

Mrs. Amelia (Thweat) Shumpert was born July 14, 1911, in Tuskegee, Alabama. She obtained a B.S. degree in business education from Tennessee State University in 1950 and did graduate studies at Northwestern University, Iowa State University, Indiana State and Auburn University.



Amelia was married to the late Theodore Shumpert, who is also remembered for being the first African American Extension Farm Agent in Randolph County, Alabama.

Amelia taught 30 years in the public schools of the Roanoke area: county, city and vocational. She served as a board member of the Talladega-Clay-Randolph Child Care Corporation.

Her activities after retirement continued in the church. She volunteered at Randolph County Learning Center; she was also involved with the Randolph County Farm Home Administration Screening Committee, Randolph County Extension Service Home Economics Council, Task Force Committee of Roanoke City Schools, and Randolph-Roanoke Vocational Advisory Board. She was a member for four years and president for one year of the Roanoke Board of Education.

In Roanoke she joined Bethel United Methodist Church and worked in the Sunday school, Methodist Youth Fellowship, as pianist and organist and in other various capacities. She also served as temporary pianist and other capacities for First Missionary Baptist Church.

After the death of her husband in 1985, Amelia became a resident of Benton Harbor-St. Joseph Twin City area. She joined Second Baptist Church, where she was a member of the Mothers & Deaconess Board, Gospel Chorus and played the piano when needed. She was also a volunteer for the Benton Harbor Senior Center Choir and was a resident of Adkins Village.