



Contact

October-
November
2003

(K o n ' t a c t ')

C o n n e c t i o n o r I n t e r a c t i o n ; C o m m u n i c a t i o n

This publication is designed to inform, inspire, and ignite special services to our Retired Ministers and Widows. If you are doing something in your area that is proving to be successful and a blessing, this paper will always be open and available to you to share it with others.



The Iris B. Vest Widows Ministry Center was dedicated the weekend of September 26, 2003. On Friday night, a celebration service was held at New Hope Church of God in Sevierville, Tennessee. Special music guests included Lee University's Voices of Lee and contemporary Christian artist, Phil Driscoll. An offering in the amount of \$109,000 was taken up in an appeal to provide a mini-bus for the residents of The Center. Saturday morning, a brunch was held in tribute to the late Iris B. Vest. Following the brunch, a special service, which included guest speaker Dr. R. Lamar Vest, and an "Act of Dedication" litany led by Dr. Gene D. Rice was held. Special music was given by Reverend Paul F. Henson and Dr. Bill Leonard.

Mrs. Judith Moore has been selected as the administrator of the Widow's Ministry Center. At present, 13 widows are residing in The Center. The facility contains a two-story lobby, grand piano and stunning crystal chandelier, both of which were gifts to The Center. Each suite within the facility is equipped with the latest modern conveniences, a kitchenette, living area, full bathroom and private balcony. The first floor of the facility contains laundry, storage, market, wellness, conference and craft rooms. The dining and movie rooms are located on the second floor. On the third floor, a beautiful chapel is located where residents meet every day for a time of prayer and sharing together. A veranda, sitting and activities rooms, Chaplain/Ministries Coordinator's Office, Hair and Beauty Salon and another laundry room are also located on the third floor.

With growing numbers of residents every day, the Iris B. Vest Widow's Ministry Center is a vision of Dr. John D. Nichols that is coming to fulfillment with each passing day. As John Gregory states, "John Nichols had a vision and he wouldn't let it die." If you would like more information about the Widow's Ministry Center, you can write to 509 Park Road, Sevierville, TN 37862, call at 1-800-453-9844, or visit their website at www.widowsministry.org.

There is a marvelous story of a man who once stood before God, his heart breaking from the pain and injustice in the world. "Dear God," he cried out, "look at all the suffering, the anguish and distress in the world. Why don't you send help?" God responded, "I did send help. I sent you." — David J. Wolpe

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Milestones

Anniversaries

Clifford and Freda Elliott

October 10

Ronald and Joy Smith

October 29

Thomas and Dot Ashley

November 16

Birthdays

Katherine Roberts

October 1

Charles Blair

October 7

LaVerne Easton

October 10

Frances Shoemaker

October 19

Raymond Wall

October 19

Terri Williams

October 21

Ronald Riddle

October 22

Kenneth Rouse

October 23

Lillian Turnipseed

October 27

Dot Ashley

October 29

Harold Anderson

October 31

Charles Prince

November 1

Lewis Stover, Jr.

November 5

Virgil Nettles

November 8

**Please contact us
if we need to update
our records.**



**Louise and J.Q.
Richardson**

Featured Representative

Mrs. Louise Richardson is a very special SpiritCare Representative. She does not hold credentials in the Church of God, but everyone knows and loves her. She is not only a "P.K.," but also served as the State Secretary-Treasurer for the Arkansas State Office for 27 years. During this time of ministry, she grew to love ministers/spouses, retired ministers and widows alike. She wanted to continue ministering to them even after retirement, thus her state bishop appointed her as the Arkansas SpiritCare Representative.

Since January of 1999, she established and publishes a bi-monthly newsletter for the retired ministers and widows of the state; it is entitled, "The Golden Years." Through a joint effort with her husband, J.Q., they visit retirees in the state and are collecting information for a book about the history of the Church of God in Arkansas. She has made many calls to those whom are sick and to all retired ministers and widows during camp meeting and Christmastime in an effort to notify them of state luncheons. Sister Richardson, we appreciate all that you do for the retired ministers and widows in the state of Arkansas. Your ministry is such a blessing to the many lives that you touch. Thank you!



Please remember Reverend Harold T. Anderson, Sr. and wife, Alice, in your prayers. Brother Anderson's son, Harold T. Anderson, Jr. was electrocuted in September during the cleanup operation from tropical storm "Isabel." Harold Anderson, Jr. worked for an electric power company that was working to restore electricity to more than two million homes that had been left without power from the storm.

This picture of Reverend Paul F. Henson was taken at the Widow's Center Dedication, one day before he had a major stroke. He is recuperating well, but slowly. Please remember he and Sister Geri in prayer. Brother Henson is now at Siskin Hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Correspondence may be sent to the SpiritCare Office.



Our hearts go out the family of Reverend Paul and Frances Shoemaker. Brother Shoemaker had a major stroke in September that has left him bedfast. Sister Shoemaker is also still recovering from her previous fall. They are in need of your prayers and a divine miracle from the Lord.

As Reported To Our Office:

- ◆ Reverend Jack Bridges of the Northern Ohio State Office contacted every retired minister and widow in their state to see if they qualify for the *Helping Hands* program.

This issue of *Contact* was prepared by Amy Crisp under the direction of Reverend Paul F. Henson.