

# LINK

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

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### *Ken and Marilyn Blake in Germany...*

Knoxville, 1988. Ken and Marilyn Blake were appointed to be the first Wesleyan Missionaries to Continental Europe serving in Munich, Germany. Much has happened since that beginning of a new era for Wesleyan World Missions but today Ken and Marilyn are again planting churches in Germany. Today Global Partners has work in 10 European countries. Much has happened in the Blake family as well. After planting a church in Germany from 1988 to 1992 the Blakes were asked to supervise the Wesleyan CoMission teams in Russia.

CoMission was the joint effort of over 80 Christian organizations sending teams into Russia to teach a course on Christian Morals and Ethics to the Russian school teachers, using the **Jesus Film** as a primary tool. As supervisors, they lived in Russia and directed the teams that came to serve for a year in either Nizhny Novgorod or Ryazan. They lived for 8 months in Yaroslavl, and 14 months in Nizhny Novgorod. They were asked in 1995 to move to Vladimir and establish the Evangelical Wesleyan Bible College which began classes in 1996 with both Ken and Marilyn teaching and Ken serving as college president. In 1997 when field director Ron Dawson died of a heart attack Ken was asked to assume the field directors role as well. In 2006 the Blakes returned to Munich, Germany to again plant churches. They have served the last four years there and plan to return to Munich for one more term before they retire.

The Blake children are serving as missionaries as well. Matthew who was 14 when they went to Germany, with his family serve with GP in Czech Republic, Rachelle who was 12, along with her husband and one year old daughter are appointed with Greater Europe Mission to Macedonia. John who was 9, serves on the ACTS team of Church Resource Ministries training pastors and church leaders around the world. Ken recently traveled with him to Uganda, Africa for pastoral training.

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## June Gibbs Wolfe



June Gibbs Wolfe, 94, died in Houston, Texas on Thursday, July 15, 2010. Mrs. Wolfe resided at a personal care home in Houston and died peacefully in her sleep.

Born in Titusville, Pennsylvania on June 17, 1916, she was the second of three daughters born to The Reverend and Mrs. Maurice Gibbs. She journeyed to Tokyo, Japan with her missionary parents in 1919. While there, June's education included Calvert home schooling as well as Japanese schools. Her family spent furloughs in Bend, Oregon, Marion, Indiana, and Houghton, New York. After her graduation from high school, she attended business school in Olean, New York. During this time she met A. Gordon Wolfe, a young ministerial student at Houghton College. They married on June 9, 1938, and began ministry in Western New York. In July, 1948, she and Gordon returned to Tokyo and reestablished the Wesleyan ministry interrupted by World War II. In 1956, she and her husband accepted a call to The Wesleyan Church in Batavia, New York. Other pastorates took June and Gordon to Honolulu, Hawaii, Watervliet, New York, back to Batavia and then to Spring Hill, Florida where they retired. After The Reverend Wolfe died on August 31, 1999, June moved to Wesleyan Village in Brooksville, FL, where she lived until 2004. Then she moved to Houston to live with her son Maurice and his wife Marge.

Devoted to the Lord, her husband, and three sons, June also played the organ and actively participated in the life of the church. While in Honolulu, she worked as a bookkeeper for Dr. and Mrs. Stearns, real estate developers. Her hobbies included crossword puzzles, crocheting, painting, and music. She avidly enjoyed major league baseball and possessed a true devotion to the New York Yankees!

June was preceded in death by her husband, Gordon, her parents and her sister, Elsie Miksche of Tempe, Arizona.

Mrs. Wolfe is survived by her three sons: Maurice G. Wolfe of Houston, Texas; Raymond L. Wolfe of Lake Lure, North Carolina; and David G. Wolfe of Accident, Maryland. Seven grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren called her Grandma or Grandma Great. Also surviving are Mrs. Wolfe's sister, Grace Gibbs Sweek of John Day, Oregon; and sister-in-law, Betty Wolfe Crowell of Forestville, New York and Brooksville, Florida.

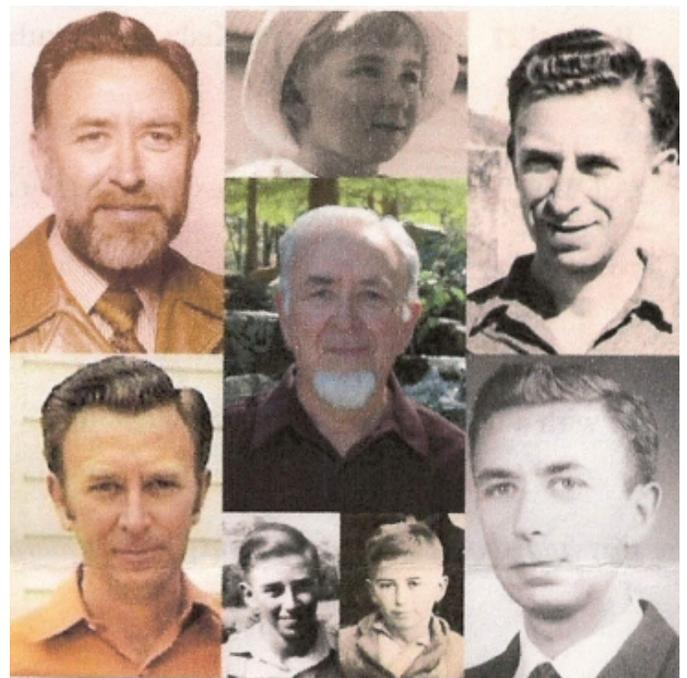
Interment was beside her husband, A Gordon Wolfe, in Spring Hill, Florida when the family gathered to honor her. "Well done, good and faithful servant."

--by David G. Wolfe, Son

## Bob Gladwin

### *Papua New Guinea Pioneer*

Bob was born in 1935 in Traralgon, Australia. After High School, he earned a Trained Teachers Certificate in 1953 and taught in Victoria rural schools. In 1960, he trained at the Australian School of Pacific Administration and was sent to Papua New Guinea as Area Education Supervisor. From 1961 to '74, Bob worked with the Wesleyan Mission in the Southern Highlands to establish the Education Program. He assisted local churches, helped build an airstrip, maintained a Station outpost, and was accepted by the 'Huli' people as a brother. In April 1972, he married Jan XX, and their children are David, Michael, John, Elizabeth, and Claire.



## Bob Gladwin *(continued)*

During these PNG years, Bob was an integral part of the mission team, serving at Betege, Fugwa and Alia. Bob was much loved and his influence was far-reaching. It was noted in a Mt Hagen church service on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March, 2010, how many current PNG church leaders say "I would not be where I am in my Christian life today were it not for Bob Gladwin loving me."

As independence approached for Papua New Guinea, many of the teaching and medical staff were replaced by national staff. Bob and Jan completed their Papua New Guinea service in December 1974 and returned to Australia with their young family, where they continued to serve in the Education Department. In subsequent years Bob and Jan continued a friendship with the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Australia and are held in high regard as pioneers and co-founders of the significant mission work in Papua New Guinea.

Bob earned two additional Education degrees, teaching in Canberra and Christmas Island, and was involved in jail ministries and other works of service in the Emmaus and Kairos communities.

March 20, 2010, Bob Gladwin exchanged time for eternity and stands now in the presence of His Lord Jesus Christ. They rejoice in the words of Jesus recorded in Mark's Gospel - "What you shared with the least of these my brethren, you shared with Me."

--- by Rev. Lindsay Cameron, National Superintendent,  
Wesleyan Methodist Church of Australia

## *Kari's Project Update.....*

Now in the twelfth year plus of service.

Three couples and six single young women are currently involved in ministries with believers.

One local house church established.

Partnerships with an international relief agency give opportunities to teach English and build relationships with people.

Believers are built up in discipleship and learning of Biblical faith and understanding of the kingdom of God.

Pray for the faith of these missionaries to be strong and vibrant and contagious.

Pray for preparation time for teaching language and how to apply the scriptures to daily life.

Pray for their children's education and relationships built with classmates and parents.

Pray for God's blessing on new believers.

## Meredith Carl House



Rev. Meredith Carl House, age 87, went to be with the Lord July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010 from Autumn Care of Marion, North Carolina. Born August 21, 1923 in Genoa, Ohio, he was a son of Rollo & Mary House. During WWII, he served in the Philippines with the U.S. Military Advisory Group (USMAG). Married to Elsie Windquist in 1948, God gave them three children: Wilma Lou, Roger William, and James Alan.

Meredith completed ministerial studies at Owasso College in Michigan and Kletzing College in Iowa. With his family, he served six years in the Philippine mission work in teaching, preaching, and church leadership roles. Pastorates followed in Flint and Detroit, Michigan, a term as District Superintendent in the Mid-Gulf District, then more church pastorates in Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. He served in several Wesleyan Church General Office capacities, local church boards, volunteer in hospitals, and as a Hospice Chaplain. He enjoyed visitation ministries in his retirement years.

Surviving Rev. House is Elsie, his wife of 62 years, three children, seven grandchildren, one great granddaughter, and two sisters. A memorial service was held July 8<sup>th</sup> in the Wesleyan Church in Old Fort. Burial followed in the Western Carolina State Veterans Cemetery in Black Mountain with military rites.

-- by Westmoreland Funeral Home

## From Doug & Jean Trennepohl

People see us and think \$. They want to touch us and share the blessing. "No, we don't have money for you, no fortune, no trip to America. But we can give you Jesus. Take our hand, get up from where you are! Take Jesus, and walk with Him."

-- GP Missionaries to Kosovo, Albania

## **Blakes ---- Germany** (from page one)

Some wondered why we would send missionaries to Germany. After all was it not the land of the reformation fires, was it not the Moravians who greatly influenced John Wesley. Did John Wesley not spend 3 months at the site of the 100 year prayer meeting in Herrnhut, Germany following his heart warming experience? All are true, but today Europe has the lowest church attendance and lowest percentage of evangelical believers of any of the continents. Somewhere between .5 and 2 % of the over 800 million of Europe are believers. In Germany, only 8% of the population attends any kind of Christian church and when that is divided it is only 3% of the men attending. 97% of the men of Germany do not attend Christian services although nearly 60% are church members in either the Catholic or Protestant state churches.

As we prepared to come to the states for home ministry this year, it was evident the church is not yet large enough, although they pay all ministry cost, to pay a full time pastor. Instead we organized and trained the leaders of the church to minister to one another this year. There is a board of four to handle all financial matters and an elders committee of three to arrange for the services, home groups and prayer ministries of the church. We are confident God will guide and strengthen the church as each one contributes according to their gifts and strengths.

*---by Dr. Ken Blake, GP Missionary to Germany.*

### **Global Partners Vision**

**-- every Wesleyan involved in fulfilling the Great Commission.**

Learn more about Global Partners at:

1-800-707.7715  
globalpartners@wesleyan.org  
www.globalpartnersonline.org

## **A Global Partners' Minute** with Dr. Wilson



They are still answering His call to service. This photo is of the missionary candidates who were at HQ in August for a 5 day orientation. The GP tribe continues to be built as the Cause moves forward - PTL!



**Back** Skip Baumhower, Randall Cheney, Jim Rice, Barry Gould, Beth Gould **Second** Lauren Gross, Lori Rice, Allyson Carlson, Candice Cheney **Front** Katie Hawkins, Nicole Schara, Christy Grubaugh

So much to be thankful for - exceptional leadership by our Area Directors Dennis Jackson and James Winn; anointed ministry from Wayne Schmidt; great support ministry for the kids by the team from Heritage Wesleyan; on site conference leadership by Brenda and Dave Babcock; seminars with wide ranging topics; relationship building; His presence in worship times and communion; a truly hilarious fun night and much more. The future looks really positive. There are many challenges, but our DNA going forward is on target I believe. Onward and upward!

*-- Dr. H. C. Wilson, GP General Director*

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