



## LINKING former Wesleyan missionaries to each other and to Global Partners

Volume 18, Issue 4

Spring 2020

### FROM EVERYWHERE TO EVERYWHERE

*Two Ibero-American young women – one from Nicaragua, one from Ecuador. Both Christian. Both Wesleyans. Both certain that God is calling them to reach the world beyond Ibero-America.*

The sizzle of chicken legs frying in vats of oil wafted around us. We munched on French fries in Nicaragua, the land of lakes and volcanoes – earthquakes and scorching heat. “Yes, Sarah, I have thought about being a missionary. I have dreamed .... but I can’t,” “Are you scared?” “No, but I’m single! All the missionaries I have ever known have been married with children!” “Don’t you know – that is NOT a requirement!”

Gisselle is one of the most talented and passionate young women I have ever met. She can lead praise in worship, translate Sunday school lessons, light up any room with her smile. At 14 she graduated high school, a record for being the fastest student to finish the Bible institute. She started as a church planter in Nicaragua and is currently raising up new disciples in La Ceiba, Honduras. The time to send Gisselle is now. She’s equipped and called and single – and God has great plans in store for her!

*By Sarah Schmitz, missionary to Nicaragua*

I first met Benita when she was a teen, attending church in the Andes Mountains. She was quiet, intelligent, and shy. She was first exposed to missions through her grandfather and our Global Partners missionaries in Ecuador. Then she attended a JIBACAM† training/mission trip on the Amazon followed by a mission camp in Colombia. Benita met Lori and I for lunch and said she was feeling a call to missions, but didn’t know exactly what that looked like. No one from Ecuador had done it.

Benita became our national mission director, led Missions Camps, and spoke in Ecuadorian churches. She followed. She led. But she could not see outside Ecuador. Then in November 2019, she contacted me – nervous, afraid, excited. “I have been asked with another young lady to represent Ibero-America as participants in the [NEXT](#) program to the Fotizo people!” She wondered about the cost, distance, and a different culture. In the end, she said, “Yes, this is God’s call.” She continues to prepare by leading mission camps in Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, and is taking online classes from the Bible institute in Colombia.

*By Jim Rice, missionary to Ecuador*

†JIBACAM is the Ibero-America Wesleyan Church mission sending board.

(This article appeared in Global Partners Amplified and is used by permission.)

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## *Condolences . . .*

### *Helene M. Gorman*

Helene Mabel (Shaw) Gorman passed away in Yarmouth NS, Canada, on December 16, 2019. She was born on July 3, 1934 to Ivan B. Shaw and Freida I. (Smith) Shaw in Yarmouth NS. She married Karl E. Gorman in 1954 and they enjoyed 65 years together.

Helene lived most of her married life as a Pastor and Missionary wife with the Wesleyan Church serving in Yarmouth NS, Brazil Lake NS, and from 1958 to 1987 in missionary work with the Wesleyan Church in South Africa. She assisted her husband's ministry with her musical talents of voice, playing the piano and organ, and gave piano lessons at the Wesleyan Bible College in Brakpan, South Africa. Helene loved roses, her grandchildren, and the Christmas season when decorating the tree.

She is survived by her husband Rev. Karl E. Gorman, her children Sherry (Ron), Stephen (Carolyn) Philip (Donald) and Cora, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; one sister and two brothers, and two sisters-in-law.

A celebration of Helene's life was held December 28th, 2019 at the Yarmouth Wesleyan Church with Rev. A.J. Plaizier officiating. Interment took place at a later date in Darlings Lake Cemetery.



### *Don M. Karns*

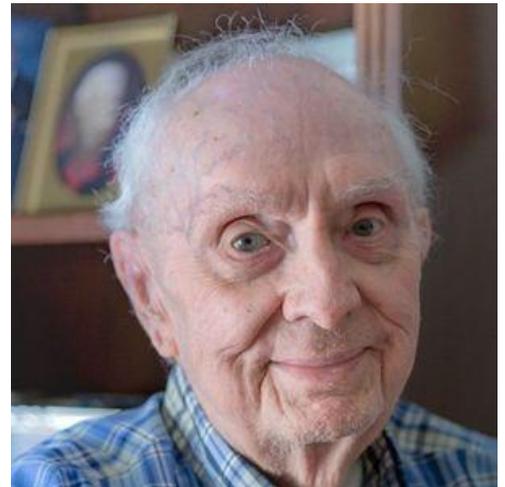
Donald Monroe Karns died January 30, 2020 in Seneca, South Carolina. He was born on May 2, 1930, in Evansville, Indiana, a son of the late Rufus and Ruth Karns. He graduated from Reitz High School in 1948, worked at Keller Crescent Printing, and spent two years in the US Army.

Don married Elizabeth Canterbury June 2, 1953. They both attended Frankfort Wesleyan Bible College where Don received an A. B. degree in 1958. During that time, they pastored two years in Clarksburg, IN.

The Karns gave 30 years to missionary service in Wesleyan World Missions: South Africa, Liberia, Zimbabwe, and Guyana, South America. During that time, Don traveled in home ministries and was Director of Promotion in the home office for a year. They pastored churches, started a Bible College, and nourished believers in living productive lives for Jesus. Don's life was his commitment to missions.

Donald was predeceased by his wife Elizabeth, and survived by their four children: Brenda Bagley (Robert), Don Karns (Laura), Sheryl Dennis (Jeff), and John Karns (Debbie); eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held February 4<sup>th</sup> at ALIVE Wesleyan Church, Central, SC. Burial followed at Heritage Memorial Gardens in Westminster.



## Clara A. West

Clara A. (Paullus) West, 73, of St. Augustine, Florida, died February 7, 2020. She was born January 25, 1947, in Brazil, Indiana, to John Paullus and Agnes (Dierdorf) Paullus. Clara graduated from Frankfort Wesleyan Bible College with a Bachelor's Degree in 1970. She met Richard (Rick) West in college and they were married in Frankfort, IN on April 19, 1969. Clara served in ministry along with her husband for 47 years.

After pastoring the Jackson Street Wesleyan Church in Brazil, IN from 1972-1975, they studied Spanish in San Jose, Costa Rica for one year. Clara had sensed a call of God to Peru shortly after conversion at age 18. She and Rick were appointed missionaries of The Wesleyan Church to Peru, South America, 1976-1994. From 1995 until retirement in October 2019, Clara worked alongside her husband serving in 20 Spanish speaking countries.

Clara is survived by her husband; four children: Dina (Ryan) Parris, Jeff (Angie) West, Stephen (Angela) West, and Andrea (Terrell) Hairston; eleven grandchildren; brothers Peter Paullus, and Tim Paullus, and sisters, Karen Newman, Mary Grace Hunt, Peggy Marlow, Elissa Armstrong and Rose Harden.

A celebration of life service was held February 29, 2020 at Brooksville Wesleyan Church, Brooksville, FL with Dr. Jerry Pence pastor, officiating.



## CORONAVIRUS

This new *outbreak* affects many countries and air travel worldwide. Some GP missionaries are home and scheduled events canceled. Quarantines and health measures are important, and prayer is needed. Habakkuk in a time of trouble realized God is on His throne and in control. Are we calling on Him? Our missionaries are praying and we want to support them, believing the Lord Jesus will provide.

## *Haiti Update* from Daniel and Deanna Stanley, missionaries with GP

We have been praying about next steps and trying to decide what will be our smartest decision as to when we will return to Haiti as a family. Due to Zoe's upcoming wedding in April, and graduation in May, we decided it makes more sense and is more financially sound to stay stateside and let Gavin finish out the school year, rather than travel back and forth. Dan has made several trips over the past few months to take care of things on La Gonave and at Ortlip. Our current plan is for Dan to make short trips to Haiti and then return as family in May.

Dan went down in January with two guys from the North Carolina East District, Roger Smith and Patrick Shanks. They were able to complete projects on La Gonave and Ortlip. Dan returned March 2 and will spend several weeks in Haiti. We have our first team since September scheduled to stay at Ortlip the first week of April for a church build and Dan will be there.

Luciano LaTouche, our language coach, as well as the Director for Youth Ministries in Haiti, has been overseeing things at Ortlip while we're out of country. He helped plan and host several days of meetings for the Wesleyan Pastors in late January. We are thankful for him!

The atmosphere in Haiti remains tense, although things are much improved from the Sep - Nov protests. Police are now protesting their work conditions, and Carnival - the celebrations leading up to Mardis Gras - bring extra problems for in country travel. Continue to keep Haiti in your prayers.



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*LINK*

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<http://www.globalpartnersonline.org/alumni/>

## *Pioneer Missionary Bios*

Ermal Leroy  
Wilson Family



Rev. Wilson was converted at the age of 16 and sanctified two days later. He graduated from Owosso College, Owosso, Michigan and became an ordained minister and spent some time in evangelism. Madgel Howard graduated from Owosso College and also became an ordained minister. She and Ermal were married in 1939, and they began missionary service in 1950. Their three children were all born in Africa: Paul David, Evangeline Marie, and Victor Charles. They served in Swaziland, then Mt. Frere, Cape Province. They transferred to Brakpan, Transval and returned to Mt. Frere. Rev. Wilson served for two years as Assistant Secretary of Foreign (World) Missions of the Pilgrim Holiness Church. He then served as General Secretary of Foreign Missions for 10 years, and the merged Wesleyan Church for an additional 4 years. Rev. Wilson's missionary service included general missionary work, district and field superintendencies, Secretary of the District Council, director of the European Bible School, and administrative work in the general missions office. Dr. Wilson continued in local church ministries and evangelism and went to be with Jesus in 2014.

Annie Eubanks, *These Went Forth*, (Indianapolis: Foreign Missions Department, Pilgrim Holiness Church, 1960), p1.

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***Our website has a new landing page.***  
There you will see some alumni, then four buttons about the LINK newsletters, current Leadership, History & Constitution, and In Memoriam. Biographies are on the way in the history area. All of the obituaries that we know about are uploaded for your reading.

## *General Conference 2020*

We encourage our alumni to visit the WMAF display and check out our visual tribute. We have a special gift for the alumni who stop by. May 31 to June 3 at 701 Convention Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63101. To register, go [here](#).

### *Video Presentations Available*

Joe Estes has provided a wonderful opportunity for missionary alumni to look back at their video presentations from their years on the field. It is a true labor of love and nearly 250 videos are now available via YouTube. If you worked with Joe on a presentation, yours is likely in the collection. If you are interested, I can send you a link that will give you access to your video. If desired, you can send the link to family members and friends. Please send your request to [jimver44@gmail.com](mailto:jimver44@gmail.com).

## *20th Century Archives*

In the January 2020 issue of the *LINK*, we featured Dr. John and Priscilla Edling. Their names and hospital ministry went on in Haiti from 1952 until retirement in 1989. Only God knows the healing and tender care they shared with so many who came for treatment in an atmosphere of love and blessing from the Lord.