

CELEBRATE A NEW NATIONAL CHURCH!

The Wesleyan Church has been in Brazil for over 50 years. With two districts in the Brazilian church, a third district is being planted. The Bible college is totally self-sufficient, with 25 teachers and 70 students throughout three states.



Now the Lord has led the Brazilian church to take up the cause of world missions. Cross-cultural mission is a necessary step, a natural step. Where is the Lord leading Brazil to begin her mission? We think it may be East Timor, a small island just north of Australia. Therefore, pray for the Brazilian mission team as they go to East Timor in January 2019.

But that is not all! This September, The Wesleyan Church of Brazil will form a national conference. The national leader and a national board will be appointed for the first two years. They will also establish departments of missions, evangelism, and Christian education. Dr. Dennis Jackson, Executive Director of Global Partners, will officiate.



It's time to celebrate!

Tom and Grace Ensz, Missionaries to Brazil

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Condolences . . .

Esther Elliott

Esther Elliott, a missionary alumna of Global Partners, died on the 5th of June in Gonubie, South Africa. She was born in Roanoke, Virginia and came to faith in Christ in Cincinnati, Ohio and taught music at God's Bible School in Cincinnati and participated in the Cincinnati Philharmonic Orchestra.

She was appointed to missionary service in 1960 in South Africa and was a long time teacher at Wesleyan Evangelical Seminary. She also served in a local church engagement and other initiatives such as directing the Reef Youth Choir. She was there in classes, choir trips, and simply living her faith in Jesus around campus.

Dr. Robert Bagley, Africa Area Director under Global Partners, recalls how God called him to ministry at a camp while Esther was playing "I Surrender All" on her violin.

A funeral service celebrating the life of Esther was held June 13th at Gonubie Methodist Church near to East London, South Africa - her church home during her retirement years.



Alma Aldinger Robertson

Alma Aldinger Robertson, 97, died on August 29, 2018 in Central, South Carolina. She was born in Bowdle, South Dakota on May 3, 1921 to Rudolph and Ida Haar Aldinger. At age 15 Alma was saved at the United Methodist Church in Tolstoy and received a call to cross cultural missionary service. After Miltonvale Wesleyan College, she earned her RN degree from the Methodist State Hospital and served as the night supervisor for 17 years. From 1950 to 1967, she went to Sierra Leone, West Africa with Wesleyan World Missions (now Global Partners).

Returning home, she met Eugene Robertson and they married in 1969. After his death in 1976, Alma returned to Sierra Leone to serve another four-year term as a missionary nurse. Upon retirement, she fostered a nine-year old Native American child and also took in two adults. In 1989, she moved to Central, SC and joined the fellowship of Trinity Wesleyan Church.

Alma was the last remaining survivor of her immediate family. She leaves behind a host of nieces and nephews and a special nephew, Timothy Aldinger and his wife Elaine. Funeral services were held September 2, 2018 in Central, with interment in Memory Gardens.



Arthur Jennings Calhoon

Rev. Arthur Jennings Calhoon, age 101, died on April 16, 2008 in Anderson, South Carolina. He was the second of eight children born to Ina Crosby and George Wilbur Calhoon on May 12, 1906 in Africa, Delaware County, Ohio. He earned a BA Degree from Marion College (now Indiana Wesleyan University) and a Master's Degree from New York University. In 1930, he pastored in South Dakota. While there, he met and married nurse Alice White and their lives were spent in various ministries: as pastors, evangelist, then from 1946-'65, as missionaries in India, Haiti and Australia. In retirement, Arthur continued ministering to Haitians in the United States and to other retired missionaries.

Soon after their 62nd Anniversary, Alice preceded him to Heaven. Later he married Sarah Short who also predeceased him. Survivors are sister, Zenabelle Phillippe; daughter, Ruth Faulkenberry (Paul); son, Dr. John Calhoon (Joby); step-son, Dr. Welland Short (Carolyn); 8 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren; 2 step-granddaughters and 4 step-great-grandchildren. A funeral service was held on Sunday, April 20, 2008 in the Chapel of The McDougald Funeral Home officiated by the Reverend Mark Griffith. Interment was held in Brooksville Cemetery in Brooksville, Florida on April 26, 2008.

(Editor note: We regret not having this news to report in the summer 2008 newsletter.)



"Keeping In Touch with Alumni"

Dennis and Lois Wright (Turkey-Austria 1969 – 2007)

Lois and I continue to pastor Northern Lakes Church in Wisconsin. We are in the process of building a new ministry site...most of the work the church members have been able to do themselves...making it a longer process, but saving about 1/2 the normal cost of construction. We hope to dedicate the new ministry center this summer and be functioning fully in the new facilities as the school year program begins this autumn. In the long process, we have learned much and God has given a sense of purpose and excitement to the church family.



I was also asked to serve on OM's Global Board and have been doing that the past year-plus (I had previously been on an accountability group for their International Director for three years until this global board structure was prepared). This has been a step back into missions for Lois and me and we have deeply appreciated the opportunity. We just returned from a week trip to South Africa for this purpose.

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Eva Cheney Reeves (So. Africa / Zimbabwe / Swaziland 1970 – '96)

I live in my home in Lewellen, NE and work in the church. Truly the joy of the Lord is my strength. God is so loving and kind and has blessed me so much. But I do miss the fellowship of other missionaries and wish many times I could just sit down and talk with those who understand. I have written and published my life story entitled "Treasured Memories of a Sandhills Girl." It's available on Amazon. I made a visit to Southern Africa in January 2017 to visit the work in Zimbabwe where my husband Bob died in 1995. This was my first trip back. It was sad but rewarding to see the people and our work again in that country.

Mary Osborne (Haiti 1972-1991)

At 93, I live at the Medallion Community Center in Colorado Springs, CO. I attend our chapel Bible studies and hymn sings. I pray weekly with ladies at Life Network and am involved in their Walk for Life annually. My ministry is one of prayer and friendship evangelism. I share slips of flowers (mostly geraniums), and make hats on looms or hoops from donated yarn. I've made over 50 hats lately to give to others. I get out an annual letter at Christmas, keep up with the mission fields, and subscribe to spiritual journals and send in my tithe. We are fortunate to have David Campbell as chaplain - his father is Rev. Ola Campbell, also a resident, who attends our Bible studies. I recently had 2 months of physical therapy and another month of occupational therapy for my mobility. I seriously pursue exercises in my apartment. I am trying to let my light shine and to lift up Jesus to the new residents on the assisted and independent floors. Respectfully, Mary Osborne

Albert and Ruth Kalb (Sierra Leone, West Africa 1961-'69)

After two missionary terms in Sierra Leone, Kalbs pastored for a few years in Manhattan, Kansas and Al returned to school to complete a second Masters Degree, and all but his dissertation for a PhD. He continued to use his education in Hutchinson, KS in their community college. He helped set up a program for the KSIR prison facility, testing and teaching and supervising the college program over a seventeen year period. Ruth continued using her nursing skills in a variety of areas. For a few years, they served in a RV ministry called SOWERS, helping in Christian campgrounds and building new churches until full retirement. They now live in Lindale, Texas.

Robert and Suzanne Vardaman (Puerto Rico, 1983-'90)

Following their missionary service, Robert served several years on the faculty at Wesley Seminary on the Indiana Wesleyan University campus. Now fully retired, they currently are spending six weeks assisting their children in the Czech Republic, helping where they can lift the load. They immensely enjoy the Grandma and Grandpa time with the four grand kids who are 18, almost 16, 12 and 9.

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20th Century Archives

His missionary career began in March 1924 as a single man in India. The next day, he married a co-missionary who preceded him by two years on the field. They completed 35 years of ministry and wrote their story in "*From Famine to Fruitage*." He wrote about their arduous years of physical and spiritual battles in "*God Came To Gujerat*." He served with his second wife in the 1960's in Jamaica. I first heard him speak in my home church when I was a boy and was amazed to see his ability playing an autoharp.

Last archive issue featured Daisy Elizabeth Buby and Flora Belle Slater. They served in South America, then the Philippines and Indonesia. Beautiful smiles, delightful attitudes, and radiant testimonies enhanced their journey with Jesus. Look for their life stories when we post them on our website in "*History*."

