

Jones, Robert Elijah ^[1]

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by Grady L. E. Carroll, 1988

19 Feb. 1872–18 May 1960



"Methodist Episcopal clergyman and editor Robert E. Jones and his second wife, Harriet." Image courtesy of Emory

University. ^[2]Robert Elijah Jones, Methodist ^[3]clergyman and editor, was born in Greensboro ^[4] and earned degrees at Bennett College ^[5], Greensboro, and Gammon Theological Seminary ^[6], Atlanta, Ga. He was ordained deacon by Bishop Hurst and elder by Bishop Mallalieu. Jones served pastorates in Leaksville, Lexington, and Thomasville, and in 1897 he became assistant manager of the *Southeastern Christian Advocate*. In 1901 he was field secretary of the Board of Sunday Schools, and in 1904 returned to the *Advocate* as editor.

In 1920 Jones was elected to the episcopacy and served in that capacity at the Central Jurisdictional Conference (black) until his retirement in 1944. Bishop Jones was a member of five General Conferences and a trustee of three institutions of learning. He founded the Gulfside Assembly at Waveland, Miss., and served as its president and in other high offices. In 1927, when awarded a bronze medal by the Harmon Foundation, he was recognized as one of the outstanding preachers and orators in black Methodism; two years later the foundation awarded him a gold medal for distinguished religious service. He was the recipient of honorary degrees from seven institutions. After retiring, he lived at the Gulfside Assembly. He was survived by a son, Robert E., Jr.

References:

Lindo D. Addo and James H. McCallum, *To Be Faithful to Our Heritage: A History of Black Methodism in North Carolina* (1980).

Additional Resources:

Robert Elijah Jones papers, 1872-1965 Add to your cart. Amistad Research Center: <http://www.amistadresearchcenter.org/archon/?p=collections/controlcard&id=51> ^[7]

Robert Elijah Jones Papers (1872-1965). Emory Libraries: <https://scholarblogs.emory.edu/woodruff/fyi/robert-elijah-jones-papers-1872-1965> ^[2]

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Subjects:

Biographies ^[8]

Religious Leaders and Clergy ^[9]

Writers, journalists, and editors ^[10]

Authors:

Carroll, Grady L. E., Sr. ^[11]

Origin - location:

Greensboro ^[12]

From:

Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, University of North Carolina Press,^[13]

1 January 1988 | Carroll, Grady L. E., Sr.

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