



Rev. Dr. Chomingwen Pond

September 1, 1927 - August 4, 2019

Obituary – Rev. Dr. Chomingwen Pond

Rev. Dr. Chomingwen Pond, age 91, of Minocqua, passed away on August 4, 2019. Rev. Pond was born in Madison, Wisconsin on September 1, 1927. As a young child, she traveled often with her parents, accompanying them on archaeological expeditions to Algeria. This travel instilled in her a curiosity about the world and led her to travel to distant lands in her adult years.

She earned her bachelor's degree in geology from Beloit College, Beloit, Wisconsin in 1950. She went on to Germany, where she took a post with the U.S. Army directing recreational programs for soldiers. It was then that she decided that she wanted to learn more about the Christian faith. She pursued a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Garrett Biblical Institute in 1961. While attending seminary, she spent a summer in Montgomery, Alabama, and became heavily involved in the Civil Rights Movement. She earned her Ph.D. in religion from Claremont Graduate School in 1987.

Rev. Pond entered into ministry in 1962. She was the first woman to become ordained in full connection with elder's orders in Wisconsin in 1964. She served inner-city and small-membership churches for approximately 15 years and taught at Payne Theological Seminary in Ohio. She later became a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries and served in Sierra Leone and in Zimbabwe at African University. During her years of missionary service at Africa University, she taught ethics in the Faculty of Theology. She retired from ministry in 1998.

She was committed to peace with justice ministries and held strong connections to the global church, especially in Africa and to Africa University. She continued to remain active in the Wisconsin Conference. She also served on the conference board of global ministries and was the Heartland District secretary of global ministries for nine years.

Rev. Pond edited her mother's published memoirs of three archeological expeditions to northern Algeria entitled *If Women Have Courage...: Among Shepherds, Sheiks, and Scientists in Algeria* by Dorothy L. Pond.

Rev. Pond was active in the United Methodist Church of the Pines in Minocqua, where she co-chaired the Missions Committee, served as a member of the Ministry Council, was a member of United Methodist Women, and continued to be a proud and prominent member of the Wisconsin Annual Conference.

To many people, Rev. Pond was known as Chomee. She is remembered for all of her lifelong accomplishments, and also for being a gifted writer, a storyteller, a lifelong learner and a teacher. She was known for being an intelligent, funny, and compassionate friend. Her life is celebrated and those who knew and loved her will mourn the passing of our "our beloved sister in faith from this life eternal in Christ."

Surviving Rev. Pond are her nephew, David (Anna) Pond of Rice Lake, Wisconsin, and niece, Kristen Pond, of De Pere, Wisconsin. Rev. Pond was preceded in death by her parents Alonzo & Dorothy Pond and a brother, Arthur Pond.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, August 16, 2019 at United Methodist Church of the Pines, 415 Chippewa Street, Minocqua. Visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the service will commence at 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be directed to Church of the Pines, P.O. Box 144, Minocqua, WI 54548, to Africa University, to the Alonzo and Dorothy Pond Memorial Fund at Beloit College, to your local church missions account or to any organization or ministry that you know was important to Rev. Pond. Condolences may be sent to Church of the Pines, P.O. Box 144, Minocqua,

WI 54548.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 16. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

United Methodist Church of the Pines
415 Chippwa St
Minocqua, WI 54548
<http://www.umchurchofthepines.org>

Memorial Service

AUG 16. 11:00 AM (CT)

United Methodist Church of the Pines
415 Chippwa St
Minocqua, WI 54548
<http://www.umchurchofthepines.org>

Tribute Wall

LB

“ To the family of Chomee... I am so very sorry to learn of the passing of Chomee. My parents, Tom and Bev Koenen, were longtime neighbors in Minocqua and lived just down the road from her. Peace and strength to her family

linda barthuly - December 30, 2019 at 09:08 PM

TE

“ On behalf of the Mujila Falls Agriculture Center and indeed myself, I would like to offer you our deepest and most sincere condolences on the passing of Rev. Dr. Chomingwen Pond (The Rev). I will forever be indebted to her and the United Methodist Church of the Pines in Minocqua, Wisconsin for entering with me into my first ever covenant relationship as a missionary. Her confidence in me was a blessing to my career. May our sweet memories of her (though brief) and our prayers ease you through this difficult time.

*Temba Nkomozepe, Missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM)
Mujila Falls Agriculture Centre, Mwinilunga, Zambia*

Temba - September 05, 2019 at 09:42 AM

TF

“ The Africa University extends sincere condolences to the family of the late Rev. Dr. Chomingwen D. Pond.

Dr. Pond was a faithful supporter of Africa University's transforming ministry. We trust that her family and many friends will find some solace in knowing that she continues to live in Spirit, in the memories and hearts of those who knew and loved her, and in the many lives that she touched and influenced here at home and on the continent of Africa.

"Say not in grief that she is no more, but live in thankfulness that she was."



The Africa University Family - August 19, 2019 at 02:26 PM

JK

“ Dear Family of Chomee,
So sorry to hear of your loss. I always enjoyed hearing from Chomee at Christmas... I was unable to write/send a card this past year and she tracked me down through my children. Such a caring person. Wish we could have gotten together more often over the years. God's Blessing to you during this time! Chomee's Cousin, Jeanette Kutz

Jeanette Kutz - August 16, 2019 at 09:32 PM

KM

“ Reverend Chomingwen Pond Ph.D was such an amazing and caring person. We have had the pleasure to work with Chomee for many years and would not trade that time for the world. She was full of wisdom and was an excellent mentor. May her soul reside with God in Heaven. Peace & Blessings. -K.Malek

Kevin Malek - August 12, 2019 at 12:09 PM

FW

“ Dear Kristen,
Thank you for letting us know, through Bill Mooney, of the passing of Chomee. My husband Jack and I were Chomee's neighbors while we were in training in Atlanta before being sent to our assignments, hers to Africa and ours to S.America..
After we left Atlanta we heard from Chomee for a while, but then lost contact and only heard when meeting others from the group while visiting churches in the US.

I remember Chomee from the time she recruited help from her classmates to rearrange the furniture in her apartment and the position of the bird feeder, so she could see the birds from her window and hearing her distinctive walk when she went to class in the morning ahead of the rest of us.

I also remember her stories of traveling with her parents.

Hers was a life well lived sharing the love of Christ wherever she went and practicing what she believed.

May God's comforting hand hold yours as you and your brother as you remember you aunt.

Thank you for letting us know about Chomee's passing through Bill Mooney.

Jack and Flora Warner. (fmwarner61@gmail.com)

Flora Warner - August 12, 2019 at 12:54 AM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Chomingwen Pond.*



August 09, 2019 at 10:42 AM



“ *My husband Jeff and I moved next door to Chome 5 years ago. It has been such a pleasure to get to know her and learn about her past. We are so sorry for your loss. We will miss her. Peggy and Jeff Kresch*

Peggy Kresch - August 07, 2019 at 10:53 AM