

*The United Methodist Church  
Southeastern  
Jurisdictional Conference*



*A Service  
of Remembrance*

*Thursday, July 19, 2012  
10:30 a.m.*

# *A Service of Remembrance*

## **Gathering and Praise**

**Centering Music**

Jarvis Wilson, Robert McMichael

**\*Greeting**

Rev. Susan Leonard Ray

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with all the saints.

**Amen.**

The risen and victorious Christ is with us.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

We have gathered here to celebrate the lives of those who have served faithfully through the years and now share the triumph of Christ.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

Let us rejoice in God's presence with us, in death as in life, among those who mourn as with those who now see Christ face to face.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*Hymn**

*For All the Saints*  
Stzs. 1, 2, 3

UMH 711  
SINE NOMINE

## **Remembrance, Proclamation and Thanksgiving**

**\*Prayer for the Saints and Faithful Departed**

Bishop Richard J. Wills, Jr.

O God of both the living and the dead,  
we praise your holy name for all your servants  
who have faithfully lived and died.

**We thank you for the sacred ties that bind us  
to those unseen who encompass us as a cloud of witnesses.**

Today, we pray for those who have shared ministry with us,  
who have run with patience the race and now reside with you.

*As each name is read, a candle is lit and a bell will be rung.*

### **Bishops**

Bishop Ellis Finger  
Bishop Ernest Newman  
Bishop Marion Edwards  
Bishop Paul A. Duffey





# Rose Stokes



Rose Yow Stokes was born July 21, 1920, in Henderson, North Carolina, into an active Church family; some of her relatives are ministers. She grew up in the Presbyterian Church, beginning to work in the Sunday School at age 12. After high school in her home town, she attended Peace Junior College in Raleigh, North Carolina, and graduated in 1941 with an A.B. degree from East Carolina Teachers College.

That same summer she met Mack Stokes, and they were married the following year. They settled near the Emory Campus, in Atlanta, where they raised their children. While Mack taught at Candler, Rose went to work teaching fourth grade in Atlanta.

Passionate about education for all children, she was the sole white teacher to show up for the first day of class at her elementary school after Atlanta schools desegregated in 1961. Assigned to a school in a poor area, Rose was one of the first elementary school teachers in the nation to bring black studies in the classroom by exploring the lives of great African Americans. In 1972, when Mack was elected Bishop and assigned to Mississippi, the couple moved to Jackson, where, working against strong resistance, Rose was a tireless advocate for merger of the African American and White Methodist conferences, working with Mack until she was able to exclaim after the last merger vote: "Victory at last! Thanks be to God!"

In early 2008, Rose and Mack established *The Bishop Mack B. and Rose Y. Stokes Chair in Theology* at Candler School of Theology. In the year 2000, on her 80th birthday, Mack wrote to Rose:

*How long have you lived in my heart, dear love? God put you there, O Rose, when first we met; God kept you there through our blest pilgrimage; And, thus, God joined us for Eternity.*

Rose Stokes was a model of the "complete" Christian woman -- pious, feminine and industrious. She was always confident and gracious. Mack says, "She was a woman of great poise, faith, and creativity, and an unfailing support to me."

After a long life well-lived and well-loved, Rose Yow Stokes passed away on February 23, 2008. She is survived by her husband Mack, her brother Jensen, sons Marion and Archie, daughter-in-law Maggie, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.



# *Edith Knox*



Edith Laney Strawn Knox, RN, was born May 24, 1928, in Dunedin, Florida where she grew up. She died in St. Petersburg, Florida, on May 20, 2008. She graduated from Clearwater High School, got her academic training at Tulane University and received her nurse's training at Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans.

Edith was a surgical and obstetrical nurse in New Orleans and in Lakeland, Florida, where she worked at what is now Lakeland Regional Hospital.

In June of 1951 Edith married James Lloyd Knox. The Knoxes moved to Emory University in Atlanta, where Lloyd enrolled in Candler School of Theology. Edith worked in the nursery of Emory University Hospital.

Edith and her husband Lloyd were Methodist missionaries. In 1958 the Knoxes were sent to Cuba where Mrs. Knox did medical work in a poor barrio. Her husband did pastoral ministry in the same town.

In 1961, the Knoxes were sent to Buenos Aires, Argentina where they carried out similar work.

In 1965, she and her family returned to Florida. Edith worked at the Student Health Center of the University of Miami, and later at the blood bank at Tampa General.

In 1996 the Knoxes retired to St. Petersburg. During Edith's lifetime she sang in church choirs, taught Sunday school and was a leader in the United Methodist Women. As a teenager she was the pianist of the Dunedin Baptist Church.

During her lifetime she blessed many people with her gentle, loving spirit. She is survived by her husband, Lloyd, her son Michael, of Gainesville, her daughter Carol, of Tallahassee, and many other relatives and close friends. A memorial service was held at First United Methodist Church, St Petersburg, on Saturday May 24, 2008.



# *Ellis Finger*



Homer Ellis Finger, Jr., was born in Ripley, Mississippi, on October 8, 1916, son of Homer Ellis and Bertha Rogers Finger.

He attended Millsaps College and graduated with an A.B. in 1937. Ellis taught high school mathematics in Aberdeen, Mississippi, for a year and then went to Emory University, Yale Divinity School (B.D., 1941) and Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He held honorary doctorates from Centenary College, Tennessee Wesleyan, Lambuth College, Millsaps College, and Emory and Henry College.

Ellis was ordained by Bishop John Lloyd Decell and joined the North Mississippi Conference; he was pastor in Coldwater (1941-43) and Oxford (1946-52) with time in between as Navy chaplain during World War II, part of the time in the Philippines.

Ellis Finger became President of Millsaps College, his alma mater, in 1952, a position he held until elected to the episcopacy by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in 1964; he was assigned to the Nashville Area where he served for twelve years before going to the Holston Area in 1976. He retired in 1984. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in 1990 at Millsaps College.

Before the 1968 gathering that led to the creation of The United Methodist Church, Bishop Finger asked Nashville Area district leaders to “pray that this quadrennial meeting of churchmen will be not just a time for polishing structure and perfecting legislation, important as are these activities. Pray that God’s spirit can move among the delegates and through the deliberations that the church can be a channel of hope and light for a distraught world and a troubled nation.”

Bishop Finger served as Chairman of the Commission on Chaplains and was President of the General Council on Finance and Administration 1976-1980. He was Vice-President of the General Board of Global Ministries and President of the Health and Welfare Program Department, 1980-1984.

He was President of the Council of Bishops 1981-1982, and also served as Assistant to the Secretary of the Council of Bishops.

Bishop Finger died on May 25, 2008, at the age of 91. His wife, Mamie Lee Ratliff Finger, died early in 2006. Bishop Finger is survived by son Homer Ellis Finger III and his wife, Phyllis, of Easton, Pennsylvania; son William Ratliff Finger, and his wife, Georgia, of Raleigh, North Carolina; and daughter Elizabeth Ellen Finger and her husband, Richard Vander Veen, of Arden, North Carolina; and five grandchildren.



# *Ernest Newman*



Born in Kingstree, South Carolina, on April 9, 1928, Ernest Newman attended the public schools of South Carolina and received the B.A. degree from Claflin College, Orangeburg, South Carolina. His M. Div. from Gammon Theological Seminary was received in 1956.

Bethune-Cookman College awarded him an honorary doctorate in 1974 and Lambuth College awarded him an honorary doctorate in 1986.

He became a probationary member of the South Carolina Conference and was ordained deacon by Bishop Edward Kelly in 1946. He transferred to the Florida Annual Conference in 1953 and was ordained elder by Bishop J. W. E. Bowen.

Ernest Newman held the following appointments in the Florida Annual Conference: St. Joseph in Jacksonville (1955-57), Ocala (1957-64), Ebenezer in Jacksonville (1964-72), District Superintendent of the Melbourne District (1972-77) and Plantation (1977-82). When he was assigned to the 2000-member Plantation Church, he was the first Black pastor of a major all-White church in the Conference.

He served on the General Commission on Religion and Race from 1976 to 1984. He served for eight years as Secretary of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Court of Appeals, and served on the General Commission on Communications. He was the SEJ COB representative to the SEJ Urban Workers Network. He served on the Board of Trustees of Martin Methodist College, Rust College, Lambuth College, Emory University, Scarritt Graduate School, Lake Junaluska Assembly, Gammon Theological Seminary, and many other boards and agencies.

Ernest Wilbur Newman was elected to the episcopacy on the ninth ballot at the 1984 Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference, the first Black person elected a bishop by that jurisdiction since the formation of the United Methodist Church in 1968. Bishop Newman was assigned to the Nashville Area where he served until his retirement in 1992.

Bishop Newman was married to Thelma Heard Newton of Atlanta, Georgia. Ernest and Thelma had two children: Kathy Newman McCoy and Ernest Wilbur Newman, Jr., and five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Bishop Newman died on August 28, 2008, and his funeral service was held at Warren Memorial UMC in Atlanta, Georgia, on September 2.



# Carolyn Looney



Carolyn Adele Looney was born in Jackson, MS, and attended public schools there. She graduated from Asbury College with a degree in music, and from Emory University with a Master's degree in Christian Education. Carolyn and Dick met at Emory, fell in love, and saw their love grow and deepen over 50 years.

Carolyn was an exceptional musician and an excellent teacher. She taught music in the public schools and gave private piano lessons. Her many talents were used wherever needed in the local church and beyond. She was the ideal pastor's wife, loved by all who knew her. Carolyn showered her love and concern on family, parishioners, friends and acquaintances.

She was a woman of rare beauty and grace, exhibiting an unmistakable radiance even in trying circumstances. While facing a multitude of physical challenges, she demonstrated a quiet strength and independence that inspired everyone.

None of Carolyn's qualities was more apparent than her love and care for her family. She was an extraordinary homemaker and the ideal wife and mother. Her husband and children rise up to call her blessed.

Carolyn died on April 21, 2009. She was preceded in death by her son, David Looney; her parents, William and Josephine McKeithen; and her brother, Bill McKeithen. She is survived by her husband, Richard, children Teresa (John Brolley) and Jonathan, four grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

*And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood!  
Died he for me who caused his pain! For me? Who him to death  
pursued? Amazing Love! How can it be that thou, my God,  
shouldst die for me? Amazing love!*

*He left his Father's throne above (so free, so infinite his grace!) Emptied  
himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race. 'Tis mercy all,  
immense and free, for O my God, it found out me!*

*No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him is mine;  
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine, Bold I  
approach th'eternal throne, and claim the crown through Christ my own.*



# Marion Clark



Marion Salisbury was born February 11, 1925, in Prestonsburg, Kentucky, the daughter of Homer Salisbury and Marion Mayo Salisbury. She grew up in Prestonsburg and Cave City, Kentucky, where she graduated from high school. She attended the University of Kentucky in Lexington, receiving a B.S. degree in 1947.

Marion planned to attend Scarritt College to prepare to become a Christian educator, but a year-long illness following her college graduation brought a change to her plans. Upon her recovery, she returned to her hometown and taught at the high school there for several years.

Later, fulfilling her desire to work for the church, Marion went to Nashville in 1957 to join the Division of Higher Education staff of the Board of Education of the Methodist Church, where she remained until her marriage. Later, after the death of her first husband, she was employed as coordinator of voluntary services for the Vanderbilt University Hospital and as a personnel director in private business.

Marion was a life-long member of the Methodist church, to which she was intensely loyal. As an active member of West End United Methodist Church for more than fifty years, she sang in the choir, taught Sunday School - first youth, and then three year olds, whom she greatly enjoyed - served as president of the United Methodist Women and as a member and officer of a variety of committees and commissions.

Marion was married to Bishop Roy C. Clark on April 4, 1992. They enjoyed eighteen years together until her death April 12, 2010. A Service of Death and Resurrection was held at West End United Methodist Church April 16, 2010 with Bishop Joe Pennel Jr., Dr. Michael Williams, Senior Minister and Dr. Ewart Watts, Minister to Richland Place Retirement Community, leading the service. Her ashes were interred in the Mayo family Cemetery in Prestonsburg.



# Geneva Harris



More than a century ago on September 23, 1909, Geneva Magnolia Nelson was born to Owen and Cora Nelson in Atlanta, GA. She was a graduate of Clark College in Atlanta, where she earned a B.A. degree in library science. In 1930, she became a charter member and the first basileus of the Alpha Pi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority at Clark College. She later earned a Master's degree at the University of Illinois and was awarded the Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Philander Smith College in 1977.

On September 6, 1931, Geneva Nelson married her college sweetheart, Marquis Lafayette Harris. As a devoted couple, their work was focused on education and the work of the church. She was an instructor at Samuel Huston College and together they served at Philander Smith College, he as President and she as the Associate Librarian. Marquis Harris was elected to the episcopacy and they moved to Atlanta in 1960, where Bishop Harris died in 1966 at the age of fifty-nine.

Mrs. Harris retired as an educator and head librarian; however, "retired" is not an accurate description because of the many organizations to which she gave decades of dedicated service. She served the Bethlehem Senior Center for forty-six years, working in the kitchen and serving lunch to seniors. Other organizations that benefited from her faithful service include the Salvation Army, YWCA, Wesley Woods, Fulton County Council on Aging, Church Women United, United Methodist Women and the AARP. In a businesslike but deeply caring manner, she served on countless boards of directors for businesses, as well as civic and community organizations.

Mrs. Harris died on May 3, 2010, and her life was celebrated on May 8, 2010, at Central United Methodist Church in Atlanta, GA. She is survived by a son, Marquis Lafayette Harris, Jr., four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and other close friends and companions.



# *Louise Duffey*



Anna Louise Calhoun Duffey died on July 7, 2010, at the age of 89. A beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and aunt, Louise was also a loving friend and caring supporter of people in need.

Born in Montgomery, Alabama, on April 17, 1921, Anna Louise Calhoun Duffey was the daughter of a Methodist minister. Louise was graduated from Huntingdon College, Montgomery, Alabama in 1942, majoring in Home Economics with a minor in Science. Her alma mater, Huntingdon College, conferred an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters upon her in May 2000.

Louise and Paul Duffey were married in Selma, Alabama, on June 20, 1944. Their children are Melanie Claire Duffey (Mrs. David N. Hutto, Jr.) and Paul A. (Tanya) Duffey, Jr. There are five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

During her lifetime, Louise used her considerable creativity and talents as a teacher in public schools, as a loyal worker in her husband's ministry, as an eager volunteer for the Library for the Blind, as a member of the philanthropic organization P.E.O., as a member of the New Era literary club and as a life member of United Methodist Women.

While living in Kentucky, Mrs. Duffey was selected and recognized as an Honorary Senator of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. She endeared herself to all those she met. Her friendly, compassionate and generous nature overflowed into a wide variety of interests: in people with special needs, in astronomy and the International Space Station, birds, flowers, hot air balloons and trees.

She was a modest and self-effacing woman, a devout and humble servant of God and, as many young ministers' spouses have attested, she had an amazing ability to lead, inspire and encourage.

Her memorial service was held on July 10, 2010, at First United Methodist Church in Montgomery, AL.



# *Sarah Allen*



Sarah Adams was born in Covington, Georgia, graduated from Washington High School in Covington and received an A.B. degree from Clark College in Atlanta, GA. She later took special studies at Gammon Theological Seminary.

She began her professional career as a teacher in a one-room school house in her hometown of Covington.

It was at Clark where she met L. Scott Allen. Sarah Adams and L. Scott Allen were married on February 19, 1942.

When L. Scott Allen was elected to the episcopacy, Sarah became a partner in ministry with him.

Remembered for her love for her husband, family and others, Sarah Allen has been described as an ideal helpmate who shared her financial resources, personal influence and support with family and friends.

Sarah Adams Allen is survived by one daughter, Harriet Adams Fairley, one granddaughter, nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends and devoted caretakers.

Sarah Allen died on October 23, 2010. Her funeral was held on October 30, 2010, at Central United Methodist Church in Atlanta, GA.



# Marion Edwards



Marion Edwards died on January 23, 2011, after a long illness. He was born in Springfield, GA, on February 26, 1939. He attended Young Harris College and graduated from Georgia Southern University (B.S.). Marion was also a graduate of Candler School of Theology, Emory University (M.Div., D. Min.). He was ordained a member in the South Georgia Annual Conference as a deacon in 1963 and as an elder in 1967.

Marion served pastorates in the South Georgia Conference including rural, small town, inner-city, suburban and downtown congregations. He also served as District Superintendent of the Waycross District. Prior to his election, he served for nine years as Senior Pastor of St. Luke United Methodist Church in downtown Columbus, Georgia. Marion's ministry reflected his deep local and global interest in evangelism and mission outreach. Before his election to the episcopacy, while pastor at St. Luke, he led that congregation to become a 50150 church. Half of its financial resources are given to nurturing and building up the body of Christ and half given to mission outreach - locally and globally. His profound interest in the communities around the congregations he served led him to become involved in civic and social issues.

For eight years, he was a Director of the General Board of Global Ministries. He had been a trustee of seven colleges and universities. He was a member of the Board of Visitors at Duke Divinity School, of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and the University Senate. He was a trustee of The United Methodist Foundation for Higher Education, and was the honorary chair and the executive coordinator for the Capital Campaign for the Russia United Methodist Seminary.

Marion Edwards was elected to the episcopacy by the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in July, 1996, and assigned to the North Carolina Annual Conference where he served until his retirement in 2004.

As a result of Marion's extensive involvement with hurricane and flood disaster relief, the North Carolina Annual Conference named its new Conference Disaster Warehouse Recovery Center in his honor. The Disaster Center is now being used as a major supply resource throughout the southeast. In 2002, North Carolina Governor Michael Easley recognized Bishop Marion Edwards for his state-wide leadership by conferring on him North Carolina's highest honor, "The Order of the Long Pine Leaf."

Marion and Linda Layfield Edwards were married June 9, 1962, and they have three children. His memorial service was held on January 29, 2011, at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Columbus, GA.



# Milah McDavid



Milah Gibson McDavid was born in Winona, MS on May 7, 1916, to Ben and Rachel Gibson. A few years later her younger brother Mark joined the family. Milah moved to Whistler, AL at the age of 9. There she met her husband of 61 years, Joel McDavid, at the Whistler Methodist Church youth group. Milah and Joel served Alabama churches in Grand Bay, Toulminville, Auburn, Montgomery and Mobile before serving Florida and Georgia in the episcopacy.

Milah devoted her early married years to being a homemaker and wife. As the mother of three children she spent many hours attending sporting events and using her seamstress skills. Milah was a wonderful cook whose recipe for strawberry cake was used in a local Montgomery, AL restaurant. Her culinary skills helped her serve as a wonderful hostess for staff meeting, District Superintendent meetings and many church functions.

Milah worked as a secretary at the Candler School of Theology while Joel was in seminary. She later worked at Murphy High School in Mobile in the registrar's office and had over 1500 hours of volunteer service at Providence Hospital in Mobile, AL. She was also very active in the United Methodist Church. She was President of the United Methodist Women of First UMC in Montgomery, Treasurer of the UMW at Dauphin Way UMC in Mobile and was elected an Honorary Steward of the Administrative Board which is the highest honor a layman can receive in the Dauphin Way UMC.

As a Bishop's wife, Milah accompanied Joel on mission trips to India and South Africa. Upon their return she made many presentations around the conference to church and women's groups. Milah often spoke to young minister's wives on their role as a minister's wife. She was presented a trophy by the Florida Conference as "The Bishop's Chauffeur." This was especially meaningful to Milah as she learned to drive at the age of 45.

Milah died on September 22, 2011 at the Oakwood North Baldwin Center for Living in Bay Minette, AL. She is preceded in death by her husband Bishop Joel D. McDavid, her parents, Ben and Rachel Gibson and her brother Mark L. Gibson.

She is survived by her children Ben (Mary) McDavid, Joel (Ginney) McDavid, Karen Anne (Lewis) Beville; 6 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Her Celebration of Life memorial service was held on Monday, September 26, 2011 at Dauphin Way United Methodist Church.



# *Paul A. Duffey*



Paul Andrews Duffey was born on December 13, 1920, in Brownsville, Tennessee and later moved to Carrville, Alabama. He attended The University of Alabama before completing his undergraduate degree at Birmingham Southern College and his Master of Divinity from the School of Divinity at Vanderbilt University.

His alma mater later awarded him an honorary doctorate and elected him a life trustee where he was formerly chairman of the board. He was awarded honorary degrees from Union College and Kentucky Wesleyan College. Huntington College conferred an honorary degree upon him in May 2000.

While attending Vanderbilt, Paul joined the Tennessee Annual Conference where he was ordained deacon and elder, both times by Bishop Paul B. Kern. He served the Chapel Hill Circuit in the Tennessee Conference, then served six different appointments in the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference: Abbeville; First Church, Marion; Dexter Avenue, Montgomery; First Church, Pensacola; First Church, Dothan; First Church, Montgomery.

In 1976, Paul Duffey began serving as Montgomery District Superintendent in the Alabama-West Florida Conference until the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference elected him to the episcopacy in 1980. Bishop Duffey was assigned to the Louisville Area and served eight years. He also served as Secretary of the Council of Bishops from 1984-1988.

A man of impeccable character, honesty, and honor, Bishop Duffey had the rare distinction of being elected to serve in all three branches of the United Methodist Church government: Legislative, Executive and Judicial.

Paul Duffey and Louise Calhoun were married in Selma, Alabama on June 20, 1944. Louise predeceased Paul on July 7, 2010.

Bishop Duffey died on March 18, 2012. He was survived by their children: a daughter, Melanie Duffey Hutto and her husband David Hutto of Hendersonville, NC; a son, Paul A. Duffey, Jr. and his wife Tanya Duffey of Flowery Branch, GA; five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Also surviving is a twin sister Rebecca Duffey London of St. Simons Island, GA.

He was courageous in his convictions, always empathetic and compassionate to others. He was a beloved pastor, bishop, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and uncle who will be greatly missed.

