eagles and a song in your heart.

VIRGINIA E. WHITACRE

Virginia E. Whitacre, spouse of The Reverend Robert C. Whitacre, died August 2, 1998, in Leipsic, OH. She was born October 4, 1921, in Henry County, OH, and married Mr. Whitacre on May 24, 1993, in Defiance, OH.



his service pastor

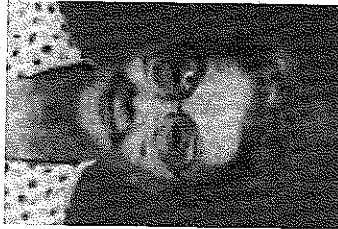
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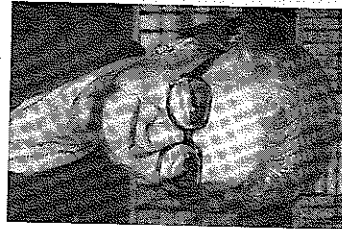
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VIOLET MARIE WILSON

Marie was the first born of four children to Emmet & Mary Bole. She was born in Zanesville, OH July 12, 1907. She graduated from Wind-sor High School in Morgan Co., OH in 1927.

About two years later, after her sister Garnet had graduated, they decided to leave the life on the farm for some adventure and a brighter future in the city of Newark, OH. They found employment at Burt Golf Company, making golf balls. They enjoyed their new found freedom to explore and grow as young women and being wise farm girls they sought spiritual blessings for their lives. I believe it was during this period of time that Aunt Marie accepted Jesus Christ as her personal saviour. She was very active in her church in Newark. It was through this involvement she met a young and handsome seminary student from Westerville College, Carl Lester Wilson. They pledged their love one to the other in marriage July 26, 1935. Together they took their love to a higher level and committed their lives to Christ and his service pastoring churches at Enterprise, Circleville, & Columbus.

Aunt Marie loved her life as a pastor's wife with it's varied duties and services to others. At the time of Uncle Curley's death in Nov. 1964 they were serving at Avondale Evangelical United Brethren Church in Columbus, OH, where they had a radio broadcast every Sunday called "Avondale Church of the Air," the theme song being "HOLY HOLY HOLY LORD! GOD! ALMIGHTY!"

Being a young widow Marie chose to go back to Circleville, OH where they had intended to re-live at 720 N. Pickaway St. She attended Good Shepherd United Methodist Church and served whenever and however she could. She was blessed with many very good friends, two of them being Clarence and Mary Radloff.

Aunt Marie had to enter a nursing home in May of 1993. She was sustained there by her faith and the promise of being reunited with her Lord and beloved husband. Her physical suffering ended in this life December 19, 1998 when God called her home, and I believe He said "well done my good and faithful servant."

TWILA HAZEN COLLIER