



Margaret Susan Carmichael

December 25, 1923 - November 25, 2020

Margaret Susan Carmichael, 96, died peacefully in her sleep on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, at the Brooks-Howell Home in Asheville, NC.

Susan was born on December 25, 1923, in Laurel, MS, to the late William Merritt Carmichael and Mary Annie Williams Carmichael. After graduating from Laurel High School, she began to pursue her calling to service in the church by attending Scarritt College in Nashville, TN, where she received her BA in 1948 and MA in 1959, both in the field of Christian Education. Susan was ordained as a Deaconess in the United Methodist Church in 1960 and as a Diaconal Minister in 1977.

Susan served as the Deaconess Director of Christian Education at St. Luke's UMC in Jackson, MS, before moving to Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer, NC, where she was a Professor of Christian Education for 35 years. She was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Divinity from Pfeiffer in 2010 in recognition of her exceptional leadership and service in the field of Christian Education. Susan was beloved by her former students and peers alike who noted her influence on their personal lives as well as their careers. Susan was also very involved in the installation of the statue of the University's founder, Emily Prudden. This statue includes a plaque honoring Susan and two of her colleagues for their contributions to Pfeiffer.

Susan is survived by a large and loving family who remember her fondly as a person who made each of them feel special with cards and calls and her generous spirit. She had a wonderful sense of humor, a great laugh, and a ready smile. She loved to cook and to entertain and to have fun with family and friends. She was a good and close friend. She was interested and involved in life and was always open to new experiences and new people. Susan was one of a kind and will be missed.

A private family service is being planned. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in her memory to: Margaret Susan Carmichael Christian Education Endowed Fund, Pfeiffer University, Office of Advancement, P.O. Box 960, Misenheimer, NC 28109 or to Groce United Methodist Church, 954 Tunnel Road, Asheville, NC 28805.

Tribute Wall



“ *Margaret Susan Carmichael*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *I agree with Kathleen that Susan Carmichael embodied Christian education, especially in the Western N. C. Conference of the United Methodist Church! I did not go to Pfeiffer, but I met her soon after I started working in United Methodist churches in the late 1970's. She shared her wisdom in a loving way on Conference planning committees, in workshops, and any time that I saw her at Lake Junaluska. Many of her students-my peers in Christian education-sang her praises!*

That time in my life seemed so rich in energy for Christian education! I think that it had a lot to do with the students who studied under Ms. Carmichael! Her legacy will live on in those of us who benefitted from her enthusiasm and knowledge of ways to help Bible stories come alive and ways to help people of all ages to grow in faith.

Ellen Johnson

December 6, 2020

Ellen Johnson - December 06, 2020 at 05:51 PM

KK

“ *Miss Carmichael is Christian Education. From the first time I met her in 1975 until my last visit in June of 2018, I will be forever grateful for all that she taught me. She expected more of me than I did and I truly she believed in me before I believed in myself. Throughout my 39 years of ministry, I tried to pass on her passion and fierce loyalty to all of the youth, and congregants, and eventually 21 years of students through the Masters program at Pfeiffer. While she lived such a full and powerful life, we will miss her deeply and know that her light and life shines on through those she empowered to do the same.*



Kathleen Kilbourne - December 01, 2020 at 04:03 PM