



1951

Elizabeth Jones Andrews (1893-1970)

Elizabeth was the daughter of Betsy McLaurin and Merritt Henry Jones. Her father's obituary of Sept. 17, 1915 describes him as one of the oldest merchants in Durham. He founded his jewelry store in 1890's, took on a partner, and Jones & Frasier became the premier jewelry store in Durham for decades. Elizabeth married Carleton Austin Andrews of Statesville on 16 June 1917; they were married by Dr. E R Leyburn who was the first pastor of the Pearl Mill Church (1902) and at the time of this marriage (1917) the church was organized as First Church. The couple had two children: Sarah McLaurin Andrews (b. 1918) and Carleton Austin Andrews Jr. (b. 1920). The senior Carleton A. Andrews was born, September 19, 1890 and died May 13, 1953 in Richmond, Va. He is buried in Elmwood Cemetery, Charlotte, NC.

The first record of Elizabeth Andrews in our church archives is in 1936-37 when she is recorded as circle chair. In 1943-44 records indicate she chaired the women's benevolence committee and is pictured as part of a covered dish supper in 1951. In 1953 she was Bible leader as part of the Sunday School program. The January 1953 TAPC Attic Antics reports:

"Mr. Carlton A. Andrews, Sr, now of Richmond, Va. has been a recent visitor at Church for some time now it has been good to have him with us, at least once a month."

News accounts report Mr. Andrews died a brutal death in May 1953 at age 63 years. He was the night watchman for Phillip Morris, Richmond, VA. One night he fell and then died of a subdural hematoma that was the result of a fractured skull. An inquiry to determine if his death was accident, homicide, or suicide determined his death an accident. From this death notice and the reference to visiting TAPC with Elizabeth in January 1953, we can assume that Elizabeth was living here in Durham at the time of her husband's death. Elizabeth would have been 60 years. Their children were grown, 33 years and 35 years of age. Elizabeth's address in Durham was #1 Glenn Apts on Dacian Ave.

Kennard Blake (b. 1955), son of Bob and Hildur Blake, remembers his family picking up Elizabeth Andrews at her apartment on Dacian and bringing her to church. Kennard described being carefully instructed on how to escort a lady to the car and see her safely in. He was impressed with Ms. Andrews's regal counsel.

Flo Bivins who served as TAPC secretary 1957-1991, remembers around the 1960's finding envelopes on her desk with cash inside and a note outside, directing the secretary to see that the enclosed funds reached this or that person who the donor perceived was in need of a little financial support. As these envelopes kept appearing, Ms. Bivins began to recognize the hand writing and eventually identified the donor as Elizabeth Andrews. When Elizabeth died in 1970, her son called the church to thank the church for taking such good care of his mother. He said he wanted to do something for the church in his mother's name. Flo Bivins shared her experiences with him and the two of them came up with a special fund named for his mother.

Trinity Avenue Newsletter, October 10, 1983

FROM THE BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

A Lee Clement, Chairman

The first Sunday of each month everyone is invited to make a special contribution to The ELIZABETH ANDREWS OUTREACH FUND - special envelopes are provided for this offering in the pew racks at all times.

The Elizabeth Andrews Fund was established to provide for the poor and indigent of Durham as an extension of the ministry of Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church. Your gift may mean that an eighty year old widow or widower can have their heat turned on for winter, it may help to feed and clothe children when a mother's meager pay check has been exhausted one month, or provide medicine for those temporarily unable to work. We are contacted by help agencies, Social Services, Women-In-Action, Urban Ministries, etc., when we are needed in crisis situations.

Elizabeth Jones (Mrs. Carlton A.) Andrews was a loving and loyal member of this congregation for many years. She was ever reaching out to others in need. No one left empty-handed when she could help. At her death in 1970 this fund was established that her loving-kindness might continue to touch the lives of many. God has blessed this fund over the years so that no one has ever been turned away.

Your gifts to this fund are recorded on your pledge card when you use the envelope in the pew racks or specifically mark it for this purpose.

Sources: *Ancestry, Find a Grave, State Journal, 09/17/1915, TAPC Archives, and personal interviews.*