



Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey

April 7, 1936 - July 23, 2024

Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey, 88, of Union, Kentucky, passed away July 23rd, 2024 after a lengthy illness. He was born on April 7, 1936 in Greenville, Pennsylvania to William Paul Sankey and Leona Mae (Adams) Sankey. He is preceded in death by four brothers: Robert and Theodore, (both deceased in infancy), David Paul, and Billy Leroy. He is survived by his sister, Betty Mae (Arden) McCartney.

On September 17, 1960, Leonard married Janet May (Ferguson) Sankey, and she survives. To this union were born three children: Pamela Beth, Anita Lavonne, and Leonard Marc. These three children brought wonderful spouses to the Sankey family, including Steve Stetler, who undoubtedly welcomed Leonard to Heaven, and Edgar "Andrew" Bryan II, and Melodie (Miller) Sankey. These children blessed Leonard and Janet Sankey with eleven grandchildren: Maria (husband: Bryan) Robledo, Kent (wife: Jananne) Stetler, Heidi (husband: Scott) Streetman, Kate (husband: Matthew) Cragun, Edgar Andrew III (wife: Hannah), Grant (wife: Courtney), Tyler, and Taylor Bryan, Jordan (wife: Heidi), Cameron (wife: Sydney), and Logan (wife: Miranda) Sankey.

The Sankeys have 11 great-grandchildren: Kaden Kent and Crew Stephen Stetler, Sophia Jade Robledo, Maverick Ray, Lillie Olivia, and Basil Ray Cragun, Edgar Andrew IV (Andy) and Emberlynn Rae Bryan, Mason Lewis,

Harper Rebecca, and Sullivan David Sankey. (Hazel Wren Streetman is on the way)

Leonard attended public schools and graduated from Penn High School in 1954.

He enrolled at God's Bible School, Cincinnati in 1954 and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Bible and Theology in May of 1960. While a student at God's Bible School, he worked in the composing room of The Revivalist Press (about 36 months as a student worker) and later three months at Wesley Press, Marion, IN. He was also employed as an orderly at the Christ Hospital in Mount Auburn, Cincinnati, OH. He traveled extensively in music ministry while a student at GBS (1954 to 1959). He was a member of over 30 different quartet combinations.

Leonard joined the Wesleyan Methodist Church in 1952 and maintained membership until 1982 and he was ordained to the ministry in 1962. From 1982 until March of 2020, Leonard was a member of Faith Mission Church, Bedford, IN. In 2020, he reunited with the Wesleyan Methodist Church (original Allegheny Conference) and was received as an ordained elder.

After their marriage, Janet joined Leonard's life and together they traveled from September 1960 to June 1961 in both singing and preaching ministry. In June of 1961, they began pastoring the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Clarksburg, WV. In June of 1962, they affiliated with Evangelistic Faith Missions (Bedford, IN) and sustained ministry with EFM until May of 1979. During that time, they were in missionary work in Guatemala and in Honduras; Leonard founded the EFM work in Honduras and it continues strong and growing to this day. He also served EFM in deputation work, home office responsibilities and as Interim Director.

In September 1979, Leonard began pastoring Faith Mission Church in Bedford and continued for 30 years; during that time, he served as founder and administrator of Stone City Christian Academy (1980 to 2009).

Across his 64 years of ministry, Leonard served on a variety of boards: Society of Indian Missions; Society of Indian Missions Canada; Florida Evangelistic Association, God's Bible School and College, Faith Mission Church and Stone City Christian Academy, and the Interchurch Holiness Convention. Leonard served as General Secretary of the Interchurch Holiness Convention for 19 years (1997 - 2016), a role that would influence the lives of thousands all over the world. He left his mark on young ministers who aspired to his life of consistency, compassion, and common courtesy. He served as Assistant to H.E. Schmul for a number of years. He began his involvement with IHC in 1955 and remained passionately involved until the days preceding his death. IHC was the passion of Leonard's lifelong ministry. He dearly loved and championed IHC until the very end of his life. He worked with the Overcomers, School of the Prophets, Cornerstone, area/regional IH conventions, and the Annual Interchurch Holiness Convention.

Leonard's preaching ministry carried him all over the United States (36 States), and around the world: Canada, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Belize, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Cuba, Cayman Islands, the Turks and Caicos Islands, Northern Ireland, Egypt, Ukraine, and South Africa. He served as editor of both the Missionary Herald and the Convention Herald. For many years he served as a devotional writer for Opening the Word (Herald and Banner Press), and wrote articles for the God's Revivalist, the Missionary Herald and the Convention Herald. Leonard was granted the Doctor of Divinity degree from God's Bible School and College during the School's 100th anniversary in 2000.

He is now gone from us but will never be forgotten. His impact for God's Kingdom is immeasurable and will last throughout eternity. Well Done, General Sankey, "Good and Faithful Servant."

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 am Saturday, July 27, 2024 in the J. Wesley Adcock Chapel at God's Bible School, 1810 Young Street Cincinnati, Ohio, with Rev. Marc Sankey officiating.

You may view the funeral service via livestream on IHC 24.7 by Clicking Here (<https://ihc247.com/>).

Visitation will be from 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Friday at God's Bible School and College and from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Sunday, July 28, 2024 at Faith Mission Church, 1801 26th Street, Bedford, Indiana. Burial will follow at Green Hill Cemetery in Bedford.

Memorial contributions may be offered to God's Bible School and College by Clicking Here (<https://form-renderer-app.donorperfect.io/give/gods-bible-school-and-college/give-now>) or to the Interchurch Holiness Convention by Clicking Here (<https://ihconvention.com/give/>).

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Sproles Family Funeral Home in New Castle, Indiana. You may offer the family a personal condolence at www.sprolesfamilycares.com.

The Sproles family and staff are honored to serve the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.

Cemetery Details

Green Hill Cemetery

1202 18th Street
Bedford, IN 47421

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 26. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

God's Bible School & College
1810 Young Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
<http://www.gbs.edu>

Funeral Service

JUL 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

God's Bible School & College
1810 Young Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202
<http://www.gbs.edu>

Visitation

JUL **28**. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Faith Mission Church
1801 S. 26th Street
Bedford, IN 47421
<https://www.faithmissionchurch.net/>

Tribute Wall

DP

“ So sorry to hear about your husband Janet. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.



Darlean Phillips - July 30, 2024 at 09:44 PM



“ Footprints Tribute Blanket was purchased for the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.



July 29, 2024 at 12:20 PM

WR

“ We are sending heartfelt sympathy to each one of the Sankey family.
Bro. Sankey was a true man of God. He was the first person that I ever told, "You remind me of Jesus." We cherish the letter he took time to write to us when we faced a disorienting time of our lives--it was so timely, and such an encouragement as we walked through some deep water. His warm heart, gracious spirit, and humble character will keep him on the upper shelf of our "so glad that I knew him" collection of friends. Our hearts are warmed each time his name comes to mind. We are anticipating that glad reunion day!
Bill and Hannah Reese

William and Hannah Reese - July 26, 2024 at 11:43 PM

“ Our Tribute to our Cherished Friend, Rev. Leonard Sankey

Because we do not have the internet in our home, we came to the library to express our heartfelt sympathy to Sister Sankey and the Sankey family. We grieve with them at the loss of their loved one who became our treasured friend. We feared the moment of Brother Sankey's passing and hoped that it would never come. Although it is nearly impossible for us to accept this devastating loss, we are clinging to the words that Brother Sankey himself had previously shared with us. He told us that he was in God's hands and his trust was in Him.

Words cannot convey the sorrow that we feel. We want the entire world to know that Rev. Sankey had an incredible, uplifting influence on our lives. Though so undeserving, we appreciated his warm correspondence with us that provided the encouragement we needed in matchless ways. He was always willing to devote his precious time to "listen" and provide support during difficult times. These are gifts that money simply cannot buy.

Brother Sankey provided great comfort to us when our hearts were broken by the passing of one of our spiritual heroes (Dr. Robert E. England, Sr.). Brother Sankey said that he and Janet could not do much except offer their arms and their hearts as we suffered through the sense of loss at Brother England's passing. He was so sorry that this had come into our lives. Now, we are suffering through the sense of loss at Brother Sankey's passing. We never wanted this to come into our lives. Both of these spiritual heroes meant the world to us.

What an awesome (albeit humbling) privilege it has been to share a close friendship with Brother Sankey, a man of prominent leadership and spiritual stature! His sacred solo (titled "So Send I You" that was recorded on a vinyl album many years ago) exemplified his sacrificial life of dedicated service as a missionary, song evangelist, pastor, writer, and leader in the Holiness Movement.

We absolutely loved Brother Sankey, and no one will ever be able to replace him in our hearts. We are holding fast to the bond that we forged with Brother Sankey that has been like no other. With his passing, there is now a void in our lives that cannot be filled.

Larry & Barbara Wieserman

Larry Wieserman - July 26, 2024 at 11:17 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.*



July 26, 2024 at 05:49 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.*



July 25, 2024 at 03:16 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.*



July 25, 2024 at 02:35 PM

DB

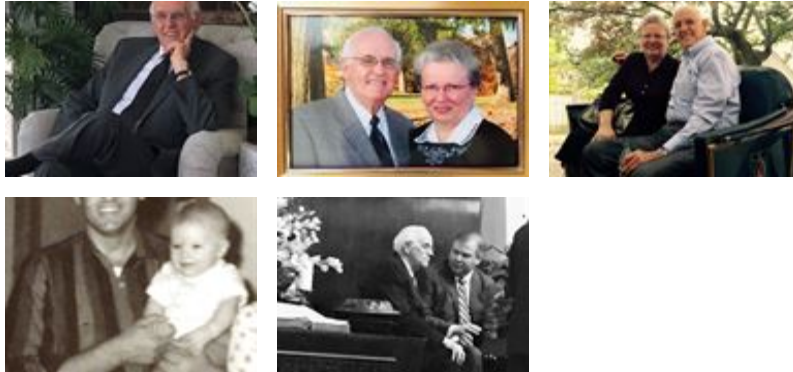
“ *Dr Robert, Judy and Andrew Bolois purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.*



Dr Robert, Judy and Andrew Bolois - July 25, 2024 at 01:19 PM



“ *122 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Sproles Family Funeral Home - July 25, 2024 at 12:30 PM

SK

“ *I was very saddened to hear of Leonard's passing. Your family was always very kind to me over the years. Scott Kleindorfer*

Scott Kleindorfer - July 25, 2024 at 10:55 AM

BC

“ Bible Methodist Connection of Churches purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.



Bible Methodist Connection of Churches - July 24, 2024 at 10:04 PM

GP

“ God's Missionary Church, Lebanon, PA purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.



God's Missionary Church, Lebanon, PA - July 24, 2024 at 08:23 PM

GF

“ Gerald, Missy and family purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.



Gerald, Missy and family - July 24, 2024 at 07:03 PM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.



July 24, 2024 at 04:18 PM

BK

“ Janet and family so sorry to hear of the passing of your loved one. I Remember you sharing about your family when I would make visits to you as a NP in Bedford. You and all the family are in my thoughts and prayers.



Becky Keithley - July 24, 2024 at 03:21 PM

UC

“ Union Bible College purchased the Strength & So lace Spray for the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.



Union Bible College - July 24, 2024 at 12:25 PM

AC

“ Allegheny Wesleyan Methodist Connection purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey.



Allegheny Wesleyan Methodist Connection - July 24, 2024 at 11:00 AM

JP

“ Our lives have been blessed and eternally impacted by Bro. Sankeys love and ministry! He was such a supportive and caring mentor and friend. It was a highlight of my life to take he and Janet to South Africa! Heaven is even sweeter today! May God give comfort to the Sankey family!

John & Cathy Parker - July 24, 2024 at 08:35 AM

MM

“ *Mark A Moore lit a candle in memory of Dr. Leonard Lewis Sankey*



mark a moore - July 24, 2024 at 07:23 AM

JP

“ *The InterChurch Holiness Convention joins holiness people world wide in commemorating the life of Leonard Sankey. He was our friend. He was a leader of uncommon humility and grace. Our deepest sympathy to the Sankey Family. By God’s grace we will all carry on the great work until we all meet again in the greatest convention of all.*

James Plank - July 23, 2024 at 11:07 PM