

# **National Association of Congregational Christian Churches**

## **Necrology 2019-2020**

Ministers, Minister's Spouses and Members of the Leadership Team

[as of June 26, 2020]

### **Alice Britton - Passed, May 2, 2019**

Married the Reverend Dr. Erwin A. Britton while he was our National Association Executive Secretary, assisted him in his ministry and visited many of our churches with him.

### **Grant Stannard - March 23, 1924 - August 28, 2019**

Member, Plymouth Congregational Church, Wichita Kansas. Served our National Association on our Board of the Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies 1975-82, Executive Committee 1984-88, Program Committee 1988-89 and Financial Services 1996-2005. He was a founding member of the Board of Governors of our Congregational Foundation, served 2003-15. He was a generous benefactor of both his time and support of the NA. He was an engineer and ran the Stannard Construction Company with his brother.

### **Reverend Dr. Richard Buchman Jr. - Passed, September 16, 2019**

Served as Minister of the Hitchcock Presbyterian Church, Scarsdale, New York, the First Congregational Church, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, the Cadman Memorial Church, Brooklyn, New York, the North Shore Congregational Church, Fox Point, Wisconsin and was the founding Minister and Minister Emeritus of the Ozaukee Congregational Church, Grafton, Wisconsin. Served our National Association as the Editor of *The Congregationalist* 1971-72, National Association Pilgrim Fellowship Committee 1967-69, Program Committee 1988, and the Congregational Church Development Committee 1989-93. Served as an officer in the U.S. Navy.

### **Reverend Fred Neal - March 17, 1936 - September 25, 2019**

Of De Bary, Florida

### **Carol Lois Cole - Passed, August 31, 2019**

Member, Congregational Church of the Messiah, Los Angeles, California. Served our National Association on the Commission for Christian Education 1995-97, Church Services Commission 1994-95, the Executive Committee 1998-2002, and the World Christian Relations Commission 2007-14. She was a Deputy Labor Commissioner for the State of California

### **Elvera Marie Leversuch - Passed December 12, 2019**

Member, North Congregational Church Farmington Hills, Michigan. Served our National Association as Moderator, 1985-86 at Estes Park, Colorado and as Secretary 1973-83. On our Nominating Committee 1988-90, Program Committee 1986-87, and Women's Commission 1969-72. Enjoyed her life as wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

## **Necrology ~ continued**

### **Reverend Charles Pittman - Passed, January 20, 2020**

Served as the Associate Minister of the First Congregational Church of Wayne, Michigan and for many years taught the Sunday Bible Class. He was ordained in the Church of the Nazarene serving their churches in West Virginia and Michigan. He became bi-vocational teaching high school English, History and Biology.

### **Reverend Roberta Ann (Bobbie) Chapman - Passed January 25, 2020**

Served for many years as the Minister of Founders Congregational Church, Harwinton, Connecticut. Served our National Association on the Commission on Youth Ministries 2003-2007, Executive Committee 2007-2013, and Nominating Committee 2015-2018. Before she entered the ministry she was a social worker for the State of Connecticut in child welfare and as a Supervisor.

### **Reverend Jerry Chase - Passed, Feb 4, 2020**

Ordained in 2006 and served The First Congregational Church of Elkader, Iowa until retirement in 2015. He was a founder and member of Colts Drum and Bugle Corp for many years.

### **Reverend Dr. Wayne Clifford Cogell - Passed February 16, 2020**

Served Iberia Congregational Church, Iberia, Missouri from 1996 until his passing. Before that he taught philosophy at the University of Missouri - Rolla from 1968 to 2000 and served as the Associate Dean for the College of Arts and Sciences.

### **Reverend Kathryn Rust - January 17, 1949 - Feb 13, 2020**

Served at the First Congregational Church of Wauwatosa, and as Minister of the First Congregational Church of Mukwonago in Wisconsin and several of our National Association Churches and in the United Church of Christ as an Intentional Interim Minister, she was based in Wisconsin and served there, in nearby Midwestern states and Florida. She served our National Association on Division for Ministry 2002-2006, Program Committee 2006-2007, and Communication Services Committee 2007-2009,

### **Tom Lootens - Passed Feb 22, 2020**

Member, First Congregational Church, Royal Oak Michigan. Served our National Association on the Building and Loan Team of Congregational Church Development 1986-1990, Financial Services Committee 1996-2009 and Financial Stewardship 1995-1996. His occupation was in insurance.

### **Mildred (Millie) Gardner RN - November 5, 1926 - March 27, 2020**

Member & "Historian", First Congregational Church of Anaheim, California. Served our National Association on the Nominating Committee 1997 - 99 and 2001-03. Was active in the Cal-West Association publishing for many years the "Cal-West Congregationalist", and in the International Congregational Fellowship. Was a generous benefactor of our Congregational Foundation for Theological Studies.

**Reverend Dr. M. James Workman - Passed June 9, 2020**

Served the Congregational Church in East Bridgewater and the First Congregational Church in Braintree, both in Massachusetts. After thirty three years there he retired as Minister Emeritus. Also served as a prison chaplain in Bridgewater and the Norfolk County Jail retiring from there at age 80. Served in World War II in Europe receiving among other decorations a Bronze Star for Valor and during the occupation played trombone in the band to entertain the troops.

**Reverend Dr. Donald Merton Sinclair - October 7, 1936 - June 11, 2020**

Was ordained and served Presbyterian Churches. Served as Interim Minister at Lake Country Congregational Church, Nashotah, and the First Congregational Church of Rochester, Wisconsin and the First Congregational Church, Central Lake Michigan.

*Note: Our necrology includes Ministers and Minister's spouses who have served our National Association Churches and those who have served as NA officers, Boards, Councils, Commissions, Committees and Task Teams. We list churches served, or church membership, NA service, writings significant to our Association and other notable service or professions. This is a necrology and not an obituary so they will be brief, focused on service and to help us remember them. It is very helpful to have the best, most complete information to share. We depend on our member churches and our members to provide us with the most complete and accurate information. Please do not hesitate to contact the national office about someone's passing.*