

# WESLEYAN MISSIONARY ALUMNI FELLOWSHIP



# LINK

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

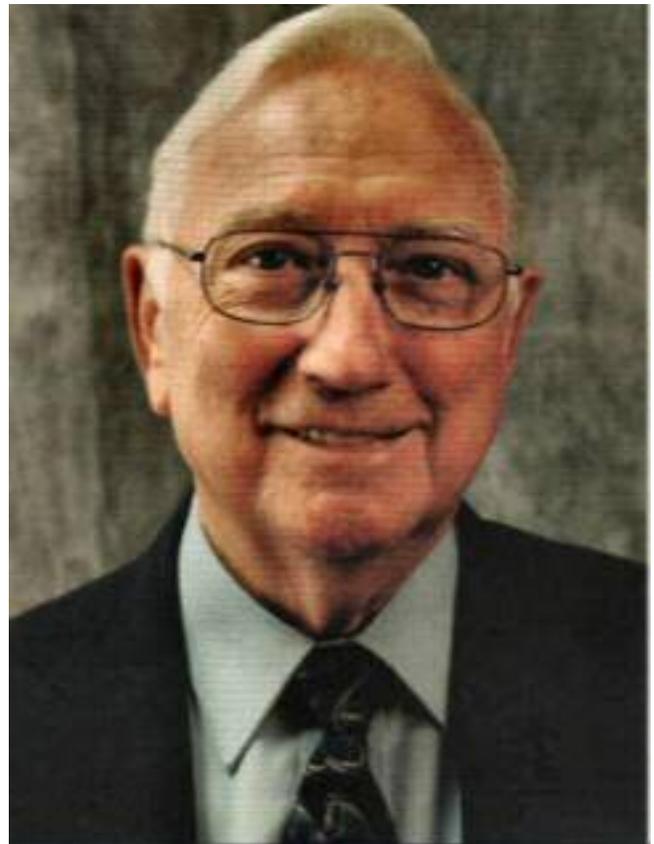
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### *Dr. Jim Wiggins*

Jim first stepped onto the Southern Wesleyan University campus as a freshman religion major in 1958 from his home in Glenville, N.C. He would leave a long shadow of influence and rich legacy of service to the school. Jim retired from SWU June 30<sup>th</sup> as Vice President of Development. He was named "Alumnus of the Year" for 2012 and awarded an honorary doctorate of divinity degree at the spring graduation ceremonies.

The contribution of Jim to SWU is significant - he served 28 years on the board of trustees and an additional 10 years as adjunct professor of history and modern missions. The legacy of Jim Wiggins has been one of unequalled commitment and dedication.... his influence and love for SWU will live on for generations to come.



After graduation from SWU, Jim earned a Master's degree in education from Clemson University. His teaching skills enabled him to serve as mission coordinator in Sierra Leone, Africa, where he supervised 20 elementary schools, with 100 teachers and 3000 students. He and his wife, Lois, enjoyed eleven years of ministry in Africa, from 1965 to '76.

Returning to the USA, Jim served 18 years as senior pastor of Trinity Wesleyan Church in Central, S.C. Other ministry in S.C. included Assistant District Superintendent, 15 years on the District Board of Administration, World Missions Director, and nine times elected as a delegate to General Conference sessions. He also served 17 years as a member of the board of directors for Hephzibah Children's Home in Macon, G.A., and currently serves as board chair.

Jim and Lois live in Central, S.C. and have four grown children and eight grandchildren.

-- by Greg Wilson, Editor, SWU magazine, Issue # 1: Spring 2012

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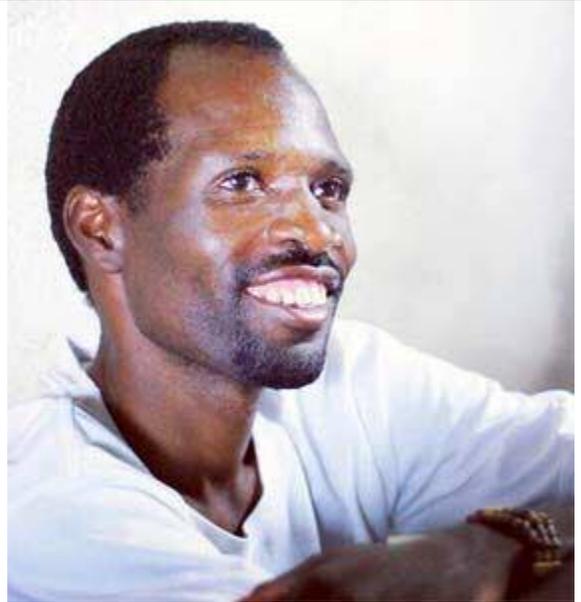
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## ***Richman Syabbamba***

An outstanding Wesleyan Church leader in Zambia, Rickman, 42, died as a result of a car accident on September 19, 2012. He was born on April 7, 1969 to Rev. and Mrs. Simon Syabbamba at Chabbabboma Mission. When the father became National Superintendent of the Pilgrim Wesleyan Church, the family moved to Choma. Richman was very gifted in music and as a small boy he and two older brothers sometimes sang in the evening service at Choma Secondary School where I served as a missionary teacher. Later, Richman attended CSS and it was during this time when he got saved and was baptized. After graduation, he attended Evelyn Hone College in Lusaka until 1992. He taught in high school and primary schools in Lusaka before going to The Theological College of Central Africa where he earned a degree in theology in 2006.



Richman organized and directed a Zambian Orphan Choir and made tours to the USA in 2004 and 2006 under the auspices of World Hope International. They were very well received. In 2007 he began working for World Hope full time.

Richman's last work was founding Fortress Vision Zambia an organization he directed until his death. Included in this organization was a music academy where many learned to play instruments.

My last time to see Richman was in 2009 when he took me on a tour of the new World Hope buildings in Choma. I am thankful I had the privilege of knowing Richman and having him as one of my former students.

He leaves behind his wife Regina, and five children: Vanessa, Simon, Ry, Juanita and Metty.

---- ***by Wilma Cheney Wissbroecker. GP Alumnus***

## ***Official welcome of The Wesleyan Church in Bangladesh***

In October 2012, Global Partners Executive Director Dr. Dennis Jackson and his wife, Gwen; Global Partners Director of Operations Rev. Peter Moore; and Dr. Rich and Rev. Carol Schenck, GO-Net Volunteer missionaries, traveled to Bangladesh. They officially welcomed The Wesleyan Church of Bangladesh into the global Wesleyan Church.

With a plaque of recognition, prayers, and the unveiling of a welcoming banner, the celebration took place. The district advisory board in this developing district was appointed. Also, they began the transfer of ordination of Senior Pastor George Bose and ordained Rev. Pulin to serve with all of the rights and privileges of ordained ministers in The Wesleyan Church.



--- ***by the Wesleyan Church  
Communications Department***

## ***The Wesleyan Church of Nigeria***



Bob Bagley, Peter Kollie, Gbolu Bondu, Andrew Bondu,  
Joe Ocran, Dennis Jackson

On Sunday, November 18, Area Director Dr. Bob Bagley, Liberian Superintendent Peter Kollie, Ghana Superintendent Joe Ocran and I dedicated the first two Wesleyan Churches launched in the country of Nigeria, West Africa. We also dedicated the first church building.

## ***Australian Church Statesman***

Dr. James Ridgway, 82, passed away early on September 19, 2012, at home in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, of natural causes. Dr. Ridgway was one of the last remaining participants in the founding of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Australia, and was the recognized elder statesman of the church after the passing of his father, Kingsley Ridgway, in 1979.

Ordained in 1952, Dr. James Ridgway completed studies in both Australia and the United States, including degrees at Houghton College, Wheaton College, and a Ph.D. at Drew University. He dedicated some years to the local church pastorate in Australia and also in the U.S. in Newark, N.J. He gave leadership to Kingsley College in Melbourne for 15 years and then served as a district superintendent and national superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Australia. He had been a long-serving leader in the Wesleyan World Fellowship, and was involved in its establishment. His wife, Melva, his children, and grandchildren survive him.

Dr. Don Bray, former general director of Global Partners, stated that Dr. Ridgway was a "stalwart of the faith and a creative force for righteousness in Australia. His leadership as pastor, principal of

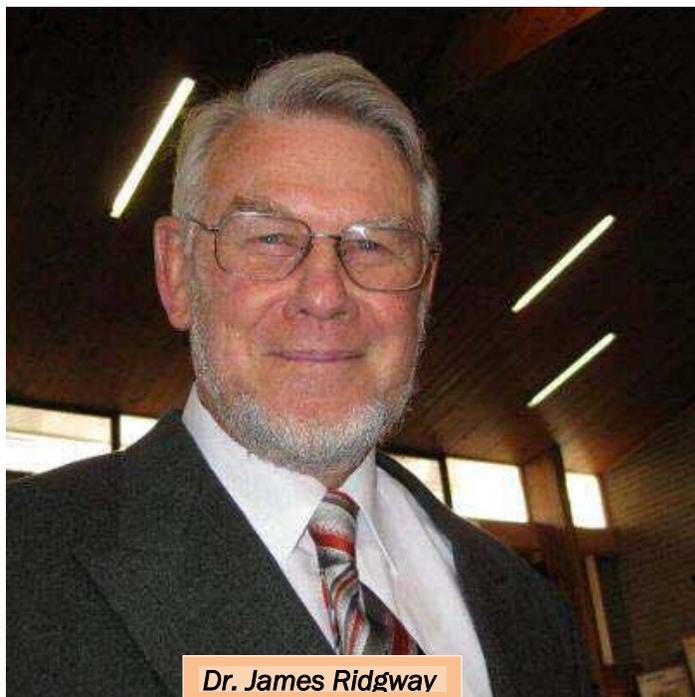
With a population of 160 million, Nigeria is the most people rich country on the continent and strategic in making an impact around the world.

This work in Nigeria was begun in 2005 by Pastor Andrew Bondo, of the Liberian Wesleyan Church. Already, five pastors have been raised up and a second church has been planted in a nearby community in the Lagos city region (20+ million in population).

Special thanks to the members of the Faith Wesleyan Church in Atkinson, Nebraska who have partnered with this expanding work. Congratulations to Pastor Bondo and the members of Faith Wesleyan and Lighthouse Chapel Wesleyan for their diligence in making disciples in this new work.

In the past 12 years The African Wesleyan Church has begun new works in 12 new countries apart from direct North American missionary engagement. We celebrate the growth in maturity of the African Church in becoming a sending church!

--- by ***Dr. Dennis Jackson, Global Partners Executive Director***



***Dr. James Ridgway***

*Kingsley College, and national superintendent was critical in the expansion of the Australian Church. He loved the Lord passionately with a pure heart."*

--- by ***Dr. Kerry Kind, TWC Communications Dept.***

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### ***New South Pacific Conference***

The South Pacific Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church was inaugurated in Brisbane, Australia, August 24-26, 2012.

A new regional conference of The International Wesleyan Church, members of the new region include The Wesleyan Methodist Church of Australia, The Wesleyan Methodist Church of New Zealand, The Wesleyan Methodist Church of the Solomon Islands, and The Wesleyan Methodist Church of Bougainville.

Dr. Richard Waugh (pictured), elected president of the South Pacific Conference, says the “member churches will retain their national autonomy and the regional conference—with its own constitution—will facilitate regional mission, ecumenism, and theological education.” “Wesleyan theology, with its evangelical and holiness emphases, continues to be a significant influence in our region,” says Dr. Waugh. “This regional organization is an important development for the Wesleyan Methodist Churches of the South Pacific, and we consider it has wider ecumenical significance,” he says.

The new regional board will consist of Dr. Richard Waugh, New Zealand; Rev. Rex Rigby, Australia; Rev. Hall Malasa, Solomon Islands; Rev. Nashon Nosuri, Bougainville; Doug Ring, lay leader Australia; and Barry Fish, lay leader New Zealand.



***---by Ms. Tricia Rife, TWC Communications  
Dept.***