

A photograph of a dirt path winding through a dense forest. Sunlight rays stream down from the top left, creating a hazy, ethereal atmosphere. The ground is covered in fallen leaves, and the trees are tall and thin, their trunks partially obscured by the mist.

IN
MEMORIAM

Oregon Conference Elders

William (Bill) Erickson

March 28, 1930 – December 7, 2023

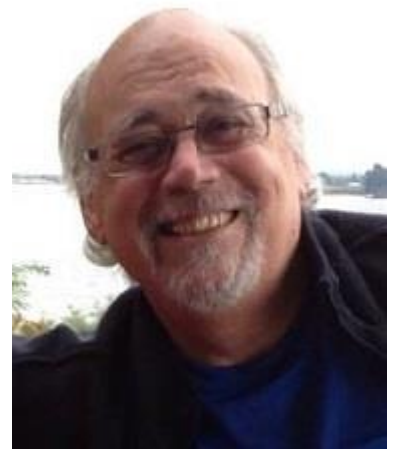
Bill pastored FM churches in Michigan and Oregon from 1955-1970, before responding to God's call to direct his efforts to ministries to serve the deaf. This included pastoring the Salem Deaf Fellowship at the Salem First FM Church, founding Gospel Ministries for the Deaf, and establishing the NW Christian Camp for the Deaf, which continues for its 50th year in 2024 at the Twin Rocks Campground on the Oregon Coast. As noted by a previous superintendent, Bill selflessly gave "above and beyond the call of duty.... to serve Christ and help people to faith in Him." Bill is survived by his second wife, Gloria, his son Steve, three daughters Sheryl, Shirley and Sharla, their spouses, 10 grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.



Jack Jaffe

July 23, 1945 – December 23, 2023

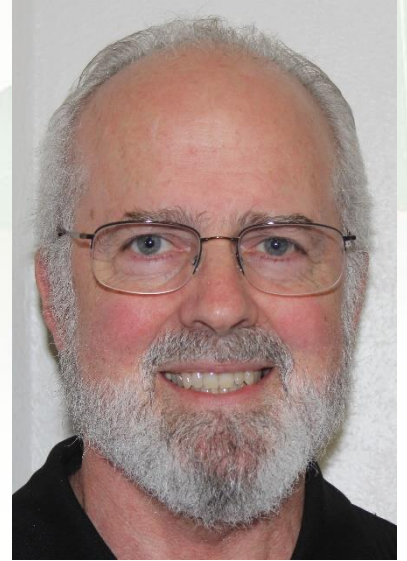
Jack dedicated himself to ministry in a number of Oregon Conference roles and churches from 1973-1990, before later moving into a nursing career. Jack's service included children's ministries at Portland First Church, Senior Pastor at Beaverton FMC, Associate then Senior Pastor at Immanuel FMC, and Senior Pastor at Corvallis FMC, before taking an academic leave of absence. Jack and his faithful wife, Clella Iles Jaffe, resided in Newberg for several years. Jack fought a long difficult battle with spinal chordoma which significantly impacted his and his wife's lives throughout his retirement, a 13-year journey. A rescheduled Celebration of Life will now be held at the Newberg Chehalem Cultural Center on June 29, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.



Dan Merrill

March 22, 1953 – July 20, 2023

Dan was a dedicated, honorable and faith-filled man, pastor and leader, deeply in love with his Savior. Dan faithfully served at the Roseburg FMC/Cornerstone Family Fellowship in support and pastoral leadership from the early 1980's as he sought to guide the church and develop upcoming leaders alongside him. He came into the FMC shortly after coming to know Jesus as a young teen, was a graduate of Seattle Pacific College, studied at Western Evangelical (now Portland) Seminary and was ordained in the Oregon Conference in 1990. Dan is survived by Carol, his faithful wife of just under 48 years, their three adult children and 13 grandchildren.



James Henry York Jr.

March 19, 1965 – January 19, 2024

Jim was known for his love of the Lord, his family, and anyone who knew him. He was a gentle giant who made sure everyone in the room felt included and welcomed. Jim's biggest strength was his wit and laughter, which made him easy to be around and put everyone at ease. Jim was appointed as Licensed Pastor at Willamina Free Methodist Church after being a minister at churches in Everett, WA, San Diego, CA, and Corvallis, OR. He was highly engaged in the community, participating in city events, the Chamber of Commerce, and all the local activities to grow the church and help it become more involved in the neighborhood. Jim is survived by and will forever be in the hearts of his children Conner James, Dylan Thomas, and Ryan William York, his mother, Diana Jo, and his brother Nathan and family.



Oregon Conference Church Members

Living Hope Church EUGENE

Sally Kleman

December 11, 1941 – April 6, 2024

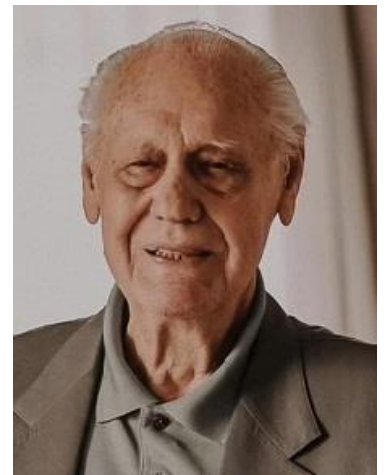
Sally accepted Jesus as her personal Savior at a young age and took the Great Commission to heart as she shared the gospel with all she encountered. She loved her Lord and Savior and was an active member of Living Hope Church for over 65 years. She served for many years as a youth leader, Sunday School teacher, VBS staff, and choir member. In later years she provided Bible-based counsel to Mothers of Preschoolers. Sally was loved by everyone who was fortunate to know her. She is survived by her three children, five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren that she loved immensely.



Charles Lawler

October 16, 1934 – April 8, 2024

Charles' life was defined by his love for God and his dedication to Him. He served four years in the US Air Force, and following his time in the military, he worked in lumber sales for 35 years. He enjoyed watching and playing several sports and was a tremendous athlete. He especially loved golfing with good friends. Charles and his loving wife, Yvonne, a retired FMC elder, celebrated their 70th anniversary one week before he passed into heaven. Charles is survived by his wife Yvonne, his oldest daughter Yvette and son Mark, nine grandchildren, and many great grandchildren.



Ignite Hope Church

LEBANON

Harold McCraven

September 15, 1943 – May 30, 2024

Born in Arkansas, Harold spent most of his life in Lebanon, OR, where he started a contracting business which he operated for 40+ years. He was a member of the Lebanon Ignite Hope Church where he taught Sunday School, worked with teens, served on the church board and as an usher, and did many construction jobs. Harold was an avid bow hunter and loved fishing of all kinds. The past few years Harold suffered with kidney failure and infections which took a toll on his love of being active. He still enjoyed going to the local restaurant to visit with friends. He is survived by Fran, his wife of 61 years, three sons, three daughters-in-law, nine grandkids, 14 great grand kids, and numerous great great grandkids.



Mountain View Fellowship

REDMOND

Ruth Landreth

December 25, 1931 – June 10, 2023

The youngest of five, Ruth was born into a family with generations of Quaker heritage on both sides. Ruth was beloved among friends and family for her quirky sense of humor, a quality that stood the test of time and memory loss. Ruth was an avid knitter and crocheter, crocheting several tablecloths and knitting countless dishcloths, hats, mittens, and sweaters. Ruth was also a member of the church board. Ruth is survived by four children, five grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.



Salem First Free Methodist Church

SALEM

Joann Maurine Lee

September 11, 1934 – November 14, 2023

Joann Maurine Lee was born in Salem, Oregon to Jesse and Lulu Walter. In 1953, she married the love of her life, Dale W. Lee. She was a lifelong member of Salem First Free Methodist Church, serving over the years as Sunday School teacher, singer and treasurer. She worked for the State of Oregon for over 30 years. Joann was predeceased by her husband Dale, her son James D., her parents and brothers Jesse Jr. and Dean. She is survived by her son Robert Edward (Nancy) and many nieces, nephews and church family.



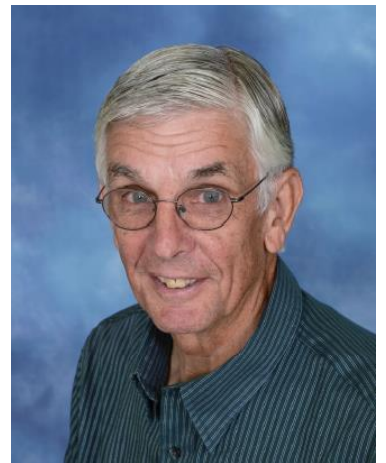
Calapooia Free Methodist Church

SUTHERLIN

Daniel Blake Baird

December 16, 1942 – September 13, 2023

Dan grew up in the Calapooia Free Methodist Church and brought home the International Bible Quizzing Championship Trophy in 1960. Dan graduated from Seattle Pacific University and taught school in the Oakland School District for over 35 years. He was also the church treasurer for over 40 years, served as a board member, and loved to cycle 40-50 miles a day on his bike.



Helen Delores Powers-Floyd

October 11, 1938 – September 22, 2023

After finishing her degree at Northwest Nazarene College, Helen was a surgical nurse for most of her life. She enjoyed gardening, working in the preschool ministry with her sister Leona, serving in the church nursery, and hosting one of the “sisters” small groups in the church.



And if I go and prepare
a place for you, I will come again
and receive you to Myself; that where
I am, there you may be also. ~ John 14:3