

LAY LEADER NECROLOGY

Donald W. Alexander passed away October 18, 2018 at the age of 78. He was a member of New Covenant in Williamsport, and was “the best pork & sauerkraut dinner ticket salesman New Covenant ever had!” Donald also was a strong supporter of animal rescue and veterans support services throughout the Williamsport area and Lycoming County.

Janet Black, Age 76, passed on January 29, 2019. She was a member of Grace, Hanover, where she served faithfully for over 40 years. She was a member of the choir, served on Consistory, and organized programs and activities for the Ladies of Grace. She was actively involved with the children and youth programs; taught Sunday School and played piano, was secretary of the Church School Board, and annually organized the Christmas Pageant for children and youth. In her community, Janet served as a Girl Scout leader and Cub Scout den mother. She was a past member of the Hanover Jaycees, secretary of the Exchange club for 20+ years, and voting poll volunteer for Hanover’s third ward for over 30 years.

Sandra Bossert, a member of Trinity, East Petersburg, passed away Sept. 23, 2018 at age 78. She had served her church as a deacon, member of the Evangelism Committee, Usher, Greeter, Visitation Minister, Nursery Volunteer, and on the Called to Care ministry team.

Matthew E. Clancy, passed away April 3, 2018 at age 30, a member of Starview. Matthew was a role model for young people of our congregation. He was kind and friendly to EVERYONE. Matthew was a member of the Eagle Fire Company (Mt. Wolf), Union Fire Company (Manchester), West York Ambulance, and York Regional EMS. He was employed as a Baltimore County Paramedic.

Forrest Dishong, Age 83 – Member of Quentin UCC. Forrest was an active member of Quentin all his life, a Sunday school teacher, Deacon, Elder, and Committee member. In the community he served on the Cornwall Borough Council.

A William Gehron – Member of New Covenant, Williamsport, passed away August 11, 2018 at age 101. He was a charter member and instrumental in the construction of the new sanctuary. He also served as a past president and member of church council. William was a past president and board member of the Plankenhorn Foundation and board member of the North Central Sight Services.

Carl Goettel, Jr., passed away May 4, 2018, at age 72. Carl, also a member of New Covenant, Williamsport, was a charter member and long-time member of the church choir, Social Awareness Team, the Call to Care team, and coordinator of ushers.

Mary Ann Goettel, member of New Covenant, Williamsport, died June 28, 2018 at age 76. She was a long-time participant in the church choir and music ministry. In her community, Mary

Ann was a founding member of several women's barbershop quartets in the north central PA region.

Margaret Faye Grove, Member of Shiloh UCC, York, passed away September 30, 2018 at 92 years of age. She had served as a volunteer of the York Daily Bread soup kitchen for many years.

Maxine M. Guillard, passed away Feb. 23, 2018 at 89 years of age. She was a member of Shiloh UCC, York, where she was a Sunday school teacher, was the first woman on the church consistory, and a 50 years member of the choir. She also served on the Women's Guild, Sewing Circle and Garden Club.

Isabel H. "Issy" Hassinger, May 10, 1921 - April 12, 2019 She was a member of the St. John's United Church of Christ, Mifflinburg, where she was active in many church activities including visiting shut-ins and volunteering at the food bank. Isabel worked as a clerk with her husband at O.R. Laney's Store, Mifflinburg, for 48 years, and at Mary Koon's Store, Mifflinburg, for 12 years. She was a volunteer at Evangelical Community Hospital, Lewisburg, for 11 years.

Louise P. (Bentz) Heindel, member of Starview UCC, passed away Feb. 7, 2019 at age 84. Louise was very active in her younger years as a youth leader, organizing bus trips, square dances, and served on almost all of the committees at some point. She was always a faithful worship attendee, but was "famous" for her chicken corn soup, which she made in a large black butchering kettle for the Annual Fall Festivals. In her community, she and her husband, Wayne, were active at the Starview Fish and Game Club, where they helped to 'raise' the community's children teaching them the value of community, hard work, fishing, and hunting and being good stewards of God's creation.

Mary Lucille Hershey, a member of Shiloh UCC, York, passed away Aug. 8 2018 at 91 years of age. She was a member of the Women's Guild, the Sewing Circle, and a deacon on Consistory. In her community, she was a Red Cross volunteer at the Memorial Hospital for 36 years.

Edwin C. Kauffman, Sr., passed away April 2, 2018 at 92 years of age. He was a member of Shiloh UCC, York, for 50 years, where he served as an usher and a deacon on consistory. Edwin also served his country honorably in the US Navy during World War II.

Richard J. Palsgrove, passed away August 15, 2018 at the age of 97. He served at Peace Swartzville, as a deacon, elder, church administrator, and as a delegate to Annual Meeting and to General Synod.

Marjorie A. Schellenberger, 98, of Lancaster, died at Homestead Village on Tuesday, January 22, 2019. She was married to the late Rev. Nevin E. Schellenberger for 59 years. Marjorie was a member of Church of the Apostles, Lancaster, and served on the Committee Women for the Republican Party in Manheim Township, President of the Iris Club, Women's Guild at Church of the Apostles, Meals on Wheels and President of Cedar Crest Club of Lancaster. While her husband served as pastor at St. Paul's UCC and Church of the Apostles she would host the Church Council and the choir for dessert during the Christmas Season.

John Sokolowski, a member of Trinity, East Petersburg, passed away April 23, 2019 at age 73. He was a member of the Lancaster Association Outreach Committee, and husband of Rev. Susan Sokolowski.

Ruth Whitman was an active member of Quentin UCC till her passing on Feb. 24, 2019 at age 77. She served as a Sunday school / Bible school teacher, as well as an elder, deacon, committee member, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

CLERGY NECROLOGY – 2019

†**The Rev. Vernon H. Baum**, 94 of Columbia, formerly York, died peacefully on March 7, 2019 at the Mennonite Home, Lancaster, PA. He was the loving husband of Rev. Phyllis (Risser) Baum for 32 years.

He graduated from Hazleton High School (1942), F&M (1945) and Lancaster Theological Seminary with a Bachelor of Divinity in 1947 and a Masters of Sacred Theology in 1971. He served in the Navy from 1943-1947 in the V-12 Unit Chaplain Training Corps. He enjoyed playing trombone in the Hazleton High School Band, Liberty Band of Hazleton, and various bands at F&M.

Vernon was ordained to the Christian Ministry at Grace Evangelical and Reformed Church, Hazleton on May 25, 1947 and served 46 years in active ministry. He served the following congregations; Boonsboro-Mt. Moriah Charge, MD, 1947-49; St Stephen's E&R, York, 1949-54; St Mark's E&R, Easton, 1954-62; and Zion UCC, York, 1962-73, where he mentored several student pastors. From 1973-1993, he served on the staff of Penn Central Conference, United Church of Christ, first as Director of Outdoor Ministries and then as Area Conference Minister, working with pastors and congregations in the York, Gettysburg, and Mercersburg Associations and leading the Evangelism and Church Growth Ministry. At various times, he was an Adjunct Professor at Lancaster Theological Seminary.

Vernon was active in the communities where he served as pastor. He was Assistant Scout Master in West York, a member and President of York Torch Club, a member of the Easton School Board, a founding member of Bell Socialization Services in York, President of York County Mental Health Association, and participated in the York Charettes after the 1969 riots. He continued his community involvement during retirement, serving on the Access York Board and Clergy Committee, Trinity Family Center Board and President, Hoffman Home for Youth Board and Committees, and singing bass in the White Rose Barbershop Chorus and in the Hayshire UCC Church Choir. Vernon was proud to be an Eagle Scout. He was a member of Trinity UCC, East Petersburg.

†**Rev. Dean M. Bobb Sr.**, 89, of Locust Drive, Reedsville, went to be with the Lord on Friday Dec. 28, 2018, at Geisinger Medical Center, Danville. He was preceded in death by his wife of 68 years, Doris, on Oct. 12, 2018

Rev. Bobb was a minister for 45 years, servicing Trinity United Church of Christ in Lewistown, Milroy, Siglerville, Jonestown, Williamsport, Norris, Elken, Marion, Abbottstown and McClure.

Rev. Bobb was a past president of the Chief Logan Lions Club and past vice president of First Area Federal Credit Union and Masonic Lodge No. 205 for 60 years. He was also on the Area on Aging Advisory Board, Lebanon County. Also, he was a 50-year member of UCT.

Rev. Bobb served his country in the U.S. Army medical field during the Korean conflict.

†**The Reverend Norman Bauman Bucher, Jr.**, 91, passed away on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at the Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. He was raised in the Evangelical and Reformed Church, which merged into the United Church of Christ.

Norman spent his life dedicated to his family, his wife of 67 years Janet Eppley Bucher; their children, daughter Jane Noreen (deceased), son Mark Norman and his wife Jasmine Ammons Bucher of Palmyra, son Alan Weir and his wife Kathy Valtos Bucher of Manheim, and their four beloved grandchildren, Rosemary Louise, Kaitlin Jane, Andrew James, and Mark Aaron.

From 1945-1946, he served his country as an enlisted member of the United States Navy. Following the conclusion of World War II and in the tradition of his father and mother, he attended Lebanon Valley College, graduating in 1950 with degrees in mathematics and philosophy. At The Valley, he played baseball and served as president of the Young Men's Christian Association. Later, he served as an adjunct instructor in religion at his alma mater.

Following completion of his master's of divinity from the Lancaster Theological Seminary in 1953, Norman served pastorates at the Quentin-Rexmont United Church of Christ and St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Manheim. From 1973-1993, he served as the Penn Central Area Conference Minister of the UCC. He served on United Church of Christ national boards and agencies and represented the Conference at many General Synods of the national church. In retirement, he continued to serve his faith and church as interim pastor at several churches, including Christ Church in Annville where he was a member and sang in the church choir through his 91st year.

Norman celebrated a lifelong dedication to learning and growing through doctoral work at Temple University. His studies resulted in the publishing of a book, *From Scarcity to Plenty: A Study of Christian Financial Stewardship for the Churches*. Norman was a man who led his life with integrity, dependability, faith, and a love of people. His hobbies included golf, reading, writing, and meteorology.

†**Rev. Dwayne Calvin Carter**, was 88 years old and passed away Saturday, August 25, 2018 at Normandie Ridge in York. He was a member of Christ United Church of Christ in Jefferson, PA.

He was a graduate of Sewickley Township High School, the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor's Degree in English Literature, and the Pittsburgh-Xenia (Now Pittsburgh) Seminary with a Master of Divinity Degree. He was Ordained into the Christian Ministry in 1959. Prior to Ordination he had served student pastorates in Port Matilda, PA, and Greensburg, PA.

Following Ordination, he served St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Johnstown, PA from 1959-1970, Faith United Church of Christ in York from 1970-1989, and First Congregational United Church of Christ in Asheville, NC, until his retirement in 1995. Following retirement, the Carters returned to York and he served as interim pastor to Salem United Church of Christ in Dover and Canadochly United Church of Christ.

Dwayne was a member of White Rose Lodge No 706, Free and Accepted Masons of York having served as past Master and Secretary of the lodge. He was a 32nd Degree Mason of Harrisburg Consistory. He had been a member of Zembo A.A.S.R. of Harrisburg.

†**Rev. Thomas Degnitz** died July 7, 2018 at the Harrisburg Hospital. He was born in West Bend WI., February 16, 1957. He was a Minister in the United Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife, Lori Hamilton Degnitz; 2 daughters, and 3 sisters.

†**Rev. Larry M. Estep**, 66, of York, PA, entered God's eternal care, Saturday, October 13, 2018 at the York Hospital with his loving family by his side. He was the beloved husband of Kay Marie (Manifold) Estep with whom he shared over thirty-one years of marriage.

Rev. Estep graduated from Valley Forge College and Lancaster Theological Seminary. He was the current Pastor of St. Paul's (Dubs) Union Church in Hanover where he was deeply loved for his caring, heartfelt manner and love of children. His former calls include Emmanuel U.C.C. in Freysville, PA and Pleasant Hill U.C.C. in Chalfont, PA. He also was on Staff at the U.S. Center for World Missions, Pasadena, CA. He served on the National U.C.C. Board of Directors as Vice-Chair of the Finance Committee and as Finance Director of Penn South East Conference. In the Penn Central Conference Larry Chaired the Capital Campaign for The Hartman Center, and was Assistant Moderator of the Penn Central Conference. In the York Association he was Chair of the Parish Life Committee. In the Gettysburg Association he served on the Committee of Ministry, the Finance Committee and was Co-Convenor of Ministries. Rev. Estep enjoyed academia, traveling, the arts, trivia, music and sports.

†**Dr. Ivan E. Frick**, 90, of Lancaster, PA, and formerly of Elmhurst, IL, died on Saturday, August 25, 2018, at Willow Valley Communities. He was married to the late Ruth H. Frick for over 64 years. A 1945 graduate of Lampeter (PA) High School, Dr. Frick received his bachelors from Findlay (OH) College in 1949. He held theological degrees from Lancaster Theological Seminary (1952) and from the Graduate School of Theology at Oberlin College (1955). He earned his PhD from Columbia University/Union Theological Seminary (1959).

Dr. Frick lived a life of service to church-related colleges and to his church. Ordained as a minister in 1951, he pastored churches in PA and NJ, then taught theology, religion, and philosophy at Findlay College (now the University of Findlay). After being appointed assistant to the president in 1963, he served as Findlay's president from 1964–1971. His tenure saw the restoration of the College's accreditation, an improvement in its financial health, and an expansion of its physical plant through the construction of four buildings. Among numerous awards and degrees from Findlay, he received a Doctor of Humane Letters in 1976. In November 1971, Dr. Frick assumed the presidency of Elmhurst College. He and his wife Ruth,

the College's First Lady, served in their roles until 1994. Upon their retirement, Elmhurst renamed the College Union building The Frick Center in honor of their leadership. As president, Frick developed new programs for nontraditional students, achieved twenty-two years of balanced budgets, expanded the endowment from \$750,000 to \$34 million, and led the construction of two, and renovation of seven, campus buildings. Dr. Frick took leadership positions with numerous professional associations in higher education and was a Paul Harris Fellow of [Rotary International](#). He enjoyed reading (especially in German) and genealogy. Throughout his lifetime, he was an active church member: first, in the Churches of God, General Conference and, later in life, the United Church of Christ.

†**Rev. James H. Gold**, 86, of Mifflinburg, passed away Tuesday, May 29, 2018 at his home.

Born February 6, 1932 in Muncy, he was a direct descendant of scientist Joseph Priestley, who discovered oxygen. On June 9, 1957 he married the former Eleanor P. Erdley and they have celebrated 60 years of marriage.

He was a 1954 graduate of Lycoming College and a 1957 graduate of Lancaster Theological Seminary where he also received his Master's of Divinity Degree in 1974.

He first served as Pastor at Nescopeck Mountain Grove Charge of the Evangelical and Reformed Church (now United Church of Christ) from 1957 to 1960, then pastored Middleburg Charge of the UCC from 1960 to 1967. From 1967 to 1996 he served as Pastor at the Lutheran Church and United Church of Christ in Ickesburg. After 1996 he served as Interim Pastor or Associate Pastor at several churches including First Lutheran Church in Mifflinburg and Trinity Lutheran Church of Cowan. He was currently a member at Dreisbach United Church of Christ near Lewisburg.

Pastor Gold was a founding member of Order of Corpus Christi, a member of the Central Assoc. of Penn Central Conference of UCC where he served on many committees, Mercersburg Society, and E & R Historical Society. He was also very active in his community service, having supported local fire companies where he resided throughout his life, and belonged to several social organizations, including the Union County and Snyder County Historical Societies, the Warrior Run—Fort Freeland Heritage Society, Mifflinburg Preservation, Millmont-West Union Area Lions Club and Oliver Grange 1069. He had also served twice as the Chaplain for the PA State Grange.

To know Pastor Gold was to know that he loved God, loved family and enjoyed being with them. He was an avid and proud sports fan of his and his family's alma maters, Penn State football and many other local school and professional teams. He enjoyed attending local symphony orchestra concerts, and pretty much anything else when his wife Eleanor was at his side.

†**The Reverend John S. Hench** went to his Eternal Rest, Wednesday, May 30, 2018, at his home in Centre Hall, with the "love of his life" and bride of 57 years Jennie at his side.

He attended Elizabethtown College, majoring in Philosophy and Religion, graduating in 1960, with a B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts. Upon graduation he entered the Lancaster Theological Seminary of the United Church of Christ, in Lancaster. There he earned a Bachelor of Divinity Degree on June 4, 1963 and on May 10, 1974 he earned his Master of Divinity Degree. Rev. Hench has served the following congregations of the United Church of Christ, Hublersburg-Zion U.C.C., Hublersburg, Locust Grove, U.C.C., York, and Trinity U.C.C. in Centre Hall; and had the privilege of returning to his first parish, Trinity U.C.C., in Hublersburg prior to his retirement. He retired from the Ministry December 2001.

Reverend Hench was a delegate to the Fifth General Synod Meeting of the United Church of Christ. In 1967 he attended the National Ecumenical Evangelism Conference held at Green Lake Baptist Assembly in Green Lake, Wisconsin. At the Penn Central Conference he served on the Evangelism Committee, the Leadership Development Task Force, and the Presidential Guidelines and Screening Committee. He has also represented Penn Central Conference on the Division of Evangelism, Pennsylvania Council of Churches.

His work at the Association level included serving on the Evangelism Committee, Lay Life and Work and the Church and Ministry Committee of which he served as chairman for several years. He served his community as a member of the Board of Directors of the Penns Valley Medical Center and the Penns Valley Area School Board.

†**Reverend William E. Hoch**, 62 of Stevens passed away Tuesday morning, May 22, 2018 at Phoebe Berks, Wernersville surrounded by his loving family. Bill was the son of the late Walter W. & Gertrude A. (Priestley) Hoch and the devoted husband of 40 years, on June 10th, of Janis (Kehlenbeck) Hoch.

Bill served as the pastor of Peace UCC, Denver, since March of 1998 and was the former pastor of Leslie UCC, Leslie, MI for 8 years and Paris UCC, Paris, OH for 6 years. He was a 1980 graduate of Lancaster Theological Seminary. Bill's ministry, kindness, and friendship deeply impacted the community as he shared faith that was open, creative and loving to all. He had a passion and talent for photography, especially birds & wildlife. His best Pop-Pop skills included DJ'ing dance parties and Pokemon hunting for his grandsons.

†**Rev. Clifford Landes**, 89, passed away peacefully on February 27, 2019 at Manor Care Kingston Court. He was the husband of the late Shirley G. (Heller) Landes who passed away in 2017.

Clifford spent his life in the ministry at various churches across the eastern part of Pennsylvania. His pastoral work was his daily life. His counsel and guidance will remain a memory to all who encountered him.

†**Rev. Beatrice Weaver McConnell** died peacefully at age 94 at The Glen at Willow Valley on Saturday, July 7, 2018.

Beatrice aimed to become a doctor, graduating with honors from Ursinus College in 1944 in chemistry and biology. She worked briefly as a chemist in munitions, but after the war she turned to ministry. She graduated from the Lancaster Theological Seminary in 1948. That year she became the first woman to be ordained in the Evangelical and Reformed Church, now part of the United Church of Christ (UCC).

Beatrice had a lively and active intelligence. She was a strong presence and an engaging storyteller. Her sermons led people to spiritual growth through her homiletical skills and her pointed illustrations. Her adult Sunday school classes were dynamic and popular. Beatrice always showed the best of leadership in her churches. She made a point of speaking personally with each of her parishioners about their lives. When a family needed help, she paid attention to the details.

Beatrice began her ministry at St. Paul's Church in downtown Lancaster (now Church of the Apostles). After a year of graduate study at Union Seminary in New York, she had her first solo job in 1955-58 at a four-church parish in Lemasters, PA. In later years she served at several churches, especially in Conestoga and Columbia, PA.

In 1958, Beatrice married Frank McConnell, the organist at St. James' Episcopal (across the street from St. Paul's) and music professor at Lancaster Seminary. They had one son, Mark.

In 1959 Beatrice served on the commission that wrote the UCC Statement of Faith. In 1975 she wrote and produced a historical drama about Lancaster Seminary for its 150th anniversary. In 1985 she received the UCC's Antoinette Brown Award for service as a woman in ministry. Lancaster Seminary has honored her with its Founder's Cross.

†**Rev. Norma Mae (Swingle) Mengel**, 82, was called to heaven December 4, 2018 in White Bear Lake, MN with family singing by her side. Norma will be remembered as a loving mother, grandmother and friend. Born at home near Philo, Ohio, to Chester and Violet (Stone) Swingle, Norma went on to graduate with a BSN as a Registered Nurse from Western Reserve University in Cleveland, a Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and a Master of Divinity from Lancaster Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania, all on full scholarships

Called to healing ministry throughout her life, Norma had a long and varied career as a nurse, professor of nursing, missionary in South Korea, Supervisor for the Bureau of Special Home Services and then School Health Nursing for Baltimore City Health Department, Director of Health for Community Health and Counseling Services in Bangor, Maine, President of Maine Community Health Association, President and CEO of York, PA Visiting Nurse Association, Executive Director of Virginia Home Health Association, Program Associate at the national United Church of Christ Council for Health and Human Services and ordained in the United Church of Christ. Norma was a long-time advocate for persons with mental illness and their family caregivers and also served on local, state and national boards for disabilities ministries

†William H. Rader (1929 - 2019)

William "Bill" Harry Rader of Dauphin, PA died Sunday morning, March 17, 2019 at Homestead Village in Lancaster, PA. Bill Rader, known by many as the longtime pastor of St. Johns UCC in Boalsburg, PA and The Shared Ministry UCC/UMC in Harrisburg, PA, was active from early on in the civil rights movement, and continued to fight against racial discrimination and social inequality until his death. With a PhD in theology and a passion for treating people fairly formed growing up serving all comers in "Rader's Market" grocery in Allentown, Bill brought a combination of faith, intellect and love of serving others to his local congregations and to the larger church and community. Some may also remember Bill as one part of the Rader Brothers Trumpet Trio.

Bill graduated from Allentown High School. After graduation from Franklin and Marshall College, where he was awarded the Williamson Medal, he completed a Masters of Divinity at Lancaster Theological Seminary. He later received a Doctorate of Theology from the University of Basel, Switzerland, where he studied under theologians Karl Barth and Oscar Cullman. His PhD thesis, published in 1978 and titled "The Church and Racial Hostility", was based on Ephesians 2:14 ("For Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility"). In 1952, Bill was the first from his seminary to participate in a one-year ex-change program in Oxford, PA at Lincoln University, a Historically Black University. At the end of his time at Lincoln, Bill was invited to serve as pastor of an African American congregation in Paragould, Arkansas for the summer months of 1953. Thereafter, while working as a youth pastor in a low-income neighborhood in Cincinnati, OH, Bill met Clara Ann McKee, who joined his summer community outreach team, and they married in 1963. Bill then served as an assistant pastor at Christ United Church of Christ (UCC) in Elizabethtown, PA and as an instructor at Lancaster Theological Seminary. In 1964, Bill worked on forming a human rights commission in the area to combat racial discrimination in public school hiring, taking a stand for racial justice that resulted in him losing his job as a pastor in Elizabethtown.

A recent talk Bill gave on his experiences in the civil rights movement is online here: <https://vimeo.com/241110700>. After living in Basel from 1967 to 1970, Bill and Clara began serving local churches and church conferences for more than 40 years. Bill served from 1970 to 1992 as pastor of St. John's UCC in Boalsburg, PA and from 1992 to 1998 as pastor of The Shared Ministry, a UCC/United Methodist congregation known for urban out-reach in the Allison Hill neighborhood of Harrisburg. He stayed very active in the wider church after retirement both as a pastor and as a member of several committees of Penn Central Conference (UCC). Bill also continued his theological work by translating German scholarly works, including most notably "Drawn to Freedom: Christian Faith Today in Conversation" written by his friend and Karl Barth's biographer, Prof. Eberhard Busch. Bill practiced what he preached and was a responsible citizen of his country and of the world. He never lost his passion for peace and justice, continuing to take an active part in recent political campaigns and protests. In 2004, Bill and his family founded Freedom Farm Community, a Christian nonprofit organization in Mount Hope, NY. Freedom Farm shares fresh produce with people who are hungry and provides a vibrant place for ministry with young people from surrounding areas such as the South Bronx and Middletown, NY who come to take part in organic farming.

Beyond these roles and experiences, Bill was known for the person he was -- strong, kind, warm, generous, thoughtful, purposeful and always bearing the broadest of smiles. Bill was happiest enjoying the fellowship of others, reading theology books, playing his trumpet or eating a slice of lemon sponge pie. He had a passion for singing and music, whether playing with his

two brothers in the Rader Brothers Trumpet Trio, using his deep bass to sing "Were You There" for Good Friday service, singing or playing in countless choirs and orchestras, or on tour (at age 86!) with Singing City in Soweto, South Africa. Bill deeply loved (and struggled for 7 years to overcome the loss of) his best friend and late wife of 49 years, Clara. In the years before her death in 2012, they could be seen every day walking hand-in-hand along the towpath beside the Susquehanna River near their home in Dauphin PA. In his final hours, Bill was surrounded by his family, and when the five grand-kids arrived and huddled around him in his small shared room, he had just one word along with his big smile: "Wow."

†**Charlotte Hull Whiting** passed away on Tuesday, November 27, 2018 after a courageous battle with Myasthenia Gravis. She was 86 and resided in Lancaster, Pennsylvania for the past 44 years.

Charlotte was known for her intellect, warmth, and generosity, her stamina and perseverance, her empathy, imagination, and open-mindedness. She once sought to capture her life in the language she so loved, New Testament Greek: she lived "allêlôn", which is not "all alone" but in reciprocity with others. Always ready to extend a helping hand, she opened her heart and her home to strangers from near and far, mentored women and children in her community, and baked bread for new neighbors -- always seeking to bridge gaps and knit people together.

Charlotte was a beloved teacher. She first taught elementary students, and later, when it became possible for women to be ordained, seminary students and members of her congregations.

She studied at Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania, where she had attended summer missionary conferences during high school. After graduating in 1954 with a B.S. in Education, she became the Weekday Christian Education Counselor at Westminster United Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, Iowa. It was here that she met D. Douglas Whiting, who was a seminarian intern in the Church. They married in 1955 and settled in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She began teaching in public elementary schools in Penn Township and later in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Upper St. Clair, a suburb of Pittsburgh. In 1976, she became the Director of Children's Work for Highland Presbyterian Church in Lancaster.

Charlotte enrolled in Lancaster Theological Seminary in 1976 and received her M. Div. degree, summa cum laude, in 1979. In 1981 she returned to the Seminary as instructor in Greek. Not every aspiring preacher is as keen to learn ancient languages as Charlotte was, but a struggling student once said, "Charlotte loved us into learning Greek." Even after retiring she made translation and interpretation of scriptures a daily practice to the end of her life. Charlotte also served as Dean of Students at the Seminary from 1987 to 1989. In 2017 she was honored with the Seminary's Distinguished Alumna Award.

The United Church of Christ at St Peters UCC ordained the Reverend Charlotte Whiting In 1981. She was an inspiring preacher and devoted pastor of Faith United Church of Christ in Littlestown, PA (1981-1986) and Associate Pastor of Faith United Church of Christ in York, PA (1994-1997).

As a longtime member of Salem United Church of Christ in Lancaster, Charlotte initiated monthly peace vigils. Her last, in September, was an art exhibit centered around three themes about which she cared deeply: "Love of Neighbor, of Children, and of Creation." She wrote, "The months of work appealing for art and the days of exhibiting it are my works of love, given

with hope of broadening our sense of community and being more neighborly". She also sent bibles and customized reading guides to each child in the congregation on the occasion of their confirmation.

She demonstrated her commitment to serving others on many fronts: she tutored young students in Lancaster City schools, volunteered at the Lancaster Shelter for Abused Women, and was recognized for her exceptional service at Contact, a telephone helpline. She was steadfast in her commitment to lasting peace - in the Middle East and throughout the world. She sponsored Palestinian children and exchanged letters with them. She always supported the rights of women, Native Americans and others, was passionate about gun control and protecting the environment. But she was not someone who sought to impose her views on others: one of her favorite stories was about giving an elderly neighbor whose vote would negate her own a ride to the polls. Still, she insisted on casting her vote: it was one of her last acts, an absentee ballot from her hospital bed.

Charlotte was President of the Lancaster County Council of Churches in the late 1980's, when the Council took important steps towards becoming more open and inclusive. She has also been a member of the United Church of Christ Boards of Directors: Board for World Ministries, Office of Communication, the Coordinating Center for Women and the Biennial Assembly for Women as well as a variety of boards of The United Church of Christ Penn Central Conference.

Charlotte was a creator who also supported other creators. She formed a writers' group and took great pleasure both in crafting stories to share and in hearing the stories of others. But she also enjoyed her solitude. She made a daily practice of singing, writing in her journal, walking in almost any weather, and playing the piano. Her piano practice was resumed with great enthusiasm after her treatment for Myasthenia Gravis took effect, and it could last for hours, enabling her to play a Bach Sarabande in church this past August. She always had some projects going: quilting, pickling peach chutney, hand binding books, embroidering or knitting for children and grandchildren or the church bazaar.

Dr. John Ellsworth Winter, age 92, Elizabethtown, PA, Professor of Philosophy Emeritus of Millersville University of Pennsylvania and Guest Professor of Philosophy at the University of Vienna, Austria, died the 8th of January in this year of grace 2019.

Educated in philosophy first at Juniata College, he earned a B.A. degree; then an M.A. at Villanova University; and Ph.D. at Temple University. After Lancaster Seminary he served two parishes, accompanied in both by a cadre of dedicated laypeople. Teaching for 39 years at three different colleges, John lectured at thirteen others stressing Socrates' extraordinary understanding that Philosophy is "practicing dying." Its contemporary interpretation is "The function of philosophy is not to answer questions but to question answers." He was mentored for two summers by Dr. Albert Vail from the University of Chicago, who had been a student for seven years of the American philosophers William James and Josiah Royce at Harvard, sharing with John their ideas and lore. At Villanova Fr. Robert Russell, O.S.A., Philosophy Chairperson, launched him in Thomistic Existentialism. At Temple his dissertation "Humor and Faith As Points of Separation Between Man and Other Animals" was originated under renown Kantian authority Dr. Richard Kroner, Heidelberg University, Germany, the only philosopher whose works the Nazis burned. Kroner was brazenly assaulted two times in his very classrooms by the Gestapo for open opposition to dictator Adolph Hitler and insistence on human rights. Kroner dared not be murdered because he was an honored officer in the First World War.

Encouraging, and encouraged by students through the decades, Dr. Winter was also disliked by literalists, nationalists, and reactionaries. He delivered papers on human rights to international audiences at the Inter-American Congress of Philosophy and the World Congress of Philosophy, exalting justice as the highest human virtue after freedom.

He was a member of the United Church of Christ, the American Philosophical Association, the American Association of University Professors, and a registered Republican following the principles of that party's first and greatest president, Abraham Lincoln.

Dr. Winter had minor publications but was in demand as lecturer on various academic campuses and public forums concerning the beauty and benefits of philosophy. Gratified to know sundry students who became dedicated professionals and challenging friends, his retirement years were graced with communications and visits by former students, often with "Buckwheat Breakfasts" at his home, always with buttermilk and/or limburger cheese.

John had a citizen's love of freedom; a philosopher's respect for rationality and skepticism leading to wisdom; a pastor's understanding of the fragility of the human condition; and a believer's faith that "God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself."

With a special affinity for pie, especially homemade, he knew that life is short, so dessert should be eaten first. He used two-dollar bills because they feature the only American president who was a philosopher, Thomas Jefferson, and the only bills that illustrate the founding of the Republic. He took a definite delight in paying his share of taxes, for they made possible living sensibly in this epic democracy.