



**Funeral Service**

McPherson Free Methodist Church  
McPherson, Kansas  
Friday, March 27, 2026, at 10:00 AM

**Officiants**

Rev. Dallas Burgeson ~ Rev. Bruce Cromwell

**Prelude Video Tribute Music**

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

"Softly and Tenderly"

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

**Service Music**

Solo: "In This Very Room" ~ Greg Fields, vocalist

Medley: "The Love of God" #67, vs. 1, 2

"Blessed Assurance" #345, vs. 1, 3

"Amazing Grace" #202, vs. 1, 4, 5

"Because He Lives" #213, vs. 1,2,3

"How Great Thou Art" #4, vs. 1,4

Coleta Steers, pianist ~ Jennie Hall, organist

Rebekah Atchley, song leader

**Casket Bearers**

Thomas Kocher ~ Matt Ferrell ~ Paul Ferrell

Cole Ouren ~ David Ferrell

**Ushers**

Galen Shields ~ Ken Luginsland

**Graveside Service**

Iuka Township Cemetery

Iuka, Kansas

Friday, March 27, 2026, at 2:30 PM

**Memorial Donations**

In honor of her lifelong passion for nurturing the faith of young people, the family requests that memorial donations be made to the Children's Ministries of the Free Methodist Church in McPherson in care of Stockham Family Funeral Home, 205 North Chestnut, McPherson, KS 67460.

**Appreciation & Luncheon**

Bettie's family wishes to express sincere appreciation for your prayers and kindness, evidenced in thought and deed, and for your presence at this service. *Following the funeral service, the family invites all to stay for food and fellowship.*

*Stockham Family Funeral Home*



*In Loving Memory*  
**Bettie M. Griffith**

November 8, 1932 - March 21, 2026





*In Loving Memory  
Betty M. Griffith*

Bettie Margene Willis Griffith was born on November 8, 1932, to Winfield and Bernice Willis in Hutchinson, Kansas. She was preceded in death by her parents, two sisters, Anita Willis Pulliam (Pete) and Shirley Willis Aco (Richard), and a brother, Russell Willis (Shirley). Bettie's greatest earthly treasure was her family. Her legacy of grace, kindness and grit will live on through her husband, Claude Earl (Tom), two daughters, Claudia Griffith and Linda Ferrell (David) as well as seven grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. Bettie, a woman of deep faith, infectious laughter, and a heart that knew no bounds, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on March 21, 2026.

Bettie's life was defined by a beautiful, enduring love story. While dating, Tom introduced her to the joy of a personal relationship with her Savior and as her love for Christ deepened, her love for Tom grew. On December 8, 1951, she married the love of her life, Claude Earl "Tom" Griffith. Their life together began on the farm in Iuka, Kansas, where they built their early foundations. When Tom answered the call of God on his life to ministry, Bettie didn't hesitate; she embraced his call as her own, embarking on a journey of service that would span decades and touch countless lives. As she recounts in "The Farmer Takes a Wife," she gazed out the window at the windmill on the farm during the farm sale, grieving the loss of a world she loved as she committed to a new world and ended her life with the windmill outside her window reminding her of the many ways her life has been enriched throughout these years.

A committed member of the Free Methodist Church, Bettie was a devoted partner in ministry and a tireless worker in children's ministry. To many, she was simply "Grandma Bettie." For years, she directed summer junior youth camps, combining her love for Christ with a natural sense of fun to mentor generations of children.

Bettie's sense of humor was legendary. Friends often participated in jokes and laughter that she initiated. Her "mischievous adventures" at Conference Women's retreats became the stuff of family and church lore—a reminder that a life of faith and self-sacrifice should also be a life of immense joy, "Her life was a living testimony of the joy found in serving others and the strength found in a life dedicated to God."

### **A Prayer of a Minister's Wife (A prayer found in Bettie's Bible)**

Dear Father, I thank you for my task in life,  
for this role which no one else in the Church can play.  
I thank you I am a minister's wife.  
Friends have said never would they change places with me,  
but, God, I would not change with anyone in the world;  
I thank you that you have chosen me to fill  
this place by my husband's side.

I know, O God, that there are others who can  
lift their voices in sweeter song;  
there are others who can speak with more force and fire;  
there are others who can more gently serve the sick;  
there are others who can serve you in  
ways where my talents lie not;  
and, I am humbled, my Lord, that you have  
chosen me to be a minister's wife.

In these moments of quietness, I rededicate  
my life to you and the service of your children,  
melt me, mold me, fill me, use me,  
Spirit of the living God. Amen.

~Barbara Thompson

