

Upon retirement, the Pentlands moved to London, Ontario where they continued to serve in the Metropolitan United Church. The Rev. A.E.C. Pentland died November 30, 1977. Janet Christie Young Pentland died March 14, 1995 in London, Ontario.

MARGARET AGNES GALVIN PITCHER
1916-1995

Margaret Galvin Pitcher died September 3, 1995 in her home in Westminster, Maryland. She was the widow of The Rev. Dr. Dale Pitcher who was a leader in the Central Illinois Annual Conference.

Margaret Agnes Galvin, daughter of Clyde Emerson and Esther Redfern Galvin, was born June 3, 1916 in Lansing, Michigan. She graduated from Adrian College, Adrian, Michigan where she was made a member of the Delta Delta Delta Sorority.

On June 19, 1939, she was united in marriage with Dale Elwin Pitcher. She served with him as he pastored churches in Lacon, Pittsfield, and Pontiac, served as District Superintendent of the Peoria District, served as Executive Director, Central Illinois Annual Conference Program Council, and served as District Superintendent of the Champaign District. They were serving in Hoopston, Illinois when he retired because of health.

In retirement, the Pitchers went to Baltimore, Maryland to make their home. Dr. Pitcher died January 30, 1983. Margaret continued to live in Maryland until her death.

She is survived by a daughter, Margaret Esther (Molly) Pitcher Nash of Baltimore and a son, Daniel Emerson Pitcher of Hightstown, New Jersey.

Margaret Pitcher will always be remembered as a supportive friend and a gracious hostess.

FAYE ELIZABETH SHIPLEY SISSON
1914-1995

Faye Shipley Sisson died February 11, 1995 at the Union Hospital in Terre Haute, Indiana. Funeral services were held February 15 in Paris, Illinois with Brother J. Roy Gill and The Rev. Mr. Dick Piscatelli officiating. Burial was in the Augusta Cemetery.

Faye Elizabeth Shipley, daughter of Amos Franklin and Minnie Adelia Benson Shipley, was born December 5, 1914 in Vermillion, Illinois. She married John Paul Sisson June 28, 1936 in Paris, Illinois. For 30 years, before entering the ministry, Paul Sisson was employed with the New York Central Railroad. He was ordained Local Elder in the Central Illinois Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church in 1968.

Churches served by the Sissons were Sugar Grove-Dudley, Stasburg-Gaskill-Middlesworth-Wesley, Marshall Circuit, Waynesville, Hull-Kinderhook, and Ellsworth-Cooksville. After their first retirement in 1971, they moved to Chrisman, Illinois and continued to serve at Humboldt and then Edgar and Metcalf. Following their second retirement, they lived in Paris, Illinois. Paul died December 14, 1975 in Paris.

Faye Sisson was a loyal member of the Ministers' Wives' Chorus.

She is survived by two sons: John Paul Sisson, Jr. of LeRoy and Robert Sisson of Paris, three daughters: Patricia Ann Augustus and husband Phil of Potomac, Illinois, Mary Elizabeth Sisson, and Adelia Pauline Sisson both of Paris, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

ANNE ISABEL TURNELL SWAIN
1908-1995
ROBERT STEELE SWAIN
1912-1995

A tragic head-on, two-car crash, August 17, 1995 took the lives of two people deeply loved by the Central Illinois Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. The Rev. Mr. Robert S. Swain, a member of the Annual Conference, was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident on a country road northwest of Farmer City. His wife, Anne, died a short time later in Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana, Illinois.

A Service of Celebration for the lives of this dear couple was held in the Kenney United Methodist Church, Kenny, Illinois August 21, 1995 with The Rev. Mr. Vernie T. Barnett, The Rev. Mr. J. Ronald Bogart, The Rev. Ms. Evelyn N. Denmark, and The Rev. Ms. Mary Vick Roth officiating.

Anne Isabel Turnell was born July 19, 1908 in Danville, Illinois the daughter of Frank M. and Catherine K. Fager turnell. After graduation from Danville High School, she attended Brown's Business College, Peoria, Illinois. She graduated from the University of Illinois where she was a member of Phi Mu Sorority. For three years, she was employed by Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. of Peoria. On February 22, 1935, in East Moline, Illinois she was married to Robert S. Swain a student pastor in the Illinois Annual Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church. She loved flowers and was a gifted water color artist.

Robert Steele Swain was born in Kewanee, Illinois, January 24, 1912. He was one of ten children of Dr. Francis M. and Josie Hubbard Swain. He graduated from Kewanee High School and attended Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois College, Jacksonville, and graduated from Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois in 1944. That year, he was received in Full connection in the Illinois Annual Conference. He served 61 continuous years as a Methodist pastor.

The Swains served families in the following churches: Cooksville, Heyworth-Wapella, Avon, Lynnville-Riggston-Mt. Zion-Merritt-Exeter, Camp Point-Golden, Greenfield-Rockbridge, Virden, Marshall First, Taylorville, Springfield Douglas Avenue, East Peoria First, and Leroy. He retired in 1977, but they continued to serve in Kenny for eighteen more years.

The Rev. Mr. Robert Swain served the Annual Conference on several Boards including the Board of Education, Trustees, Missions, Evangelism, and Methodist Sunset Home. He was secretary and vice-chairman of the Board of Hospitals and Homes and chairman of the Board of Christian Vocations. He was a member of the Credit Union and, for over fifteen years he served as counselor for Junior and Senior High Methodist Youth summer camps. He was a charter member of the Preachers Aid society and a member of the Annual Conference Historical Society.

Surviving the Swains are one son: Richard H., a clergy member of the Central Illinois Annual Conference serving Paxton United Methodist Church, two daughters: Kathryn Linn of Geneseo, Illinois and Eleanor Macke of West Union, Illinois, and seven grandchildren.

Their warm and loving presence will be immensely missed throughout the fellowship of the Central Illinois Annual Conference.

BISHOP LANCE WEBB
1909-1995

The Central Illinois Annual Conference learned, during the year, of the death of a former Episcopal Leader. Lance Webb, Bishop of the Illinois Area of The United Methodist Church from 1964 to 1976, died September 9, 1995 at his summer home in Garfield, Arkansas. A memorial service was held September 13 at the University Park United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas.

Lance Webb was born December 10, 1909 in Boaz, New Mexico. He was the son of John Newton Shields Webb, a pioneer Methodist circuit rider, and Delia Lance Webb. He graduated with honors from McMurry College, Abilene, Texas in 1931 and received both B.D. and M.A. degrees from Perkins School of Theology, Dallas. Later, he did graduate work at Union

Theological Seminary, New York. He was ordained in Elder in the Northwest Texas Annual Conference in 1937.

Early pastorates were in Shamrock, Pampa, and Eastland, Texas where he is warmly remembered. He also was chaplain and professor of Bible at McMurry College. In 1942, he was appointed to the growing University Park Methodist Church in Dallas and pastored there until 1953 when he was appointed to North Broadway Methodist Church, Columbus, Ohio where he was ministering at the time of his election to the Episcopacy in 1964. After twelve years in the Illinois Area, he served four years in the Iowa Area retiring in 1980. Following retirement, he was a consultant on spiritual formation to The Upper Room.

Bishop Webb was the author of several books including Conquering The Seven Deadly Sins, Discovering Love, Point Of Glad Return, The Art of Personal Prayer, On the Edge of the Absurd, and a Biblical, historical novel, Onesimus.

Lance Webb was preceded in death by his first wife, Mary Elizabeth Hunt Webb who died March 22, 1990. On June 22, 1991 he married Marie White, widow of The Rev. Mr. James B. White, a member of the Central Illinois Annual Conference, living in Enid, Oklahoma. She survives. Also surviving are three daughters: The Rev. Ms. Jeanne Davis of Dallas, Texas, Mary Edlund, Director of Communications, Minnesota Annual Conference, The United Methodist Church, and Ruth Lindstrom, a reading specialist for low achievers in Kenosha, Wisconsin, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

GORDON BAKER WHITE
1909-1995

"The most solid way to honor the dead is by performing a useful and selfless ministry." So stated The Rev. Mr. Gordon B. White in his Memorial Sermon at the 1963 Annual Conference. This is the way the Central Illinois Annual Conference can honor Dr. White who passed away December 15, 1995. His Memorial Service was at First United Methodist Church Normal, Illinois on December 20. Burial was in the Funks Grove Cemetery.

Gordon Baker White was born June 26, 1909 in a Methodist parsonage in Fairport, Missouri. He was a son of The Rev. Mr. Gay Charles and Rose Law White. The family moved to Maine, Massachusetts, and South Dakota before coming to Danville, Illinois. Gordon received a B.A. degree from the University of Illinois and a B.D. degree from Garrett Biblical Institute. He completed a Doctor of Theology degree at Boston University School of Theology. He was ordained Elder in the Illinois Annual Conference in 1934.

Gordon White and Katherine Koertge of Parkersburg, Illinois were united in marriage June 7, 1934. They had two sons: Russell Charles and James Bradley. She preceded him in death on January 15, 1992.

Churches in this Annual Conference pastored by Dr. White include Mt. Vernon, Ludlow-Thomasboro, Avon, Fithian, Havana, Pittsfield, and Normal First from which he retired in 1973 after a tenure of 23 years. In retirement, the Whites served Arrowsmith.

Dr. White served on Annual Conference Boards of Education Ministerial Training, Camp Service Foundation, and Hospitals and Homes. He was Trustee of The Baby Fold, Sunset Home, the Wesley Foundation at Normal, and was a member of the Annual Conference Public Relations Council and Executive committee of the Illinois Temperance League.

First United Methodist Church in Normal honored Dr. white by naming the chapel the Gordon B. White Chapel in appreciation of his 23 years of service as directing pastor.

MARY RACHEL MERCER WISELY
1901-1995

Mary Rachel Mercer, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Jane Akin Mercer, was born May 14,

1901 in Perry, Illinois. She attended public schools in Perry and Western Illinois State Teachers College in Macomb.

Mary Mercer became a school teacher in Perry, and on July 16, 1928, in Perry, Illinois, was united in marriage with Eugene Nelson Wisley who was a student minister in The Methodist Episcopal Church. Together, they struggled through seminary days in the great depression. He was ordained Elder in the Illinois Annual Conference in 1933. Mary was always able to use her skills and training as a teacher in the congregations which they served. They included: Clayton, Hamilton, East Lynn, San Jose-Salem, Marshall, Aledo, Urbana First, Pontiac, Peoria First Associate, and Kewanee. From 1954 to 1959, he was Superintendent of the Peoria District.

Following retirement in 1969, the Wisleys lived at Sunset Home in Quincy, Illinois. He died December 6, 1989. Mary Wisely died January 25, 1995. She is survived by two sons: Wesley of Laguna Beach, California and Willis Wisely of Walnut Creek, California, 10 Grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren, and a great-great-granddaughter.

NORMAN HARVEY ZURBRIGG
1914-1995

A memorial service for The Rev. Mr. Norman Zurbrigg was held July 15 at Decatur St. Paul's United Methodist Church where he had served as Minister of Visitation. Burial was in Lincoln Memorial Park, Aurora, Illinois. The Rev. Mr. Zurbrigg died July 12, 1995.

Norman Harvey Zurbrigg was born June 21, 1914 in a farm home near Gowanstown, Ontario, Canada. He was the son of William John and Catherine Karges Zurbrigg. His parents and grandparents were longtime members of Emmanuel Evangelical Church in the village of Kurzville near Kitchener, Ontario. Thoughts of becoming a minister or a missionary came to Norman during his grade school days having been inspired by some of his pastors and his family.

He attended Fordwich Continuation School and Listowel High School and graduated from North Central College, Naperville, Illinois. He completed work for a B.D. at Evangelical Theological Seminary, Naperville in 1943.

On June 19, 1941, he was married to Ruth Marion Shoger who also graduated from North Central College. She was a member and organist of the Presbyterian Church, Oswego, Illinois.

After his graduation from Seminary in May of 1943, they returned to serve in his home Annual Conference in Canada. In 1945, they returned to Illinois where he did continuing work in McCormick Seminary, Chicago, and in 1947, he transferred his credentials to the Illinois Annual Conference of the Evangelical Church. He became a citizen of the United States on August 4, 1953. He was serving Decatur, Trueblood Church at the time of union of the Evangelical United Brethren and The Methodist Church. The Zurbriggs also served Mansfield-Galesville and Potomac before retiring in 1979 to live in Decatur.

He is survived by his wife, one son, John Zurbrigg and wife Judith of Chicago, a daughter, Kathy and husband, The Rev. Mr. Randy VanFossen, member of the Central Illinois Annual Conference serving Bourbonnais, six grandchildren, and one brother, Ralph Zurbrigg of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. He was preceded in death by three brothers.