

Dr. Abernethy

Passes, Ending Long And Useful Ministry

The Rev. J. E. Abernethy, D. D., retired, a former pastor of the Franklin Methodist church, died on Sunday afternoon, March 15, at the age of 73, in the hospital at Elkin. A large number of the Western North Carolina conference attended his funeral on Tuesday afternoon in Salisbury. Interment was in the Salisbury cemetery where rests a son who lost his life in World War I. Surviving are his widow, three sons and two daughters.

Dr. Abernethy was well known and beloved in Macon county. He began his ministry on the Macon circuit and returned in 19 as pastor of the Franklin Methodist church.

For 47 years he served this conference as pastor and presiding elder, retiring in 1940 on account of failing health which caused extreme suffering. His was a devoted ministry, and he was well known as a pastor and preacher throughout this section where he served a number of the largest stations.

John H. Thomas of Franklin, former member of his early ministry in this county, recalls the meetings held by their young pastor. He says, "In May 1895 Dr. Abernethy held a revival at Hickory Knoll, near where I lived, when he was pastor of Asbury, Mulberry and Highlands, in which he held some wonderful revival meetings. At this time he had no conveyance to Highlands, only as some of his members furnished him a horse to ride."

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