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Memorial *Obituary*



Entered Into Eternal Rest
Sunday, Jan. 11, 1976

Carbondale Minister Dies

The Rev. Ezra LeRoy Simpkins, minister of the First Apostolic Church in Carbondale, died at 9:15 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11, 1976 at Doctors Memorial Hospital. He was 63.

The Rev. Mr. Simpkins was born in Brownstown on July 23, 1912, the son of George and Mary Shuck Simpkins. He married Pearl Harrison. The Rev. Mr. Simpkins resided in Carbondale at 518 N. Almond St. He had been minister of the First Apostolic Church since 1960.

Survivors include his wife; sons Theodore G. Simpkins of Bloomington, Ind. and Arthur of Richmond, Ind.; daughter, Evangeline Rodenbush of Accra, Ghana, West Africa; Mary Jones and Cheryl Simpkins, both of Carbondale; stepsons, David Froese and Nathan Froese, both of Texas City, Tex.; stepdaughters, Donna Granchay of Houston, Tex., and Gloria Webb of Pine

Bluff, Ark.; brothers, Jim of Decatur; the Rev. Charles Simpkins of St. Elmo; Harry, John, and Jim, all of Decatur; six grandchildren and seven step-grandchildren.

Services will be at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the First United Methodist Church, with the Rev. M. J. Wolff and the Rev. S. W. Chambers officiating. Burial will be in Oakland Cemetery.

Friends may call after 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Van Natta-Meredith Funeral Home, and after 6 p.m. Wednesday up to the time of services at the church.

In Lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the E. L. Simpkins Memorial Library, at Ghana College of Bible in Ghana, West Africa. Contributions can be sent to Bill Cauble, at the First National Bank of Carbondale, or the Memorial Fund to the First Apostolic Church, Carbondale.