



The remarkable Della Jones would have been 107 this July 7. In honor of her lifelong commitment to education, WUMC is pleased to announce the establishment of a scholarship fund in her honor to help local children in need attend our **In the Beginning Preschool**.

Della began her teaching career in 1924 after graduating from high school. She taught for five years in rural southeastern Kentucky before marrying in 1929. She returned to teaching and enrolled at Kentucky State University in 1936. Della put herself through school by cleaning dorm rooms every summer for 17 years, earning a bachelor's degree in 1957. The commencement speaker was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Over more than three decades, Della Jones taught the children of Kentucky, working in the one-room schools of a segregated school system and later in integrated schools. She served as school librarian at Owen County High School. In 2009 Della Jones received an honorary doctoral degree from Kentucky State University.

To honor Della's legacy of teaching and learning, you are invited to contribute to the Della Jones Memorial Scholarship fund for In the Beginning Preschool at WUMC. Della was a person of great faith, and we believe the preschool's blending of Christian education and a kindergarten-readiness curriculum represents her values well. The preschool is a vital part of our ministry to children at WUMC, and the scholarship fund will enhance our outreach to the children of this community. In Della's own words, "You can't do anything in this world without an education." Your contribution can open the door to In the Beginning for a local child, where they can begin the lifetime of learning that Della Jones embodied.