

JONATHAN OWINGS ENSOR
b. 18 April 1881, nr. Cookeville, TN
s/o Jonathan Lasley & Sarah Evans
md 16 February 1886, Halsted, Kansas, Dessie Woodside
b. 5 February 1886, Halsted, KS
d/o James J. Woodside & Alma Gulick
Jonathan, M.E. South, Minister, Murray, KY
Book of Jared by Eleanor Hall – pgs. 543, 544.
Chapter 8: www.ajlambert.com

Reverend Jonathan Owings Ensor writes the following delightful letter from his home at Sikeston, Missouri, March 8, 1961:

Great Grandmother, Ruth Jared has always been held up to me as being a very fine and great person. William Asbury Ensor, her only son, was Captain in the Southern Army for four years, and he was loved and admired by all who knew him. My father, Jonathan Lasley Ensor, was his son.

My older son lives in Sikeston, MO. He has two children John R. Ensor and Jean Elizabeth Ensor Cowell. John R. has two sons, John R., Jr. and Paul Jared Ensor. Little John is seven and Paul Jared two. Wilbur is an architect and draftsman. John R. Jr., my grandson is a draftsman and foreman of a steel company.

Wendell Lee Ensor, my younger son, is a Methodist Minister in Salinas, California. The Ensor boys, Ministers, have preached 240 years. Brother Dow A. Ensor of Cookeville, now dead, preached 52 years. Simon M. Ensor of Springfield, now dead, preached 48 years. I have just finished my 58 years without a break. My son, Wendell, 32 years, and Rev. O.P. Gentry, our brother-in-law, preached 50 years.

For myself, I have been blessed beyond measure in my ministry. I have been placed in the list of Ministers of Who's Who of the American Clergymen, 1941, and also Who's Who of the Ministers of the Western hemisphere, 1944.

“Daily Sikeston Standard, Sikeston, Missouri, 4 March 1961 – Missouri House Pays Honor to Retired Local Minister.

“In an unusual tribute the Missouri House of Representatives has adopted unanimously Resolutions No. 104 – a tribute to the Rev. Jonathan O. Ensor, Methodist Minister who, last Sunday, resigned from active service as Pastor of the Wesley Methodist Church.”

The resolution, adopted reads as follows:

“WHEREAS, Reverend Jonathan O. Ensor, pastor, of the Wesley Methodist Church, Sikeston, Missouri has resigned his pastorate effective March 1, 1961, and

“WHEREAS, Reverend Ensor has been a Methodist Minister for approximately sixty years, serving pastorates in Tennessee, Missouri and Oklahoma, and

“WHEREAS, in the 1920’s he was pastor of Sikeston’s First Methodist Church, going from Sikeston to the pastorate of a Church in Norman, Oklahoma, and

“WHEREAS, Reverend Ensor emerged from retirement and supply pastor of local churches to continue his work in the Lord’s vineyard by serving full time pastor of the Wesley Church in Sikeston for nearly two years, before ill health forced his retirement, and

“WHEREAS, THIS consecrated, devout and loyal Christian minister and courageous soldier of the Cross having labored so well and so effectively, merits the esteem and admiration of all-time followers of Christian principles everywhere; now, therefore

‘BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives extend sincere affection and gratitude to the Reverend Jonathan O. Ensor in his retirement and wish him health, happiness and Godspeed; and

‘BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be instructed to send a properly inscribed copy of this resolution to Reverend Jonathan O. Ensor and to the First Methodist Church in Sikeston, Missouri for their permanent records.”

Children of Jonathan Owings Ensor and Dessa Elizabeth Woodside:

Ruth Clair Ensor – b. 24 February 1903 – d. 27 May 1921

Wilbur Woodside Ensor – b. 16 July, Winfield, KS – md 1 September 1926, Maggie Matthews – b. 5 July 1902, Sikeston, MO – d/o John A. Matthews & Anna Hatcher

Wendell Lee Ensor – b. 21 June 1907, Methodist Minister at Salinas, CA – md 22 June 1930, Kathleen Aldrich – b. 15 May 1906, Anothy, KS

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