

DEATHS OF ROSTERED LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Kadel

Pastor Kadel died July 24, 2018. He was born November 11, 1947.

Tom was a member of the clergy of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America serving parishes at Peace Lutheran Church, Kensington; Upper Dublin Lutheran Church, Ambler; and Christ Lutheran Church, Kulpsville. Tom served as co-director of the Keystone Disaster Spiritual Care Network. He was a Spiritual Care Team Member and instructor for the American Red Cross, Supervisor of the Spiritual Partners Service of Eastern Pennsylvania, and a responder and instructor for the Keystone Crisis Intervention Team. Tom was a lifetime member of the Harleysville Volunteer Fire Company where he served as Chaplain for the past 25 years. Tom was an advocate for the poor in 17 nations, in the Caribbean and Latin America through Food for the Poor. Tom was also an author. His most recent book, *Keeping the Book Open*, was published last June, 2017.

Tom is survived by his dear sisters Susan Kadel and Cathy Kadel Crusey (John) and niece Jen Mcreight (Christopher) and nephew Khouri Carnes (Christina) and great nieces and nephew Linden Mcreight, Kynleigh and Khaden Carnes, his dear sister-in-law Barbara Taylor Hilferty (Daniel) and nieces Kate Panzeter (Edward), Casey Hilferty Miller (Kevin) and great niece and nephew Emma and Edward Panzeter.

A Memorial Service was held Saturday August 18, 2018 at Christ's Lutheran Church in Orelan Pennsylvania.

The Rev. William A. Davis

Pastor Davis died December 2, 2018. He was born May 19, 1925.

Bill was a graduate of Muhlenberg College (on whose Board he later served for 15 years) and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. Bill married Irene Dodd in 1950. He served as pastor at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Dublin, PA, St. John's Lutheran Church, Kutztown, PA, and St. John's Lutheran Church, Phoenixville, PA.

When their 6-year old son, Mark, died from a brain tumor during his first-grade year, Bill and Irene established the Mark Davis Library Fund and The Mark Evan Davis Scholarship Fund in honor of their son. Both memorials still exist.

In retirement, he remained an avid golfer, stayed a loyal Phillies' fan, served meals at City Team Ministries, and was active at Reformation Lutheran Church. He also pursued his passion for investment, getting credentialed so he could work independently with Morgan Stanley.

Bill Davis is survived by his wife of 68 years, Irene Dodd Davis, 2 daughters and a son: Dr. Ellen Conroy, and her husband, Thomas, Rebecca Prince, and her fiancé, Dr. Robert Funk, and Evan Davis and his wife, Wendy. Bill and Irene have 8 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Service was held on Saturday, December 29, 2018, at Reformation Lutheran Church in Media, Pennsylvania

The Rev. William P. Welther

Pastor Welther died December 16, 2018. He was born May 10, 1945.

He graduated from Wittenberg University and later received his Master of Divinity degree from the Lutheran Theological at Gettysburg.

Rev. Welther served as pastor of St. John Lutheran Church of Blue Bell, PA from 1976 until his retirement in 2012. He had formerly served as pastor at St. Peter's Lutheran Church of Chester Springs, PA from 1971 until 1976. He sang in numerous choirs throughout his lifetime and played both the organ and the piano. An avid reader, he was a wordsmith and a talented Scrabble player. He spoke German fluently, enjoyed traveling and appreciated a good glass of wine.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a son, Jeremy T. Welther and his wife, Melissa, of Basking Ridge, NJ; a daughter, Betsy A. Norton and her husband, Benjamin, of Upper Gwynedd Twp.; a sister, Carol Berkhammer and her husband, Edward, of Johnstown, PA; and four grandchildren, Liam, Christopher, Madelyn and Lucas.

A funeral service was held Saturday, December 22, 2018, at the R. L. Williams, Jr. Funeral Home, Inc.

The Rev. Dr. James K. Echols

Pastor Echols died December 22, 2018. He was born May 26, 1951.

The Rev. Dr. James K. Echols, the first African American scholar to serve both as the Dean and President of an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) seminary, and a retired ELCA Pastor, died Saturday at his home in Philadelphia.

Echols was educated in Philadelphia Public Schools, graduated cum laude from Temple University; The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, earning the MDiv. degree; and Yale University with studies in Psychology, Religion, Theology and Church and Society, earning MA, MPhil., PhD degrees. He was awarded Honorary Doctorates from Carthage College, 1999 and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in 2018.

In 1997 he was chosen to head the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago [LSTC] for the next 14 years, again serving as an African American trail blazer in the ranks of the ELCA.

Echols was not just a seminary professor and leader, he served a number of churches after his seminary graduation, many of these were while he was pursuing his graduate education. From 1977-79, he was the Parish Assistant at Bethesda Lutheran Church, New Haven, CT; from 1979-81 he was the Assistant Pastor, Lutheran Church of the Epiphany, Hempstead, NY; and from 1981-82, the Associate Pastor, Lutheran Church of the Epiphany, Hempstead, NY. As a professor at the Philadelphia seminary, he served Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, PA, 1984-85 as Interim Pastor, 1992-95 Pastoral Associate, St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, PA; and 1995-97 Interim Pastor, Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. Echols is survived by his wife Donna Skinner Echols, and daughters Jennifer Hope Echols and Courtney Lynne Echols Penn (Eric), granddaughter Charlotte Regan Penn, and brother David Echols. He is mourned by his Nieces: Lauren Echols, Joy Renee Blalock, Lesli Alexandria White, Cameron Nicole Skinner; Great Niece: Jordan Ashley Sell; Nephews: Phillip Echols, Harold Echols, Charles Herman Blalock, Trevor Scott Blalock; Sisters-in-law: Gloria Lemmon Echols, Beryl Blalock Humes, Bobbi Skinner-White, Sylvia Fulford Skinner, Brother-in-law: James Howard Skinner, and God Children: Kari Ingrid Beck, Bethany Hopkins, Nathaniel Peterman, and Laura Rivera.

A Funeral Service was held December 28, 2018 at The United Lutheran Seminary, the Schaeffer-Ashmead Chapel, Philadelphia.

The Rev. Eric C. Oxley

Pastor Oxley died February 12, 2019. He was born June 4, 1937.

He was a second career pastor who taught in the School District of Philadelphia for many years. He graduated from Lincoln University and earned his M.Div., from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in 2004. Pastor Oxley was ordained June 24, 2006 and served: Trinity in Fairless Hill; Christ in Levittown (now Emmaus Road in Levittown), retiring in 2012.

He is survived by his family.

A Memorial Service was held March 9, 2019 at Emmaus Road Lutheran Church, Levittown, PA.

The Rev. D. Craig Landis

Pastor Landis died March 30, 2019. He was born March 26, 1939.

Craig made his way to Muhlenberg College where he discovered his true calling, which was to devote his life to God. He enrolled at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, interned at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, South Perkasio, and was ordained a Lutheran pastor in 1964. While at Muhlenberg, Craig met his future wife, Anne Goldwater of Briarcliff Manor, New York, on a blind date and they were married in 1962. As Craig and Anne made the rounds of Southeastern Pennsylvania, they began to create a family, first with daughters Beth and Heather and later with sons Marc and Drew. In the early years, Anne and Craig moved from congregation to congregation; St. John's Lutheran Church, Hamburg, PA, from 1964 to 1967; St. John's

Lutheran Church, Richlandtown, PA, for the next 19 years; and finally, Trinity Lutheran, Perkasie, PA, where Craig finished a total of over 50 years in ministry. During his years serving others, Craig devoted countless hours to youth and ecumenical work within the community, often pairing activities and missions with other local parishes. He was active in the Richlandtown Lions Club for more than half a century, and he served many terms as president. Craig also was a lifetime member of the Upper Bucks YMCA and was on the Board of Directors of Silver Springs - Martin Luther School. A tireless advocate for the disenfranchised and struggling, Craig was faced with a personal family tragedy of his own when his son, Marc, committed suicide in 1983. In 1984, Craig and Anne co-founded and co-facilitated the Survivors of Suicide (S.O.S.) group and remained involved with this organization and the Compassionate Friends Quakertown Chapter for over thirty years. Craig was a man of great curiosity and many interests.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Anne, of Quakertown, PA; daughters Beth Landis and Heather (Landis) Pierson Raffaele (Al Raffaele), of Quakertown, PA; Drew Landis (Paul Raine), of West Hollywood, CA; sisters Dona (Landis) Brown (Fred Brown), of Irving, Texas; Pris (Landis) Duman (John Duman), of Niles, Michigan; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Service was April 6, 2019, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Perkasie, PA, 18944.

**Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA
Report of the Secretary – Changes to the Roster
April 18, 2018 to April 15, 2019**

Ordinations/Consecrations

Heywood, Lauren (10/20/18)
Peterson, Julie (11/28/18)
Phelps, Daniel (06/02/18)
Sullivan, Joshua (12/07/18)

Deaths

Davis, William A. (12/02/18)
Echols, James K. (12/22/18)
Kadel, Thomas E. (07/24/18)
Landis, D. Craig (03/30/19)
Oxley, Eric C. (02/12/19)
Welther, William P. (12/16/18)

Transfers from Other Synods

Bischoff, Bernard from Northwestern
Pennsylvania Synod effective
(04/30/18)
Eisenberg, Daniel from New Jersey Synod
Effective (07/09/18) to Pastor, St.
John's, (Mayfair) Philadelphia

Hansen, John from New Jersey Synod
effective (05/02/18) Retired (under
contract) Upper Black Eddy.
Heidgerd, John from Metropolitan New
York Synod effective (02/01/19) to
Pastor, Emmanuel Souderton
Knauss, Timothy from Allegheny Synod
effective (03/01/19) to Pastor,
Messiah Downingtown
Nickel, Justin from Rocky Mountain Synod
effective 10/01/2018) to Pastor,
Living God Honey Brook
Sease, Karen from New Jersey Synod
effective (05/03/19) to Assistant to
the Bishop SEPA Synod
Staub, Scott from Northeastern
Pennsylvania Synod effective
(10/17/18) to Pastor, New Hanover
Gilbertsville

Transfers to Other Synods

Anderson, Rachel to New England Synod effective (03/01/19)
Baley, Rachel to North Carolina Synod effective (12/17/18)
Emmert, Dee to Seirra Pacific Synod effective (01/10/19)
Ferris, Joshua to New England Synod effective (07/29/18)
Goodyear, James to Lower Susquehanna Synod effective (04/08/19)
Lutz, Paul to New England Synod effective (05/01/19)
Manson, Linda to Metropolitan New York Synod effective (05/01/19)
Smith Heiserer, Dana to Upstate New York effective (04/30/18)
Spigelmyer, Daniel to New England Synod effective (01/02/19)
Wright, R. Don to Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod effective (04/01/19)
Zuber, Richard to Florida-Bahama Synod effective (01/10/19)

Roster Changes

Anderson, Ellen from on leave disability to retirement effective (01/01/19)
Bell, Marcia from Interim Ministry to retirement effective (10/01/18)
Book, Thaddeus from Associate Pastor at St. Matthew's Chester Springs to Pastor, St. Matthew's Chester Springs effective (11/18/18)
Brown, Nancy from Pastor, St. Matthew's Woodlyn to on leave from call effective (04/08/18)
Burkat, Claire S. from Bishop, to retirement effective (08/01/18)
Davenport, Patricia A. from Assistant to the Bishop to Bishop effective (08/01/18)
Folks, Susan from on leave from call to Interim Ministry at St. John's Ridge Valley effective (02/01/19)

Geist, Ethel from Abington Presbyterian Church to on leave from call effective (04/01/18)
Harte, Barry removed from the roster effective (05/12/11)
Haas, Norman from on leave from call to retirement effective (07/01/18)
Heywood, Lauren seminary to Pastor, St. David's Philadelphia effective (10/20/18)
King, Gwendolyn from on leave to Interim Ministry, Holy Spirit Secane effective (06/01/18)
Lutcher, David from Pastor at Grace Hatfield to retirement effective (02/01/19)
Mackie, Tina from Pastor, St. Matthew's Chester Springs to on leave from call effective (07/01/18)
McKillip, Michael from Pastor, St. John Morrisville to retirement effective (08/01/18)
McMullan, Christian from Interim Ministry at St. Peter Lafayette Hill to Transitional Ministry at Emmanuel Pottstown effective (04/15/18)
Nelson, Joyce from Pastor at Faith Montgomeryville, to retirement effective (11/01/18)
Ollikainen, Matthew from Pastor, Christ Niantic to on leave disability effective (05/14/18)
Peterman, Janet from on leave to Interim Ministry at Grace Hatfield effective (02/18/19)
Peterson, Kristine from on leave to Interim Ministry at St. Timothy Aston effective (04/22/18)
Peterson, Julie seminary to Pastor, Ascension Newtown effective (11/25/18)
Phelps, Daniel seminary to Pastor, Bethany Roxborough effective (06/02/2018)
Rea, Stacey-Kyle from St. John Phoenixville to Pastor, Trinity Fairview Village effective (06/01/18)

Rex, William removed from the roster
effective (06/17/17)

Romanowski, Charles from Pastor, St.
Mark Pennsburg to retirement
effective (08/01/18)

Schaefer, Daniel resigned from roster
effective (01/14/19)

Sorcek, Paul from Pastor, Advent
Richboro, to retirement effective
(09/01/18)

Sullivan, Joshua seminary to Assoc. Pastor,
St. Andrew Perkasio effective
(12/07/18)

Suloff, Jonathan from Assoc. Pastor to
Pastor, St. Peter's Lafayette Hill
effective (11/29/18)

Waselik, Phillip from Pastor, Emmanuel
Pottstown to on leave from call
effective (03/31/18)

Weidner, Christopher from on leave from
call to retirement effective
(12/08/18)

Wilcox, Allison from on leave from call
effective (02/01/19) Deacon, at
Grace Royersford

Wright, Donna Interim Ministry, Grace
Pottstown to Interim Ministry, Gloria
Dei effective (10/03/18)