IN MEMORIAM

THE 36TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE

JUNE 18-20, 2020 | RESIDENT BISHOP GRANT J. HAGIYA
The global pandemic has placed so many hardships and suffering onto the world, and yet what I grieve the most, is that we have not been able to comfort the sick and dying, nor provide a proper funeral or burial for those we lost. This has affected not only those who have died of COVID-19, but all those who have passed away for other reasons. My heart aches for you who have lost loved ones during this time. My one solace is the fact that God will make up for this in the care and love for those who have returned to the Lord. Because of social distancing and isolation, we cannot meet in person for our California-Pacific Annual Memorial Worship Service.

However, we still want to honor those we have lost this past year. As such, we will present a beautiful Memorial Tribute to honor your loved ones. It does not come close to being together to care for one another, but know that we pray for each and every one of you, and ask God to send continued strength and hope during this difficult time. May God bless and keep you always!

Be the Hope,

Bishop Grant Hagiya

Bishop Grant Hagiya
Deceased Bishops

Bishop Kenneth W. Hicks
June 19, 2019

Bishop R. Kern Eutsler
January 2, 2020

Bishop Mike Coyner
January 8, 2020

Deceased Spouses

Mrs. Lila Elaine Hicks
June 29, 2019

Mrs. Linda Carder
October 3, 2019

Mrs. Virginia Clymer
March 21, 2020

Mrs. Sherrie Dobbs Johnson
March 27, 2020

Mrs. Marie Webb
May 26, 2020
Clergy
Lucile Marie Barton was born in Barstow, California and lived in Riverside, California for many years. Positive church encounters, coupled with stories of her grandfather’s years as a missionary in China, were the beginnings of a lifelong calling to serve.

After graduating college, Lucy married Gary Hanson and dedicated the next 15 years to raising their four children, leading scout troops, and serving various churches however she could. Their experiences at Long Beach: California Heights UMC greatly impacted both Gary and Lucy, resulting in the family moving to Georgia so that Gary could attend seminary.

In 1979, while walking in the woods, Lucy experienced a profound sense that she was being nudged to heed the call to ministry. With some trepidation, Lucy enrolled in seminary alongside Gary. They both graduated, moved the family back to California, and they began ministry in the California-Pacific Conference. With the Reverend Bob Stanley as her mentor, Lucy served San Carlos UMC for three years, in turn, mentoring several women who had also felt called to ministry.

After the marriage ended in divorce, Lucy served Riverside: Grace. There she met and married Bud Norris and the couple spent many happy years before Bud died of a brain tumor in 1996.

Lucy decided the time was right to quench a longstanding thirst for adventure and signed on to serve Community United Methodist Church in the remote town of Nome, Alaska. Lucy fell in love with this unique, small community, remaining for a decade before retiring in Kenai.

Lucy loved Alaska. She was active in the community, teaching Sunday school and serving as an interim pastor at Kenai, volunteering, sewing hygiene kits to bring on medical missions to El Salvador, and ministering to prisoners through Kairos Alaska. When she wasn’t busy serving, Lucy also enjoyed traveling, camping, quilting, painting, gardening, and reading.

Lucy died at home in her sleep attended by her dedicated partner and high school sweetheart, Maury. She is survived by her sister and brother; her children, Greg, Steve, Melissa, and Julie; step-children Joel and Julie; 17 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren.

Although her life was marked by a commitment to service and justice, she will be equally remembered for her joyful smile, quick laughter, and love for the natural world. She will be greatly missed by her family and the numerous friends she made wherever she went.

— Family
Rev. Dr. Okja Choi, co-founder of Se Jong University along with her husband, Dr. Youngha Choo, and pastor of Aji-Heon Church passed away at the age of 100 years old on February 20, 2019 in Seoul, Korea.

She studied Medicine at Toho University in Japan and received a doctor’s degree in 1942 and worked as a medical doctor prior to establishing Se Jong University in 1947. The University is based on the Spirit of God’s love which is at the center of all educational foundation. She dedicated her life for the development and promotion of the educational field and was devoted to raising future leaders in Korea. Furthermore, she donated her entire assets to the “Se-Jong Mission Board,” in 1981 for mission and ministry of the future generation.

In 1981, prior to her retirement from the University, she answered her call into ministry and studied at Fuller Theological Seminary where she received a Master of Divinity degree. While she was in United States, she served Valley Korean UMC in their education department and she was commissioned in the Elder Track in 1983. After she returned to Seoul, she started Aji-heon Church where she dedicated the rest of her life for the mission and ministry for the Lord.

She had a deep interest in the traditional Korean arts and has built a museum at the University and collected Choson Dynasty artworks and ceramics which are displayed in the museum. Her passion for the arts motivated her to have private lessons from Korean traditional painters which led her to study at Parsons School of Design in New York City, New York. Rev. Choi received awards and medals from the Korean government and social organizations for her contributions and excellence for her social activities.

Rev. Dr. Okja Choi was married to Dr. Youngha Choo and has four children. Her descendants are deeply influenced by their mother/grandmother’s faith and hold monthly services at Christian Women’s Club in Korea which was established by Rev. Okja Choi in1966. Even though she passed away, we will remember her love for God and will continue her spirit of generosity and her example of loving our neighbors in our mission and ministry which will promote a better and thriving society.

— Rev. Dr. Sehee S. Han
Theodore Hampton was born January 26, 1938 in the tiny town of Sidman, Pennsylvania, and he was the third of what was to be seven children. He was named Herman Theodore, mostly called Ted. He attended the local schools of Beaverdale, Pennsylvania, after which he followed a number of other students from his local E.U.B Church to Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio. Pursuing a career in Christian ministry, he received an M.Div. from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He was ordained an Elder in the Evangelical United Brethren Church in 1962.

He was assigned to a 3-point charge in Eastern Colorado. In 1965, he accepted a call to a staff position at the First United Methodist Church of Long Beach, California. Subsequently, he served United Methodist Churches in Independence, Monrovia, and Dominguez, California. His local church ministry was interrupted by an opportunity to teach English to the Guardia National in Colon, Panama. After returning from Panama, he spent several years directing a federally funded program for drug abusing and acting out teens in California. In 2003, he retired, only to be called back as interim Pastor for several churches in Long Beach, California, including a term as Pastor of Spiritual Director at the United Methodist Church in Lakewood, California. He retired again in 2012 and spent his time writing and preaching.

— George Hampton
Douglas Hodson
January 4, 1955 – April 12, 2020

HODSON, DOUGLAS A. (P.80; F.83) PSW 80 Ventura: First, Assoc; 82 Fillmore: First; 84 Joshua Tree/Yucca Valley; California-Pacific 85; 89 Yucca Valley; 91 Glendora; 2014 La Habra; 20 (Apr 1) Medical Leave

Doug grew up on an avocado orchard in La Habra, California surrounded by a large extended family. La Habra was also where his family was active in the United Methodist Church and integral to the development of the property and buildings where the church stands today. It was at this church where he met his wife of nearly 45 years, Kris, when they were only 12 years old; and it was the church where he served as senior pastor for the past six years until a few weeks before his death.

After graduating from Cal State Fullerton and then Pacific School of Religion in Berkley, California, he and Kris went on to serve in churches throughout Southern California. Pastor Doug will be remembered by many congregants as kind and caring, an animated preacher with a recognizable and infectious laugh. He loved regular visits with the preschool kids, sharing together in song and stories was a highlight of his week.

In over 40 years of ordained ministry, Doug did important work alongside his congregations. They raised awareness and funds for the important work of CROP Walk, UNICEF, Habitat for Humanity and Heifer Project, among others. He helped to establish strong foundations for growth in the churches he served with sanctuary builds and renovations, through vibrant preschool and VBS programs, and by connecting the churches more deeply to the surrounding communities. He was intentional in creating space for Scout Troops and AA groups to meet, served on a local library board, volunteered for community programs, and worked with other local churches to provide free gun locks for a safer city.

Doug was a loving and thoughtful Dad to his children, their spouses, and to any friends they brought home – regularly adding to the brood he considered his kids. He deeply loved Kris and he adored his two grandchildren. He will be remembered by his family for his love for adventure, cooking and eating good food, Dodger baseball (and Nancy Bea, the organist), and being together as a family. We will miss him for so many reasons, including his uncanny ability to find all lost things.

Doug was lost too soon; we miss him so much.

— The Family
Hans Holborn was born in Berlin, Germany in 1923 and came with his parents when they immigrated to the United States. He went to high school in Bloomfield, New Jersey, where he served as ASB President and was the Valedictorian. He attended college and seminary at Drew University, Madison, New Jersey, where he earned two bachelor degrees and a master of divinity in theology and the philosophy of religion. He was ordained a deacon in June 1946 and then elder in June 1948 by Bishop Bromley Oxnam of the Northern New Jersey Annual Conference. He taught ancient philosophy and logic at Upsala College and served as parish pastor in four churches while in New Jersey: Wharton, Boonton, Paterson and Little Falls from 1945 to 1960.

He married Elizabeth Ivanoff in 1950 had two sons and a daughter, prior to moving to California in 1960. He served the Riviera United Methodist church, in Torrance, from 1960 to 1969, where he grew the membership to over 1000 members and built a large sanctuary and fellowship hall during his tenure. He later served East Whittier United Methodist Church from 1969 to 1976.

He took a sabbatical in 1976 for a year to attend the Claremont School of Theology where he earned his Doctor of Ministry degree in 1977. He then served First United Methodist in Canoga Park from 1977 to 1984, and Downy United Methodist from 1984 to 1987. He then became the Director for the Council of Ministries of the California-Pacific Annual Conference from 1987 to 1988 when he retired.

He continued as a consultant on administration for the conference for another year, and served as coordinator for the Bishop’s Convocation on Ministry, from 1987 to 1993. He served as interim pastor in Lakewood in 1978, Centenary in Los Angeles in 1991, and Montrose in 1992. In addition to parish ministry he served as president or chairman and other offices in church and community organizations dealing with world peace; evangelism; ecumenical and interfaith relations; and immigration.

He is survived by his three children, Fred, John, and Elizabeth and six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

— The Holborn Family
The Rev. Dr. Burley R. Howe was born in Galatia, Illinois, Dec. 15, 1929. When he was three, his mother brought him to Los Angeles where they lived until he was 12 and they moved to Stockton. When he was six his mother remarried.

After High School where he was active in many activities, including editor of the school paper, he was at College of the Pacific for two years before graduating in 1951 from U.C. Berkley, Phi Beta Kappa. He joined the Army in order to receive the GI Bill to pay for Fuller Seminary. Before entering Fuller, he married his first wife and they had three daughters. He later graduated with a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Fuller Graduate School of Psychology, later becoming a Licensed Clinical Psychologist while pastoring.

His first UMC pastorate was Echo Park and his last in Toluca Lake. He enjoyed all the opportunities afforded him in each appointment and offered his best in each location and job description.

Burley and his wife of 42 yrs., Joyce, retired to Pilgrim Place in 2004. Burley passed away March 2, 2020, in Pilgrim Place's Health Services Center from Parkinson's.

He is survived by wife Joyce, and his three daughters, Melody McClaren of London, Celeste Ryan of Los Angeles, and Mary Howe of Long Beach and one grandson, Chris Brown of Walnut Creek.

— Joyce Howe
Rev. Dr. Edward E. Jayne was born in Elmhurst, Illinois. He grew up in Wheaton, Illinois, and graduated from Wheaton Community High School. Prior to enlisting in the Navy, he attended Cornell College in Iowa. After boot camp, he was assigned as the Chaplain’s Assistant on the USS Midway (CVA-41). While stationed aboard the Midway, he felt called to enter into the Methodist Ministry. Upon his discharge, he moved to Alhambra, California, and attended Los Angeles State University where he was awarded a Bachelor of Arts Degree. He then entered seminary at the School of Theology, Claremont. Upon graduation, he was awarded a Master of Theology Degree. In 1962, Ed was ordained Elder in the California-Pacific Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. In 1963 he received a Presidential Appointment as a Chaplain in the United States Navy and began his active career with the sea services. In 1969 he was selected to attend Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC, and was assigned to the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland. It was here that he completed the requirements and was awarded the Doctor of Ministry Degree.

During his Naval Career, he served with Amphibious Forces, three Naval Hospitals, and numerous tours with Marines. He was promoted to the rank of Captain, U.S. Navy in 1980. He served in the Navy for 30 years. His last assignment, prior to retirement in 1991, was as Command Chaplain at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California. In July of 1991, his Bishop appointed him to be the pastor of the Ridgecrest United Methodist Church, where he served for 14 years. On June 6th, 2010 he was recognized and installed as Pastor Emeritus of the Ridgecrest United Methodist Church. During his retirement years he continued to serve the church and community of Ridgecrest.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years Barbara Goodwin Jayne of Ridgecrest, son Mark Kevin Jayne of Simi Valley, daughter Karen Jayne Reuter (Joe) of Burbank, granddaughter Christina Jarvis of Charleston, S.C., grandson John Reuter of Burbank, sister Nedra Kindig (Jim) of Camarillo.
A native of Los Angeles, James graduated from Redlands University, Boston University School of Theology and Claremont School of Theology where he earned a Doctorate. He served Methodist churches in San Diego, Redondo Beach, San Luis Obispo, Orange and San Clemente.

James was head of Campus Ministry for the United Methodist Church Southwest for two years, and he taught classes at several different community colleges, as well as CalPoly San Luis Obispo.

His concern for the less fortunate was developed in seminary when he did internships in the polio ward and prisons. His driving passion was the words of Christ, “As you have done it unto the least of them you have done it unto me.” This took him beyond the walls of the church and into the community where he unexpectedly received the Outstanding Young Man of the Year Award in 1962 from the San Diego Chamber of Commerce, the Outstanding Young Man of the Year Award in 1966 from the Redondo Beach Chamber and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the City of San Clemente in 1999.

Having resided in San Clemente since 1985, he is remembered for starting the annual Hunger Walk for Family Assistance Ministry.

James is survived by his wife of 57 years, Linda; his son, Gregory, and wife, Kim; his son, Jeffrey, and wife, Melanie; his grandchildren, Jeffrey, Elisabeth and Matthew; his sister, Cecelia and her children.

— Linda King
George Edgar Koehler of Nashville, age 89, was born in Madison, Wisconsin. High school sweethearts, George and Marjorie Jane Rennebohm, married in 1950 in Madison. Both attended the University of Southern California, where Margie earned her B.A. (sociology) and George his B.A. (social studies), M.A. (New Testament), and Ph.D. (religious education). Their four children, who have been cherished friends and supporters through the years, were born in Los Angeles: Nikki K. Guza (CA), Paul A. Koehler (SC), Janice K. Shaw (Nashville) and Thomas G. Koehler (Franklin, TN).

George served two congregations as Minister of Education, then the denomination’s annual conference as Associate Director of Youth and Student Work. In 1965, he was appointed to the executive staff of the church’s General Board of Education, headquartered in Nashville, and in 1980, to the General Board of Discipleship’s program publishing arm, Discipleship Resources, where he was the director of English language resource development. He retired in 1986.

George was a prolific writer of church publications, then after retirement, of family history books researched over the decades with Margie – in Europe, the eastern U.S., and the Midwest.

He enjoyed travel, birdwatching, photography, storytelling, and especially, his seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. These are daughter Nikki and Bob Guza’s daughters: Lauren Guza Brown (husband Casey Brown, daughter Rowan, and son Gideon), and Katie Guza Edwards (wife Morgan Edwards and sons Caleb and Clark); son Paul and Lee Gutterman Koehler’s children, Jessica Koehler and Colby Koehler (wife Brianda Mier Koehler and sons Carson and Connor); and son Tommy and Beth Gulley Koehler’s daughters, Sarah, Rachel, and Alii Koehler. “Papa” never missed an opportunity to celebrate a family birthday, anniversary, graduation, or the like.

Since 1965, George and Margie have been active participants in Calvary United Methodist Church, Nashville, where from time to time he has taught adult and youth classes, sung in the choir, rung handbells, and trained Stephen Ministers. He died of natural causes, with great appreciation for his thoughtful caregivers.

Friends may wish to remember George through giving to Spirit-inspired, people-serving, earth-friendly causes important to them.

—On Line Source
Joon-Young Lee
June 20, 1930 – January 24, 2020

LEE, JOON-YOUNG (P.83; F.87) PSW 83 School; 84 Placentia: Valencia, Korean; California-Pacific 85; 89 Nashville: Korean; 92 Tennessee (¶426.1); 95 Congregational Development, Korean Methodist Church; 2000 Retired; 04 (EM: Seoul, Korea: Grace Korean Methodist Church); 12 Retired

Joon-Young Lee was born in Shanghai, China. His father was a key leader of the Korean temporary government established in Shanghai to battle against Japanese regime in Korea. After Korea’s liberation in 1945, his father served as the governor of the Northern Province of Pyeong-An, but when the communists became stronger in the north, his father decided to move down south accompanied by his youngest son Joon-Young. However, his father passed away with a heart attack during this rushed journey, so he buried his father and moved down to Seoul.

Joon-Young was a devout Christian from a young age, and in Seoul, Young-Nak Presbyterian Church became his home church of 25 years, where he served as a Sunday School teacher. In his first year at Yonsei University, the Korean War broke out, during which he served as a Korean Army officer and was later awarded Hwa-Rang medal of merit. After the war, he went back to Yonsei where he received his B.S. in Political Science and MBA. This is where he met the love of his life and his partner in ministry, Heisik Oh. The LORD gifted them with four children – Sunkyung, Stan, Irene and Joseph – and ten grandchildren.

In 1970, the family started attending Daeshin Methodist Church where he served as a Senior Deacon, Choir manager, and Sunday School Director for 10 years. As for his career, after four years at OEC/USOM as Assistant Marketing Manager, he worked for the Korean Highway Corporation for ten years as an executive.

At age fifty, Joon-Young answered the call to move his family to Claremont, California to study at Claremont Theological Seminary, where he was awarded a Master of Divinity (1983) and Doctor of Ministry (1986) together with his wife. In 1983, he planted a Korean-language UMC in Placentia, California and served for six years, then Nashville Korean Church (UMC) for another six years. He then moved back to Korea to plant Grace Methodist Church in Seoul where he served for fourteen years until he retired in 2010. During this time and after, he taught at various Christian institutions while supporting five churches in China.

Joon-Young demonstrated with his life what passion for the LORD looks like, and his nine-month struggle with multiple complications came to an end gracefully and peacefully. According to Heisik, his last words were, with the cutest smile ever: "To God be the glory."

— Mr. Joseph Lee
George M. Mann, Jr. was born in Everett, Washington at 2:00 pm on Sunday, July 21, 1929 to Minnesota natives George and Esther Mann. Work with Winston Brothers Construction brought George, his older sister Carolyn, and his parents to Los Angeles in 1934. Shortly thereafter, George’s brother Bill was born. Their family then moved to Glendale. In time, George became active in the college age youth group at Glendale: First UMC, where he was to meet his future wife, Patricia Hodson.

George attended public school in Glendale. He earned a B.A. in Geology from Occidental College and his Master of Theology from Pacific School of Religion—after studying at the University of Chicago Divinity School. In his remembrance of K. Morgan Edwards, George explained how he came to the ministry:

…within three months of graduation from college, I attended a church retreat where Morgan was our speaker. All I did was lead a discussion group but Morgan, as a sort of talent scout, asked if we could take a walk together. He proposed my considering the ministry. I stifled a laugh. I was headed for oil exploration. But Morgan was not one to simply drop a hint and his persistence was not so much that I should actually enter the ministry but that I should deal most thoroughly with the question.

For 47 years, George’s sermons explored the themes he loved: physics, cosmology, great thinkers, literature, fly fishing, sailing, travel, humor, and film. The juxtaposition of Stephen Hawking, Einstein, and Richard Feynman with John Wesley, Dietrich Bonhoeffer and C.S. Lewis were mainstays in his sermons.

George’s younger brother Bill became Professor of Philosophy at the University of Vermont and has this remembrance of George,

One cannot choose one’s older brother. As a kid I adored George, regarding him as a kind of second father. He set the example I wanted to emulate, and he did it with such natural grace. He certainly played a major role in my pursuing a career in Philosophy. At the same time, he indulged my weird sense of humor, making me feel that it was OK on occasion to laugh at the world.

George was preceded in death by his sister Carolyn. George was survived by his wife Patricia until her death in December 2019. He is survived by his brother Bill, wife Pat, daughter Kathy, son Greg and their families.

— Greg Mann
Nancy Mitchell

July 12, 1928 - September 13, 2019

MITCHELL, NANCY GIFFORD BEAN (DM.77; FD.97) PSW 77 SD: Wesley, Wesley Youth Children’s School, Director; California-Pacific 85 SD: Mid-City United Parish, Diocesan Minister of Education; 86 La Jolla, Children’s Div. Director; 88 SD: Childcare Resource Service; 97 YMCA Childcare Resource Service, Director of Special Projects; 98 Ecumenical Council of San Diego County, Child Advocacy Ministries; 99 Retired (¶355.1)

Nancy Gifford Bean Mitchell was born in Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital, Los Angeles, California. She lived in Los Angeles, San Marino, Whittier, Pasadena, Claremont, San Diego, Boston; Portland, Creswell and Corvallis, Oregon; and Nashville, Tennessee. She went to elementary school at Henry E. Huntington School in San Marino; attended Whittier Union High School and graduated in 1946 with a Ruby Key (Top 2% of class in academics, athletics, and service to the community). She attended Occidental College for two years and UCLA for one year. She took classes at Oregon State in Corvallis; graduated with a BS from Pacific Oaks College, Pasadena (1965); took graduate courses at the School of Theology at Claremont; Scarritt College in Nashville, Tennessee; the University of Tennessee and University of California San Diego.

Nancy dedicated her life to helping children and families in need. She ran the School for Young Children in Nashville and the Wesley Young Children’s School in San Diego and helped many single parents and others who needed child care. She worked with Marian Wright Edelman and the Children's Defense Fund. She worked with the San Diego Association for the Education of Young Children; the Caring Council; the San Diego County Commission on Children, Youth & Families; Early and Comprehensive Educational Support; the Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice; and the Supportive Parents Information Network.

Nancy worked to help many in San Diego, immigrants, refugees, single parents and many others who needed help with education, meals, and transportation. Her tireless work helped hundreds, if not thousands, of people who were in need.

Nancy received a US Congressional Award for her work with children and families.

Nancy moved heaven and earth to help her husband Ken get the care he needed at home when he was failing with Alzheimer's and there was no good support facility for him to go to.

Nancy was predeceased by her husband Kenneth John Mitchell, her father Allen Daggett Bean, her mother Amy Thelma Clark Bean, and her brother Robert Allen Bean.

Nancy left behind her sons David Allen Mitchell and John Stephen Mitchell; daughters Anne Louise Mitchell, Laurie Amy Mitchell Loudenslager and Julie Elizabeth Mitchell Hatch; grandchildren Pol Llovet, Skyla McCord, Joshua Michael Miles, Sara Anne Miles, Aimee Nell Loudenslager, Breanna Lynn Hatch, Jesse Dewey Hatch and Joseph John Hatch; and 7 great-grandchildren.

— David Mitchell
Robert Ballard Pearson was born in Lynn, Massachusetts on June 9, 1924. He graduated from Lynn English High School and worked for General Electric until he went into the Navy during World War II. He attended Union College in Barbourville, Kentucky where he met Mary Mellott. They were married on Easter Sunday in 1946. They celebrated 73 years of marriage and raised three children.

Robert attended Boston University School of Theology and received a master’s degree. After seminary, Robert served churches in Pennsylvania, California, and Arizona. While serving in Arizona, Robert earned a second master’s degree from Northern Arizona University. Robert accepted a 4-year appointment of Dean of Students at Sue Bennett College in London, Kentucky. He then returned to the Southern California Conference where he served churches in Calexico, California and San Diego, California.

Robert retired from formal ministry in 1989 and lived at Baker Homes in Rowland Heights, California where he served as a Sunday School teacher at Covina United Methodist Church. He and his wife, Mary, moved to Oregon in 2015 to be closer to family.

Robert was survived by his wife Mary until her death in March of 2020. He left two sons and their spouses, one daughter and her spouse, seven grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

— Debbie Cox
Inez Elizabeth Scott, 91, of Chula Vista, California was born March 16, 1928 in Medford, Maine. Her parents were Eva Dean and Daniel Herbert Lovejoy. She married Charles Harley Scott of Bangor, Maine, in Portsmouth, Virginia, March 2, 1951.

Her children are Michael Daniel Scott, deceased; Stuart Palmer Lovejoy, Leesburg, Florida; Ann Elizabeth Kallevig, Chula Vista, California; James Edward Scott and spouse Doreen, Salem, Oregon; and Sharon Leigh Morrison and spouse Jim, Dahlonega, Georgia. Her grandchildren are Lori Hilton and spouse Joe, Jeremy Bailey and spouse Karyn, Janette Robledo, and Anthony Arra; Elizabeth Aguilera and spouse Andres; Valentina Boatwright and spouse Chase, Adela Hall and spouse Brandon, and Joshua Scott; and a plethora of great-grandchildren.

Surviving siblings are Kenneth Lovejoy and spouse Nancy of Wayne, Maine; Hope Dyer, Milo, Maine; and an abundance of cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Her education includes graduation from Saugus High School in 1945; attendance at Southwest Community College 1978 – 1993; San Diego State University, 1994, with a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology; Claremont School of Theology, Master of Divinity, 1997; Shalem Institute, certificate in Spiritual Direction, winter 1999; Academy for Spiritual Formation #19, 2004.

Her secular career began in the Civil Service in 1950 in the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Washington, DC, as Clerk Typist GS-2 located at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, Virginia; then she moved to other locations including Naval Supply Center and Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Norfolk, Virginia; Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Navy Public Works Center, San Diego, California; Naval Ordnance Station, Indian Head, Maryland; Naval Air Station, Alameda, California; Naval Air Station, North Island, Coronado, California, where she retired in 1988 as a Systems Accountant GS 13.

Her ministerial career began in 1995 as an intern at Nestor UMC. She was Commissioned as a provisional elder in 1997. In 2006 she was named Pastor Emeritus by the congregation.

— On Line Source
The Beatitudes

5 And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. 2 Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 Blessed are those who mourn,
For they shall be comforted.
5 Blessed are the meek,
For they shall inherit the [a]earth.
6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
For they shall be filled.
7 Blessed are the merciful,
For they shall obtain mercy.
8 Blessed are the pure in heart,
For they shall see God.
9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
For they shall be called sons of God.
10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 5:1-11
SPRADLING, DAVID E. (T.42; F.43) North Texas 42 (Oct) School; Cuba 42 (Dec) North Texas 43 (Feb) US Navy, Chaplain; 46 (Oct) Quinlan; 48 (Jun) Leonard; 50 Lancaster; 50 (Nov) US Navy, Chaplain; 67 (Sep) Dallas: University Park; 69 (Jun) Irving: First; 70 (Jul 21) Chaplain; SCA 71 (Sep 21) Sepulveda: Veterans Administration Hospital, Chaplain; PSW 77; 81 Sepulveda: Veterans Administration Hospital, Chief, Chaplain Service; California-Pacific; 85 Retired

Chaplain (Commander –USN Ret) David Earl Spradling lived a long and fruitful life. He died in Scottsdale, Arizona, July 10th, 2019 at the age of 100.

David was born in Greenville, Texas, November 9th, 1918 to Charles and Ila May Spradling. He had six younger siblings, all of whom preceded him in death except his brother, Orville, who resides in Big Spring, Texas. Chaplain Spradling graduated from East Texas State College in Commerce, Texas, and received a Master of Divinity degree from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. He later went on to attend Colombia University for his doctoral studies.

Chaplain Spradling was commissioned a Navy Chaplain in 1942 and served in World War II. He was assigned a challenging mission at Pearl Harbor after the Japanese attack. He also served aboard the aircraft carrier Saratoga later in the war. His Navy career included service during the Korean War and the Vietnam War on the aircraft carrier Ticonderoga. He retired from the Navy after nearly 30 years of service.

David then served 20 years as a chaplain with the Veteran’s Administration. After retiring from the VA, he moved to Scottsdale, Arizona, where he served as an associate pastor for several years. David Spradling was married to Virginia Spradling for 54 years. They had three sons: David, Jr. of San Antonio, Texas; Randy of Yuma, Arizona; and Paul of San Antonio, Texas. Virginia died in 2000. In 2002 David married Margaret Reidy. They were married for 17 years.

David is survived by his wife, Margaret; his brother Orville; his three sons (and their wives): David Jr.(Jeanie), Randy(Angie), and Paul; six grandchildren: Mandi Spradling, Angi (husband-Steve) Hansen, Christin Spradling, James Spradling, David Alan Spradling, and Sara Spradling; and five great-grandchildren: Valor Hansen, Honor Hansen, Selah Hansen, Trinity Hansen, and Genesis Spradling-Dongar.

Chaplain Spradling was interred at Arlington National Cemetery on 2 January 2020 with full military honors.

— The Family
Reverend Elder Fa'aagi Akeimo Taufete'e was born December 26, 1938, in Leone, American Samoa. He is survived by his beautiful wife, two sons and two daughters, along with 26 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren and 19 additional blessings. He is also survived by his two brothers and four sisters. Our father was known for his 51 years of service in the ministry. He was the founder of the first Samoan church in Hawaii and was known as the last of the Mohicans.

"If I could write a story it would be the greatest ever told. I'd write about my daddy, for he had a heart of gold."

— Eileen
The Rev. Dr. F. Thomas Trotter was born in Los Angeles, California to Frederick B. and Hazel T. Trotter. Tom was a leader in church and school activities throughout his youth. A veteran of World War II, he served in the Army Air Corp in the China-Burma Theater. After the war, he earned degrees from Occidental College, AB; and Boston University, STB, PhD. He was also the recipient of ten honorary doctorates.

In 1956, after his ordination, the UMC sent Tom to an orange grove to found the Montclair (then Monte Vista) United Methodist Church. He joined the Claremont School of Theology faculty in 1959. While serving as Dean of the School, he recruited a pantheon of international scholars to its faculty. In 1973, Trotter was appointed General Secretary of the Board of Higher Education and Ministry, where he radically increased the racial and gender diversity of the Board staff; and initiated new national programs for the Church’s colleges and universities, such as the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation. In 1984 Trotter launched the denomination’s founding of Africa University, Mutare, Zimbabwe—the first church-related university in Africa. In 1988, he became President of Alaska Pacific University, then served as Interim President of Claremont School of Theology in 1999-2000. In retirement, he continued to serve as a consultant and mentor to many organizations and individuals.

Dr. Trotter’s faith and ministry centered on the idea of Loving God With One’s Mind (the title of one of his four books), and on creating new ideas and institutions. At Occidental, he founded and was lead cartoonist for Fang, the school’s first humor magazine. Serving as a Campus Minister at Boston University, he assisted in the opening of Boston University’s newly built Marsh Chapel. He created a weekly column, “Religion and Life,” for The Nashville Banner (1985-1988). He was present at the beginnings of the Montclair United Methodist Church, The Claremont School of Theology, Africa University, and the new Carr-Gottstein Academic Center at Alaska Pacific University. Tom enjoyed his students and teaching in the areas of theology, history of Christianity, philosophy of religion, and sharing his special appreciation for the arts and literature.

Dr. Trotter is survived by his spouse, Gania Demaree Trotter, his brother and sister, Mark Trotter and Martha Jagger, his daughters, Ruth, Tania and Mary, his sons-in-law, Brett Watterson, Greg Batson, and Robert Kaufman, and grandsons Thomas, Daniel, and Wesley Batson.

— Mary Trotter
Reverend Dr. Raymond James Wells was born into a religious family, living on a dairy farm, amidst the hardships of the Great Depression, in Modesto, California. He matured into a hardworking man of exemplary faith and character. Midyear of his senior year he was given a scholarship to Los Angeles Pacific College (now Azusa Pacific University). Then in 1944, he transferred to Seattle Pacific College where he graduated cum laude in 1946. In the fall of 1946, he attended New York Theological Seminary where he earned his Bachelor of Sacred Theology and his Master of Sacred Theology.

He enrolled at New College, University of Edinburgh for two years. While teaching at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, he finished his thesis and it was accepted with no revisions required, and was granted his Ph.D. It was in Carlisle that he was ordained Elder in the Methodist Church by Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam and joined the Central Pennsylvania Methodist Conference in 1958. After four years there, Ray transferred to California Western University in San Diego and transferred to the Cal-Pac Conference. He was a member of the clergy for 60 years.

In 1966 Ray was by appointed to a teaching ministry at Seattle Pacific University where he taught for 26 years. He was Chair of the Philosophy Department for many years. He was noted for teaching "Values, Faith and Meaning", a course he conceived and developed. He retired as Emeritus Professor of Philosophy in 1993. Ray was a Christian philosopher who brought spirituality into the classroom and was dedicated to his students and his teaching and gave generously of himself to help hundreds of students form their own values about faith and moral issues. He often said that "values determine choices and actions". Ray lived according to his own values and had an abiding faith in God.

Ray and Marilynn met at Seattle Pacific her freshman year, his senior year, and were married the following June and remained happily married for 72 years, raising three children, Mark, Matthew, and Sarah Lynn. He deeply loved his wife and children and they loved him equally.

The last eight years of his life were spent at Warm Beach Senior Community in skilled nursing, where he quietly and peacefully graduated from this life at age 94. It could well be said of him "Well done good and faithful servant...Enter into the joy of your Lord."

-Mrs. Marilynn Wells
William Woolsey
May 16, 1927 – February 23, 2020

WOOLSEY, WILLIAM R. (RL.97) California-Pacific 89 Trinity Korean; 93 Victorville; 97 Retired

William Russell Woolsey, also known as Bill, Grandpa Bill, Pastor Bill and Pop, peacefully passed away at his daughter's home. Bill married Frances Jean Woolsey (Croiser) February 23, 1952. God has reunited the two in heaven on their wedding anniversary. He is survived by his three beloved children: Steven Russell Woolsey (wife-Linda), Paul Duane Woolsey (wife-Joyce) and Marva Frances Woolsey (husband-Mike). Bill has 14 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild. In addition, Bill had 5 siblings: Geraldine, Della, Pryor, and Darlene, all of whom have since passed and is survived by his sister Gynath.

William served in the U.S. Military under the U.S. Navy (1943-1947) and U.S. Army Signal Corps (1948-1951). He then worked for General Dynamics beginning in 1951. In between his years working for GD he owned a flower shop and worked as a florist. After roughly 38 years he retired from General Dynamics at age 58.

At this point of his life he made a major life change and pursued a life of Ministry. He attended seminary at Claremont School of Theology and went on to become a Pastor at San Bernardino: Trinity. He completed his work as a Pastor in May of 2015 at the Victorville United Methodist Church in Victorville, California.

Bill had a significant impact on others and will be forever known for his incredible generosity, his detailed storytelling, and, above all, the Christlike love he showed to everyone.

Many will aspire to replicate the legacy that he has left behind that was built on faith, character, and unconditional love.

-On Line Source
Spouses
ADAMS, HARRY WAKEFIELD (T.50; F.52) Pitts; SCA; 51 Hawthorne; 58 Alhambra: First; 65 Burbank: First; 72 Sab’l; 73 Sp. Appt. to Society (¶352.7 & 392) (Burbank Psychiatric Assoc., Counselor); 74 (Jun 1) Granada Hills: Knollwood; PSW 77; C-P 85; 89 Newhall: Friendly Valley Community; 92 R’d (¶ 451.2c); 92 (Nov 1) (Fillmore: Bardsdale); 93 (Yucca Valley); 94-95 (Chatsworth); 95 R’d

28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies.
   He that loveth his wife loveth himself.
   Ephesians 5:28 KJV
Penny was born in Charles City Iowa, but did not stay long. Her dad and mom moved to Burbank, California, later moving to Playa Del Rey for her Jr. and Sr. high school years. She did her college work at Westmont College, majoring in music. Penny's family consisted of her sons Timothy and Brian, now deceased, and her husband Ron to whom she was married for 64 years.

Her ministry was always with the Church, beginning as choir director and organist for the Euclid EUB church in San Diego. Moving to Irvine, she was organist for University UMC and taught piano.

Ron and Penny took appointments outside the Conference, with the American Church in London, and then to Second Congregational Church in Greenwich, Connecticut. In London she continued to teach, and became the practice accompanist for many West End singers and dancers. While in Greenwich she was the pianist for the Chapel service and Organist and Choir Director for Greenwich Baptist Church.

Her swan song was with St. Edwards Roman Catholic Church in Shelton, Washington where she was organist. Her death was Parkinson-related.

— Ron Allison
Dorothy Biggers, wife of Rev. Earl Biggers Sr., died on May 4, 2019, in her home at Fredericka Manor, Chula Vista, CA. She was 97.

Born in rural Pennsylvania the second of ten children, she received nurse’s training in Bloomsburg and later trained to be a nurse anesthetist in Philadelphia. Relocating from Pennsylvania to Illinois, she was working as a nurse anesthetist in Joliet, Illinois, when she met the man of her dreams, Earl. Soon after their meeting, they were married. When they were both in the 40s, Earl left his career as a successful chemist to pursue his calling to the ministry. In the 1960s with four boys under the age of ten, Earl completed his M. Div. and they moved into their first parsonage in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Over the next 20 years, Dorothy became extremely active in the UMW, various circles in the church, and taught 2nd Grade Sunday School where she had all her students memorize the 100th Psalm. In the 20 plus years that Earl served in the West Ohio Conference, they lived in Swanton, Ohio, where Trinity UMC was their spiritual home.

Upon their retirement in the early 1980s, Dorothy and Earl moved from Ohio to Chula Vista, California, and became active in First UMC where they remained active until their deaths. Soon after arriving in California, they were a part of the vote for that congregation to relocate to the current location. Dorothy regularly volunteered for METRO, the Good Neighbor Center, and many other ministries. Rarely would they miss an Annual Conference at Redlands.

She truly possessed the heart of a servant. Almost daily she would leave a toasted English muffin with jelly wrapped in a napkin, and then placed on a bench, for a homeless man who lived in the area. In her final years at Fredericka, she had her rounds to pray and recite the Lord’s Prayer with various residents. She is dearly missed by many, especially her four sons: Earl Jr., Anthony, Timothy, and Joel.

— Rev. Joel Biggers
Living to Please God

4 As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more.
2 For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 4:1-2 (NIV)

9 Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other.
10 And in fact, you do love all of God’s family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more,

1 Thessalonians 4:9-10 (NIV)
Elizabeth Bublitz
May 4, 1931 – March 31, 2020

BUBLITZ, G. WILLIAM (T.50; F.53) Minn., 50 School; 55 La Crescenta: Dak., Dresbach; SCA; 62 (Nov 1) Phoenix: Calvary; 72 S/L; 73 SBdino: Campus Crusade for Christ Int., Staff, Reg. Rep.; PSW 77; C-P 85; 92 R’d; Died 6/1/2001

Elizabeth (Betty) died in March 2020 at 89 years old. She was born in Massachusetts, and met William (Bill), a young seminary student, while she was completing her degree with honors at Julliard School of Music in New York City.

In those years, she was fairly shy and stuttered. Their first pastoral assignment was in a rural town in Minnesota, near the train station. Often hobos riding the train would show up at the back door, asking for food. She would make them several sandwiches and fill their thermos with coffee. One day, she said to one, “I am curious, none of my neighbors have visits from hobos.” “Well mam, we have a sign language where we leave messages for each other about where to go for food. One symbol is a smiley face with cat whiskers. That symbol means ‘kind lady lives here.’ You Ma’am, are a kind lady. And everyone knows where to go.”

As the years went on, she developed a burning passion to tell people about Jesus. After she and Bill left their Phoenix pastorate, they became missionaries with Campus Crusade for Christ. They worked in South Africa, Russia, and Spain. Betty did a lot of public speaking as she overcame her shyness. She and Bill were a partnership (fundraising, teaching, discipleship). On occasion, Bill was told he shouldn’t allow her to teach and preach. That should be his job alone. His response back was, “Are you kidding?! Betty’s glory is my glory.”

Wherever she was, in a taxi, a hotel, doctor’s offices, she expressed interest in people, asking about them and their families, and always telling them of the joy she had in her relationship with Jesus Christ. Many people entered full-time Christian work because of her impact on their lives.

Early in her faith, she was hard on herself and felt she needed to be a better Christian. She strived a lot. Then she had a dream that changed everything. She shared it with her junior-high daughter. Slightly crying and with awe in her voice, she said, “I had a dream. Jesus reached out to me. Then He said, “Well done thou good and faithful servant. Well done.” (Mt 25:21). That experience changed her perception of Christian ministry. She found it easier to serve out of love and out of an actual friendship with God. That permeated her life.

— The Family
Edelmira Caruso was born in Lomas de Zamora in Buenos Aires, Argentina to an Italian father, Gaetano Rizzi and Argentine mother, Mariana C de Rizzi.

At the age of 9 she was invited to the Episcopal Methodist Church. She continued to attend this church by herself. At 13 she was baptized by submersion, at 16 because of her age, the local church had to change their policy to accept her to be a Sunday School Superintendent. Edelmira knew that she wanted to continue the work of the Lord for the rest of her life.

Edelmira fell in love with Antonio Caruso and in 1947 they married. One year later, Antonio received God’s call to the ministry. She did not desire to be a minister’s wife. But after prayer and asking the Lord’s for guidance, she knew God’s plan: to follow her husband into the Lord’s work. Edelmira accompanied Antonio through all aspects of ministry for 65 years. In Argentina they served in three different churches.

In 1960 the Caruso family established their residency in Southern California and served the Lord in five different churches in United States.

Edelmira was an executive member for 45 years with the Uniom Femenil Evangelica Interdenominacional for Southern California and elected President during four of those years. While involved with the Church Women United as their secretary, she attended conferences throughout the United States and Mexico. She was also active with the Mission Conference Spanish Division.

In addition to working for the Church, Edelmira worked in the garment industry in Los Angeles. She began as a piece work operator. She attended school to learn English and earned her AA Degree in Fashion Design and Pattern Making at Trade Technical College. Before retiring, she had advanced to Assistant Designer and Production Pattern Maker.

In 1986 after many years of active ministry, Rev Antonio and Edelmira retired and relocated to Lake Elsinore where they became active in Lake Elsinore: UMC. During these next 20 years, they helped start four Spanish United Methodist congregations.

In 1997 they relocated their residence to live in Baker Home for Retired Ministers in Rowland Heights, California, where Edelmira lived until her death.

During Rev Antonio and Edelmira’s 67 years together, they were blessed with four wonderful children, 10 grandchildren, and 17 great grandchildren.

Edelmira always felt very grateful to the Lord for the many blessings she had received throughout her life.

— The Family
Elizabeth Gutiérrez was born in El Paso, Texas. Elizabeth graduated in 1944 with a B.A. in Philosophy and Religion from Asbury College (now known as Asbury University) in Wilmore, Kentucky. Elizabeth gave thanks to God for Esther Easley, a Methodist missionary, who encouraged her to go to college; and for Mr. Sotel, a wealthy businessman and Asbury supporter, who provided her with a full 4-year scholarship with one stipulation: that she would remember to tithe, which she took to heart.

After graduation, Elizabeth’s first job was teaching kindergarten at Houchen Settlement House in El Paso, Texas where she met her husband and married in 1950. They had three daughters and a son. In 1965, the family moved from El Paso to California where she was hired to teach kindergarten in the Orange Unified School District. Elizabeth loved children and loved teaching.

Elizabeth spent decades devoted to the work of the church serving as a dedicated member of United Methodist Women, teaching Sunday school, attending CHARMS events, she looked forward to annual conference and participating in ClergyMates activities.

A true extrovert, Elizabeth didn’t know a stranger and could make friends easily with almost anyone. If you gave her your phone number you could count on her calling you.

She became a widow in 1996, but when asked how she was doing living alone she replied, “I’m never alone, my Lord and Savior is with me.” Elizabeth loved living at Baker Homes, a community of retired United Methodist ministers and their spouses, where the residents looked out for each other.

Elizabeth is survived by her sister Celia Llánez, brother Robert “Beto” Soto, daughters Marcie B. Dietrich and Elizabeth Jo (Betty Jo) Thompson, 2 granddaughters (Yvonne Gonzales and Tawnya Gutiérrez), 4 grandsons (Joe Gonzales, José Antonio “Tony” Gutiérrez IV, David & Daniel Thompson), 7 great-granddaughters, 6 great-grandsons, and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews. She is preceded in death by her husband (1996), daughter Isela Gutiérrez (2008), son José Antonio “Tony” Gutiérrez III (2010), a brother, and 4 sisters.

Elizabeth looked forward to going home with her Lord and Savior and had instructed (always the teacher) that when she passed, she wanted everyone to say, “Alleluia! Elizabeth is finally with her Lord and Savior.”

“For all the Saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!”

— The Gutiérrez Family
Minnie Louise Simpson Henderson was from the small southeast Missouri town of Neelyville. Growing up, she delighted in learning tap dance and piano; she played high school basketball and was named class valedictorian. As pianist for the local Methodist Church she met William (Bill) Henderson, the student minister who was serving a circuit of churches in the region. After Minnie’s graduation in 1942, they married; Bill joined the Marine Corps and Minnie temporarily attended Southeast Missouri State College. After the war, Bill completed his Bachelor of Divinity at Perkins Seminary, and in 1949, he became a member of the Southern California-Arizona Conference. Moving west, they followed several of his siblings as well as her mother and brother. California, after a foray to Arizona, became home for the rest of their lives.

In each of the church communities she and Bill served, Minnie was loved for her friendliness and warmth. She was appreciated for the skills she graciously employed as organist, choir member, choir director, bell choir director, and pianist. This loving service continued, and in the last two years of her life Minnie played for weekly sing-alongs in her residential community.

After years of dedication to church, family, and work, Minnie was able to focus on her formal musical education by completing a Bachelor of Arts in Music at Cal Poly, Pomona in 1978. The friends she made there, and in the music fraternity Mu Phi Epsilon, brought her continuing joy and companionship.

After her husband died in 1982, Minnie continued to cherish the friends and family in her life, including Cecil, Audrey, Helen, Kerry, Alice, Bob, Barbara, Diane, Ed, Debbie, Tod, Lorena, Irene, Ina, Kathleen, Dorris, Elaine, Louise, Jane, Jerry and other dear friends from many churches, most recently the Westmont, Claremont, and Walnut UM Churches. With her friends Minnie danced, made music, worshiped, traveled, rooted for the LA Lakers, created quilts, and laughed. The team at Minnie’s last home, Almond Avenue Residence Club, were also generous with their love and support of her and the family.

Minnie lives on through her children, Will, Peg (Meredith), Mark (Susan), and John (Chong Suk); her grandchildren Scott and Kate; and her great grandchildren Cheyanne, Jo- nah, and Blake. She can also be seen and felt through the love and kindness that Jesus can inspire in all of us.

— The Family
Present Suffering and Future Glory
18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 19 For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? 25 But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. 26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God. 28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

Romans 8:18-30
Ruth Lawson

May 21, 1922 – December 15, 2019

LAWSON, SIDNEY J. (T.46; F.51) SCA 46; 50 Toluca Lake Comm.; 54 SD: St. Marks; 58 Fallbrook; 62 Lakewood Comm.; 64 Gardena First; 68 Oceanside First; 82 Escondido First; 84 R’d; Died 3/31/1993

More Than Conquerors
31 What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? 33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:31-39
Nancy Mabry
February 22, 1951 – January 31, 2020

MABRY, CHARLES R. (P.72; F.78) SCA 72 School; 74 Encinitas: San Dieguito, Assoc; PSW 77; 78 LA: La Jijera; 83 Culver City: Culver Palms; California-Pacific 85; 86 Ontario: First; 96 Santa Ana: First; 99 Leave of Absence; 2000 Westminster; 02 Incapacity; 03 Van Nuys: First; 05 Sepulveda; 07 I/L (¶358.1); 12 Retired; 13 (Piru, RA-1/4); 2016 (Oct 1) Retired

Nancy was born in Santa Monica, California, and raised in Venice and Santa Monica. She was the oldest of five sisters. Nancy graduated from Venice High School in 1969 and was noted for her artistic ability.

Nancy worked for five years in the Los Angeles office of the National Farm Worker Ministry. During that time, she came to know Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta among other Farm Worker leaders. She met her husband, Chuck, in 1972 while he worked with the Farm Worker’s. They were married in 1974 at Claremont Presbyterian Church.

Nancy was an incredible mother to her children, Joshua and Sarah. She absolutely loved being a grandmother to her four grandchildren: Joey, Mollie, Luke and Lucy. She was Secretary in the Los Angeles District Office from 1983-1986. She later worked in several United Methodist local churches in Southern California, including Huntington Beach: Community UMC.

Nancy worked at the School of Theology at Claremont for eight years, 1990-1998. This included seven years as executive assist to President Bob Edgar. Among her responsibilities were maintaining the donor base, serving as secretary to the board of directors, and scheduling and planning special events.

To know Nancy (even to have just met her) was to know a genuinely loving and caring person. She offered no judgement and greeted you with an open heart always. She took pride in her family and was dedicated to the work she did for them, the United Methodist Church, and other positions she held throughout her lifetime. She was highly respected in her own career and loved by congregations Chuck served as pastor.

Before she passed, her greatest joy in life came from moments spent with her grandkids and family. She will be sorely missed.

— Chuck Mabry
Patricia H. Mann was born in Glendale, California at 4:42 am on Tuesday, March 22, 1932 to Kansas and Oklahoma natives, Albert and Vocial Hodson. She grew up in Southern California with her two younger sisters, Diane and Robin. In time, Pat became active in the college age youth group at Glendale-First UMC, where she was to meet her future husband, Rev. George M. Mann, Jr.

Pat attended public school in Los Angeles. She held a B.A. in Education from Occidental College, where she used her electives to continue her studies in drawing and painting.

Pat taught in the public-school system in Berkeley, California, concurrent with George’s completion of Divinity school. When the couple moved back to Southern California for George’s first appointment, Pat became a mother and homemaker, while continuing drawing, painting, and her passion for gardening—for which she received a Gold Arrow Award while in Pasadena. For many years, she was an active member of the Altar Guild at Pasadena: First.

Pat also developed a love for genealogy and spent numerous hours researching family, both here and abroad. Not surprisingly, she became the church archivist for First Church, creating topical, monthly displays of Church history, and writing an ongoing series of articles for the Church newsletter.

Pat was a world traveler and an avid fly fisherman—both of which she enjoyed with her husband, George.

Pat was preceded in death by her husband, George. She is survived by her sisters, Diane and Robin, daughter Kathy, son Greg and their families.

— Greg Mann
Ruth Lee Miller was born in Denver, Colorado. She grew up in Denver and had a deep love for the Rocky Mountains. The Methodist Church was the center of her life. Her children—Skelly, David, and Bobbi—were the joy of her life. She was close to her only sibling, Robert, and his wife, Joyce. They had two sons, Steve and Mike, and Ruth formed a strong bond with Robert’s entire family. She also had a cherished, lifelong friend, Sherrie.

Ruth earned her Bachelor’s degree and teaching credential from Cal State, LA. She loved teaching young children and taught for over 30 years.

Ruth met Rev. Bill Miller when she was 51, and they shared much in common with their love of the church, missions, and social outreach. She was happy to become Jenna’s stepmom. Ruth and Bill married in 1984 and shared 30 years of loving marriage until Bill’s passing in 2015.

Ruth was a super granny! She loved being granny to Danny, Rachel, Peter, Laura, Katie, and Marylinn and great-granny to Laurray, Wyatt, and Josie Lee. If grandkids were around, she was on the floor amidst the toys and kids, playing with a huge smile on her face.

Ruth was always involved in her local UMC where she served as the Missions Chairperson, taught Sunday School, led youth group meetings, volunteered as youth coordinator, and served as the program Vice President for United Methodist Women. She had a passion for helping the poor and hungry. She started the Conference’s Annual Hunger Walk. She traveled to Africa twice to learn about sustainable farming, so she could return and educate churches here about how they could help their neighbors in Africa. Ruth also chaired the Conference Missions Committee.

After retiring, Ruth volunteered 4 mornings a week for 20 years in her daughter’s classroom. She assisted first grade students with their writing skills. Ruth had endless patience, and she especially enjoyed helping the students who struggled.


Ruth was a faithful servant and lived life to the fullest. Her priorities in life were her faith, the church, her family, music, serving others, missions, children, and nature.

-The Miller Family
Juana Müller
May 6, 1939 – December 4, 2018

MÜLLER, EMILIO (P.79; F.81) Florida 85 General Board of Global Ministries, Field Staff; 91 Transfer to Pacific Northwest; 08 (Mar 1) (EM: California-Pacific Conference, Director of Latino Ministries); 09 Transfer to California-Pacific; 09 EM: California-Pacific Conference, Director of Latino Ministries; 2012 (Sep 1) Retired; 18 (Nov 4) Deceased

3 Y se decían el uno al otro:
—Santo, Santo, Santo es el Señor Todopoderoso:
Toda la tierra está llena de su gloria.

Isaías 6:3  (NVI)
Mary Mellott Pearson was born on May 21, 1922, in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. She died in Keizer, Oregon on March 18, 2020, at the age of 97 surrounded by her three children. She was the daughter of Matthew Stanley Quay Mellott who was a Methodist minister in Pennsylvania and sister to Ben Mellott. Her early years were spent in Pennsylvania. She had fond memories of playing hide and go seek in the Gettysburg cemetery with her older brother.

Mary attended and graduated from Hazelton High School in Hazelton, Pennsylvania. During World War II, Mary worked in a defense plant. She cleaned gun turrets because her hands were small enough to fit inside.

Mary then attended Union College in Barbourville, Kentucky, where she met Robert Pearson. She liked to tell the story of how Robert passed a note to her written on a paper napkin that said only “6:30.” That meant that he wanted to meet her at her dorm. That was the beginning of their love which lasted 78 years. They married on Easter Sunday in 1946. Their anniversary fell on Easter only two times during their long marriage. One was their last anniversary together. Robert was a Methodist minister and his work took them to Pennsylvania, California, Arizona, and Kentucky. She loved singing and was always a part of the church choirs where Robert served. Mary was a model preacher’s wife.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband Reverend Robert Ballard Pearson. She is survived by two sons and their spouses, one daughter and her spouse, 7 grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

— Debbie Cox
Irene Primrose Peter was born on March 6, 1936 in what was then British India. She was the eldest of 11 children and met her husband Rev. Dr. Kundan Peter shortly after her 19th birthday. Irene and Kundan married. They served churches in Pakistan before coming to California in 1969 with their children. Irene supported Kundan's over 50 years of ordained ministry in the Methodist Church of India and Pakistan and the United Methodist Church and the California-Pacific Conference.

Irene is survived by her children, Arnold, who is an entertainment attorney in Manhattan Beach, and daughter Vanita, a paralegal in Washington state; granddaughters Rachel Ann and Divya Elizabeth, brother Comfort, sisters Norma and Eniz, along with numerous in-laws, nieces, nephews and cousins living all over the world.

— Her Children
Kay Kumiko Takagishi, 102, of Chicago, passed away April 24, 2020. Beloved wife of the late Samuel Takagishi; loving mother of Kerrie, Mark (Rhonda) and Stephen (Colleen); cherished grandmother of Sam (Andrea), Josh (Allison) & Troy (Eleanor), and Seesha, Micah & Kaylee; treasured great-grandmother of Noah, Maddie, Brooke, Kate, Morgan and Ashley; loyal sister of Marie Kitazumi and Naoko Nakamura.

Kay was a school teacher for over thirty years at Jonathan Burr Elementary School in the Wicker Park section of Chicago. She loved music and enjoyed being the choir director at Ravenswood Fellowship United Methodist Church. As the widow of the first pastor of the church, she worked with dedication to help the congregation flourish. By directing choir, hosting parties, helping to organize the bazaar, and presenting community concerts, she always thought of herself as the minister's wife and acted accordingly. Kay had a passion for gardening and could always be found tending to her plants.

— On-Line Source
Mrs. Carol Ann Trouche was born in Wisconsin on December 16, 1932. She moved to Southern California with her family as a teenager. She is survived by her daughter, Deborah, son-in-law Curt, and two grandsons. She was the treasured wife to Reverend Jean Trouche, whom she met while working at Goodwill Industries in Los Angeles.

After their marriage, they moved to El Paso, Texas and later to Reading, California, Wilmington, Delaware, and finally to Sun City, Arizona. For the last two years of her life, she lived in West Chester, Pennsylvania to be closer to her daughter and family.

Carol was admired by those who knew her for her spirit and “can do” attitude. She loved the outdoors and feeling the sunshine on her face. Scrabble was one of her favorite past times and she cherished her weekly games. She loved the weekly bookmobile and always picked up new books to read. She had the opportunity in her last couple years to spend holidays with her family and attend the wedding of her oldest grandson.

— Her Daughter
Believers Who Have Died

13 Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. 14 For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14