

DAWSON, BISHOP DANA

TOGETHER / NEWS EDITION
Kansas Area
July 1964
VOLUME 8 NUMBER 7

Former Kansas Bishop Dies



Bishop Dana Dawson, 72, who served the Kansas Area of The Methodist Church from 1948 until his retirement in 1960, died May 2 in Shreveport, La.

During his leadership, membership of the Kansas Area Methodist churches increased 24 percent, to nearly a quarter million. Ten new churches were established in Wichita, three in Topeka, three in Kansas City, and one in Manhattan. Mission donations doubled. There was \$2 million expansion at Wesley Hospital in Wichita, a \$1 million hospital built in Hays, a \$2 million hospital in Kansas City, and a \$1 million Home for the Aged in Topeka.

Survivors include his widow, Delma; a son, Dana, Jr., minister of First Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, La.; a daughter, Mrs. Keith Mason, Shreveport, and six grandchildren.



Youth Hear Catholics, Hindus

Two Roman Catholic priests and two Indian Hindu students spoke to the more than 240 senior-high youth at the Hays District rally in Colby April 12.

Then Mrs. John Moore, Hill City, showed slides of religious temples and customs around the world. Evening speaker was the Rev. Whalon Blackman, Quayle Church, Salina.

Diane Amos, outreach chairman, led the Festival of Sharing. Jan Eisenhour, McCracken, is president, and the Rev. Wes Davis, Jennings, is director.

• The Burr Oak Church has given two men to the ministry this year: Don Shoup is preaching at Webber, and Olin Belt, a student at Kansas Wesleyan, serves the Bennington Church.

• Don Riggs, El Dorado, has been awarded the John Monroe Moore Fel-

TOGETHER/NEWS EDITION
Louisiana Area

BISHOP
Aubrey G. Walton

EDITOR
Mrs. Lona Wilson, 100 E. Kings Hwy., Room
226, Shreveport, La. 71104.

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JULY, 1964

1964 General Conference Actions—

- Approved a revised and enlarged *Book of Worship*, for the first time using the Revised Standard Version of the Bible for most Scripture readings and quotations.
- Approved a new hymnal which will be available near the end of 1965.
- Approved a new organizational structure for the Board of Missions, largest agency of the church. Dr. Jack Wilkes, president-elect of Centenary College, was chairman of the committee on missions.
- Voted to maintain its historic position favoring total abstinence from alcoholic beverages and to expect all its leaders to abide by that position.
- Details of merger with the Evangelical United Brethren Church will be determined at a special session of the Methodist General Conference in 1966, to be held simultaneously with one already planned by the EUB denomination. The plan will then go to annual conferences of both denominations for approval, and the actual merger is expected to take place at the 1968 General Conference. Dr. Carl Lueg of New Orleans made the motion that the name of the church after merger, remain The Methodist Church. The motion passed almost unanimously.
- Approved without debate a report which declared that all persons, without regard to race or color, shall be eligible to attend or join Methodist churches.
- Passed without debate reports supporting the National and World Councils of Churches.
- *Concern* magazine will be reviewed each year regarding its continuance.
- Motion by Dr. Douglas Jackson passed asking that Methodists who are called to witness before legislatures for The Methodist Church, speak for the church only by quoting General Conference actions.
- Voted to make conference lay leaders and presidents of conference Woman's Society of Christian Service members of the annual conference.
- Changed retirement age of bishops from 74 to 72.
- Honored Dr. Ralph Stoodly who retired recently after being national director of Methodist Information and Public Relations for 24 years.
- Bishop John J. Wright of Pittsburgh was first Roman Catholic bishop to address a Methodist General Conference in the denomination's 226-year history.
- Appointments by the Council of Bishops include several Louisianans: Bishop Walton—Television, Radio and

Film Commission, Town and Country Commission, and Board of Missions; Vinson Mouser—Board of Trustees and Board of Pensions; W. D. Cotton—Commission on Promotion and Cultivation; J. C. Love, Jr.—TRAFCO; Dr. Keith Mason—Commission on Interjurisdictional Relations; and Dr. Virgil Morris—Commission on the Structure of Methodism Overseas.

• Overwhelmingly adopted a plan for the elimination of the Central (Negro) Jurisdiction. There were very few votes against. It is expected that first steps will be taken this year under legislation that provides that a commission must bring to the 1968 General Conference a plan for termination of the Central Jurisdiction if not already accomplished. The plan was embodied in a report of the church's Commission on Interjurisdictional Relations, known as the "Committee of 36," which was adopted after nine hours of debate.

Charles C. Parlin, New York attorney and commission chairman, referred to the action in his closing remarks as a "giant step toward an inclusive church."

Basically the plan provides for voluntary absorption of Negro churches and conferences by the five geographic jurisdictional conferences and their annual conferences. The changes would take place under the provisions of Amendment Nine to the church's constitution after a vote of the members of the annual conferences and the two jurisdictions involved.

It also spells out the financial and other responsibilities the general church will undertake in order to make the transfers possible. Establishment of a temporary general aid fund to provide a minimum pension rate is provided for in the commission plan.

• The South Central Jurisdiction Board of Lay Activities voted to urge the annual conferences of the jurisdiction to study for implementation the plan approved by the General Conference for the elimination of the Central Jurisdiction.

Bishop Dawson, 72, Dies; Funeral in Shreveport

Bishop Dana Dawson, 72, died May 2, in Shreveport. He retired in 1960 because of ill health and had made his home in Shreveport since that time. He was resident bishop of the Kansas-Nebraska Area of The Methodist Church from

1948-52 and of the Kansas Area, 1952-1960.

Bishop Dawson was elected to the episcopacy in 1948. He was pastor of First Church, Shreveport, from 1934-48. Earlier pastorates included Red Fork and West Tulsa, Okla.; First Church, Fort Smith, Ark.; and Grace Church, Oklahoma City.



Bishop Dawson

Bishop Dawson was born in Larrabee, Iowa, April 18, 1892. He received his education at Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa, and the University of Chicago; with honorary doctorates from Southwestern College, Kansas Wesleyan University, Morningside College, and Baker University.

Funeral services were held at First Church, Shreveport, May 4. Conducting the services were Bishop Aubrey G. Walton and Bishop Eugene Frank.

Survivors are his widow, the former Delma Millikan of Guthrie and Oklahoma City; one son, Dr. Dana Dawson, Jr., pastor of First Church, Baton Rouge; and one daughter, Mrs. Keith Mason of Shreveport.

Bishop Dawson was a delegate to the General Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1934; the United Conference, 1939; South Central Jurisdictional Conferences, 1944 and 1948, and General Conference, 1948. He was a member of The Methodist Church's Board of Missions, Board of Lay Activities, and Board of Temperance. He was a trustee of Southern Methodist University, Kansas Wesleyan University, Baker University, Southwestern College, and National College for Christian Workers. He helped establish Saint Paul School of Theology-Methodist, Kansas City, Mo.

169 Attend Lay School

A total of 169 persons attended the Lay School of Theology conducted at Centenary College on April 21, 28, and May 5. The school, one of the first of its kind in the nation, was sponsored by the Board of Lay Activities of the Shreveport District and was taught by Dean Bond Fleming and the Rev. Robert E. Taylor of the college. Eighty-nine persons received certificates for the course number 122, *New Testament: Content and Values*.

NEWS from the

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Civic Arena -- Pittsburgh, Pa.

METHODIST INFORMATION
Arthur West, Director
Press Room Phone: 261-0372

April 26 to May 9, 1964

PITTSBURGH, Pa., May 3-- Word was received here today at the Methodist General Conference that Bishop Dana Dawson, 72, died Saturday, May 2, in Shreveport, La.

He had retired in 1960 because of ill health and had made his home in Shreveport since that time. He was resident bishop of the Kansas-Nebraska Area of The Methodist Church from 1948-52, and of the Kansas Area, 1952-60.

Bishop Dawson was elected to the episcopacy in 1948. He was pastor of First Methodist Church, Shreveport, from 1934-48. Earlier pastorates included Red Fork and West Tulsa, Okla.; First Methodist Church, Fort Smith, Ark.; and Grace Church, Oklahoma City.

Born in Larrabee, Iowa., April 18, 1892, he received his education at Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa, and University of Chicago; with honorary doctorates from Southwestern College, Kansas Wesleyan University, Morningside College, and Baker University.

Funeral services were held at First Methodist Church in Shreveport, Monday, May 4. Survivors are his widow, the former Delma Millikan of Guthrie and Oklahoma City; son, Dr. Dana Dawson, Jr., pastor of First Methodist Church, Baton Rouge, La.; and daughter, Mrs. Keith Mason of Shreveport.

Bishop Dawson was a delegate to the General Conference of The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1934; the Uniting Conference, 1939; South Central Jurisdictional Conferences, 1944 and 1948, and the Methodist General Conference, 1948. He was a member of the Boards of Missions, Lay Activities and Temperance. He was a trustee of Southern Methodist University, Kansas Wesleyan University, Baker University, Southwestern College, and National College for Christian Workers. He helped establish St. Paul School of Theology-Methodist in Kansas City, Mo.

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EWS

Dr. Dawson

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 bet, Iowa, April 10, 1892. He received
 his education at Morningside College,
 Sioux City, Iowa; Centenary College,
 Shreveport, La., D.D., 1936; Graduate
 Study, University of Chicago; South-
 western College, Litt D 1949; Kansas
 Wesleyan University, LL.D., 1949;
 Morningside College, D.D., 1950; and
 Baker University, L.H.D., 1955.

Funeral Services were held at First
 Methodist Church in Shreveport, Mon-
 day afternoon, May 4. Survivors are his
 widow, the former Delma Millikan of
 Guthrie and Oklahoma City; one son,
 Dr. Dana Dawson, Jr., pastor of First
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 Church, Oklahoma City.

Bishop Dawson

Arkansas Methodist

May 7, 1964

Photographs from this
file have not been
included but are
available upon request.
For more information
please contact
research@gcah.org