

ROBERT FLOYD CURL SR.

Floyd Curl was born July 3, 1897 in Winfield , Alabama to Levi Staten Curl and Daniel Catherine Logan. He was licensed to preach in Alabama. He moved to Texas in 1921 where he served as school superintendent in Bandera. He married Lessie Waldene Meritt June 8, 1923. He obtained a BA at Southern Methodist and a MA at Perkins School of Theology.

He served as a Methodist clergyman for almost 55 years as either pastor, district superintendent, conference program executive, or professor in a Methodist seminary (Perkins). During much of this time, there was no Methodist bishop in residence in the Southwest Texas Conference, and he often served as the bishop's representative. He served churches in Bandera, SA Harlandale, Bastrop, LaFeria, Mesquite, Alice, Brady, San Antonio, Kingsville, Del Rio, Ozona, and Hunt. He served as District Superintendent on three districts including San Antonio. He served on US Methodist's Judicial Council. He was an early leader and former president of the Texas Council of Churches. He was instrumental in the Methodist leadership in developing the South Texas Methodist Hospital in San Antonio which was the leader and impetus for the Medical Center that now includes the UT Health Science Center and Medical School, the University Teaching Hospital, the Veterans Hospital and multiple other medical facilities. He spent some of his senior years as a professor at Perkins School of Theology.

In the 1950's he spent summers at Mt. Wesley where he had program responsibilities. He and his family resided at a house between Panorama and Alice Street. On one summer, his son Bobby, (Robert Floyd Curl, Jr.) ran the camp bookstore. Bobby, went on to study chemistry at Rice University followed by a doctoral program at Berkley. He returned to Rice as faculty. His career was recognized by receiving the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1996. (A nice autobiography can be found at the Nobel Prize website.)

In his final years, Floyd and his wife moved back to the Kerrville area where his wife had family ties to Center Point. He died July 1, 1971, at Sid Peterson Hospital. He funeral was July 3, 1971, at Hunt Methodist Church with Bishop O. Eugene Slater and a large group of other ministers participating. He was buried in Center Point.