

LINKING former Wesleyan missionaries to each other and to Global Partners

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Fall 2016

New York Area Alumni Gathering

What a privilege for Houghton College to host the entire Global Partners Tribe for the “Amplifying Mission Summit” this summer! (Kevin and I have been living here for 9 years, working at the college and Houghton Wesleyan Church.) Missionaries, including all their family members, from every field, were gathered in one place at the same time ... and here in Houghton, New York!

GP/Wesleyan World Missions alumni from the area were invited to come for dinner and the evening rally on Wednesday, June 1, to reunite with folks who have served over the years. Trying to get everyone to stop chatting and gather for the picture was quite a challenge! Some of us have known each other for years; others of us met at this event for the first time.

We were blessed to meet our current missionary family and participate in the evening service. Dr. Dennis Jackson and others shared their passion for seeing the good news of Christ Jesus shared in more places and in more ways than ever before. These are exciting days for Christ's church, Global Partners, and for all who want to see the Great Commission fulfilled!

---- by **Cindy Austin, Houghton College Missionary in Residence**



Alumni Honored at General Conference 2016

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Martha & Dan Duda



Laonda & Paul Wilson



Storer & Wilma Emmett

Congratulations to Martha for 40 years and Paul and Storer for 50 years of service awards!

Condolences. . . . Betty Freeborn

Betty Nelle Freeborn went home to be with her Lord on June 17, 2016. She was born August 19, 1921, on the family farm near Miltonvale, Kansas. As a teenager, she attended Miltonvale Wesleyan College Academy, graduating in 1939. It was in her junior year she surrendered her life to God's service. She enrolled in nurses training at St. Mary Hospital in Manhattan, KS, graduating November 1943. Returning to MWC for theology classes, she finished in 1945.



Accepted by Wesleyan Missions, she departed that year for Sierra Leone, West Africa. She served there until 1967 when she returned to Marion and a year of deputation work. In 1968-69 on leave of absence, she bought a home in Sedona, AZ, to rent out and later retire to herself.

In 1970 Betty returned to Africa for a year in Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), then to Zambia to serve from 1971 to 1973. She nursed for the Lord in Africa 27 years, retiring to Sedona to nurse for years in a Doctor's clinic. In Sedona, she was a charter member of the new Wesleyan church her sister Faith and Meredith Turner were planting. After the death of Meredith, Betty and Faith sold their two neighboring homes and moved together into a retirement center in Glendale AZ.

Preceded in death by her parents, James & Laura, two sisters, Hope Reed & Faith Turner, brother Stan Freeborn; she is survived by her sister, Lois Peterson.

Her memorial service was held July 23rd. Memorials may be given to Global Partners, PO Box 50434, Indianapolis, IN. 46250.

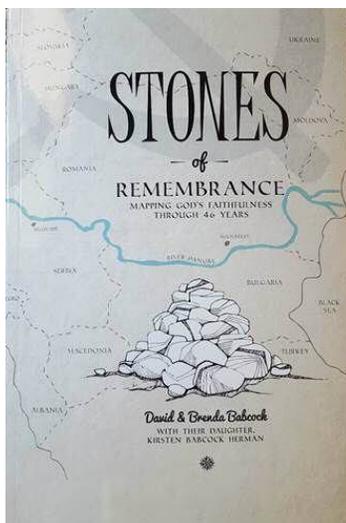
--- by James Turner, nephew

Grace (Rachel) Duda

Grace (Rachel) Duda, 89, of Brooksville, Florida, died Monday, May 30, 2016, at her home in Wesleyan Village. Born in New Marshfield, OH, Grace moved to Florida in 1991 with her husband, Robert "Bob", who preceded her in death in November 2002.

She was a faithful wife, mother, grandmother, missionary, translator of Bible materials, choir member, and caregiver. With her husband Bob, they served as career missionaries in Zambia, Africa from 1955 to 1985. Grace loved to serve her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Survivors include three sons - Daniel, Paul, and Mark; two daughters, Rebecca House and Ruth Duda; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. A memorial service was conducted June 30, at the Brooksville Wesleyan Church.



Dave and Brenda Babcock have just published their life story in book form. "Stones of Remembrance" describes their more than 46 years of missionary service with Operation Mobilization and Wesleyan World Missions in Europe.

One of their friends wrote: "The chapter on Andrew was very touching yet powerful to see how God comforts and heals. Brenda's words at the funeral are a testimony of faith and the sovereignty of God. It shows Christ's place in your lives."

Another said, "I have an even greater appreciation and admiration of you. I knew you smuggled Bibles, but reading the book gave me a deeper picture of what you did and your heart to serve God whatever the cost! I have grown up in places where we could worship freely and we take that so much for granted. You have taken up the cross to follow Christ and have denied self. I am certainly blessed and thankful that God allowed our paths to cross here on earth."

You can write them at: 3223 Barclay Court, Evans, CO 80620.

2016 Africa Ross Trip

From early April to mid-June, 2016, Barry and Dorcas Ross gave six weeks teaching at Emmanuel Wesleyan Bible College, Manzini, Swaziland (three weeks) and at Xai Xai Wesleyan Bible College, Xai Xai Mozambique (three weeks). Both countries are located in the southeastern part of Africa. In Swaziland, Barry taught Old Testament Historical Books for ten second and third year students, while Dorcas sorted, classified, and arranged books in the college library, with the kind instruction of the librarian. In Swaziland, all college matters (classroom teaching, chapels, etc.) are conducted in English. English became the “bridge” language of Swaziland from the time when this kingdom was a British colony.

In Mozambique, Barry taught two Old Testament courses for the entire student body consisting of forty-three students. Dorcas met several times with fifteen of the women students (see photo). Mozambique was a colony of Portugal for some 400 years until independence in the mid-1980's. Thus, Portuguese became the “bridge” language. This requires that each time Barry teaches there, he teaches through an interpreter. He and the same excellent interpreter, Marcos Matusse, have taught together since 2003.

While in Swaziland in April, Barry and Dorcas received the sad news that Barry's 54 year old daughter in California, Barri Lynne Kirkham, had unexpectedly died in her sleep. Family members agreed to delay her memorial service until Barry and Dorcas could complete their assignment in Swaziland. They flew to California in May for the service, spent a few days with family, then flew back to Africa to do their assignment in Mozambique.

Since returning to their residence at Wesleyan Village, Brooksville, FL, Barry has accepted a position as Teaching Pastor at the Brooksville Wesleyan Church. Dorcas is continuing her voluntary Chaplaincy ministry at the Brooksville Bayfront Hospital, which she has done for the past eight years. Barry and Dorcas expect to return to Mozambique in the spring of 2017 for another three-week teaching ministry at Xai Xai Wesleyan Bible College.



----- by Dr. Barry & Dorcas Ross, GP Alumni

Global Partners Summit 2016



For the first time in Global Partners 127 year history, the entire Wesleyan missionary tribe gathered together at one time in one place. From May 20 to June 4, missionaries from all over the world converged on Houghton College in western New York. The purpose was to Connect, Clarify, Inspire and Equip so that all may be even more effective in service.

Dr. Dennis Jackson, Executive Director, spoke of the past four years of ministry in Global Partners. One of his remarks emphasized ***“The Power of &.”***

*“How easy is it to forget the main thing. How easily we drift from the mission and become too self-focused—even in our local church. Here's the reminder—the mission flows out of Acts 1:8—but you will be filled with the Holy Spirit and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem & Judea & Samaria & to the uttermost parts of the earth. Once the Holy Spirit has filled us, we become His witnesses to the world—every part of it! **Here** (our Jerusalem) & **Near** (Judea), & **Far** (the Samaria) & **Hard** (the uttermost). Every local church is responsible not just for their here, but all of the &s.”*

One missionary wrote: *“This is such an incredible, encouraging time. Two things stand out: 1) The opportunity to hear from other missionaries and Global Partners staff about what God is doing all around the world with them being authentic and inspiring at the same time. 2) Global Partners incredible resources, including words of wisdom that inspire us to serve with confidence.”*

----- ***The Amplifier from Global Partners, July 2016***

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<http://wmaonline.org>

Archives from the '60s

This couple came from Ohio and both were called to missionary service while in Owasso Bible College. He wrote: *"During a chapel service, I felt God leading me to missions. God confirmed the call to my wife at the same time He called me."* He also wrote: *"My goal is leadership development in the churches of Guyana and Suriname. We hope to see increasing autonomy and greater outreach."*

What are their names and ministries done in the name of Jesus?

Last issue, we pictured Dr. Don & Joy Bray with Juli Beth. Three people identified baby Juli! Many of you knew the parents and some wrote about the offices they both filled in missions and the general church. Today, Don & Joy are on staff promoting missions in Christ Fellowship in Florida.

