To all Ministers and Session Clerks of Trinity Presbytery,

A service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held for Rev. J. Richard Magrill, Jr. on Saturday, October 31, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Marshall (three blocks west of the Courthouse Square) at 2:00 p.m.

There will be a reception prior to the service, at 1:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Burial will be at Elmira Chapel following the service.

James Cantey, Stated Clerk
Trinity Presbytery

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With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of Minister Rev. Joe Richard Magrill, Jr., a dedicated servant to our nation and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Joe Richard Magrill, Jr., of Marshall, Texas, died October 26, 2026. He was ordained to the ministry in April 1970. He served as assistant pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Carlstadt, New Jersey, and as pastor of Brookhaven Cumberland Presbyterian Church during the 1980s.

Rev. Magrill held numerous positions in the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination, including librarian and instructor at Memphis Theological Seminary, assistant to the stated clerk of the General Assembly, head of central accounting, editor of The Cumberland Presbyterian magazine, and executive secretary of the Board of Stewardship, Foundation, and Benefits. He also served for many years

as treasurer of the Historical Foundation of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

An accomplished historian and archivist, Rev. Magrill was appointed to the Harrison County Historical Commission in Texas in January 2009 and served as its secretary for several years.

He was also a member of the Ewing Chapel Cemetery Committee. He formatted, indexed, and supervised the preparation of several historical publications, including Family of Faith (1998), a history of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Harrison County, and Legacy of Grace (2012), a two-volume history encompassing Harrison County and other communities in East Texas and northern Louisiana.

Rev. Magrill earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from East Texas State University in 1967, a Master of Divinity in 1970 and a Master of Theology in 1972 from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a Master of Library Science from Rutgers University in 1971. He also pursued additional graduate studies at Vanderbilt.

Matthew Gore
The Ministry Council of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church