

**George Butler**



**Ordaining Presbytery: Murfreesboro**

**Ordination Date: 1966**

**Churches Served: Mountain Home, Arkansas 1968. His Lord and Savior was Jesus Christ, his church was his community, and his congregation was the world. George Butler was truly a gentle giant. He never met a stranger, he never conversed with someone he did not love, and he never left a need unanswered. Rev. George Butler served as a Cumberland Presbyterian minister for over 40 years until his death at the age of 73. The last 30 of those years he served as pastor of Newbern, TN Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He was beloved by his congregation, but his love and service for Jesus only began there. He was also beloved by the entire town of rural Newbern, TN. Although there are countless examples of Butler's love for humanity, three specific acts of humble service define Christ's love in George Butler's life. Butler began the community's first food pantry. He and members of his congregation set up a grocery store type area in their church that community members in need of food could come once a month and "shop" free of charge for food items to help them make ends meet until the end of the month. It has grown into a recognized food pantry that receives donations from local businesses, but much of the expenses in the early days were covered from Butler's personal income. For almost 20 years, Butler would open Newbern's train depot every Sunday afternoon to conduct tours. Finally, what would be considered a very small and insignificant act, Butler would walk the mile through town from his house to church most days, and he was always spotted with a garbage bag picking up trash as he walked. Butler's ministry was always focused on being the hands and feet of Jesus.**

**Endowment Provided By: Family of George Butler**