

DEATHS OF ROSTERED MINISTERS

The Rev. Russell Burns

Pastor Burns died January 22, 2022. He was born May 22, 1946.

Rev. Russell A. Burns, 75 of Frederick, New Hanover Twp, PA passed away on Saturday, January 22, 2022, at the Lehigh Valley Hospital. Born in Philadelphia, PA, he was the son of the late Robert S. and Helen A. (Yahn) Burns. He was the loving husband of Elizabeth K. (Mariani) Burns.

Russell spent most of his life serving the Lutheran Church. He was an Assistant Minister at Trinity Lutheran Church in Perkasio, PA, Minister at Bethany Lutheran Church in Roxborough, PA, and Minister at St. John's Lutheran Church in Spinnerstown, PA. In his free time, Russell enjoyed classic cars, gardening, and listening to Bob Dylan. He will be remembered for his warmth and his humor.

Surviving Russell, along with his wife, Elizabeth are his children: Brian S. Burns; Karen E. Simms (Chris) and Kristin E. Burns-Huang (Tony); sister Bonnie A. Gazda (Rick); sister-in-law Vivien; grandchildren Julie, Katelin, Olivia, Jenna, Ava, and Brooke. He was predeceased by his brother, Stephen.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, January 28, 2022 at 10:00 AM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 548 Old Swede Rd. Douglassville, PA 19518. A viewing will be held from 9-10 AM prior to the service. The burial will be held at George Washington Memorial Park in Whitmarsh, PA.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul's Lutheran Church at the above address.

Deacon John (Jack) Daniel Charles

Deacon Charles died October 9, 2021. He was born March 10, 1942.

Born in Minersville, Schuylkill Co., PA, to the late John and Rhoda (Nagle) Charles. He was a graduate of Minersville High School and West Chester University. Jack retired in 2000 from Perkiomen Valley High school where he was the choral music teacher for 34 years.

He also was a long-time church organist and choir director serving at Augustus Lutheran, Trappe, Grace Lutheran, Royersford, and St John's Lutheran, Phoenixville, St Luke's Lutheran, Devon, and Centennial Lutheran, Kimberton. He was a long-time member of the Phila. Chapter, American Guild of Organists. When he wasn't at the organ keyboard or coaching his vocal students, he loved being with his family or spending time in his yard gardening. Jack and Andrea also loved to travel.

In addition to his wife of 56 years, Jack is survived by his daughter Elizabeth, wife of Matthew Francisco, Schwenksville, and his grandchildren, Sean and Heather Francisco. He was preceded in death by his sister, Rhoda Piccarilli.

The funeral service will be at 2:00pm Saturday, October 16th, at Peace in Zion United Church of Christ, 204 Big Rd, Zieglerville, PA 19492, with the Rev. Barbara E. Pence, Pastor, officiating. A viewing will be held from 12:30 to 1:45 PM Saturday, at church. Attendees are asked to wear masks. Burial will be private in Schwenksville Cemetery.

The Rev. Richard (Dick) E. Hess

Pastor Hess died October 24, 2021. He was born March 31, 1938.

Born in Spry, Pennsylvania to Earl and Gladys Hess. After graduating from Gettysburg College, he continued his studies at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, and was ordained as a minister in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. On August 20, 1960 he married Mary Barbara Eck. They raised two children together, a son Tom and a daughter Sue.

Upon ordination, he was called as the Pastor at Salem Lutheran Church in Reamstown Pennsylvania. Here, as a young pastor, he spearheaded the construction of a new building for the congregation. After Reamstown, he served parishes in Media Pennsylvania and Morrisville Pennsylvania. He also served as interim pastor at several congregations in Philadelphia as well as Quakertown Pennsylvania. As a pastor, he found personal counseling to be particularly meaningful, and was instrumental in the founding of the Samaritan Counseling Center.

He had a passion for detail, enjoyed model railroading, building extremely detailed building models for various model HO layouts over the years. He also enjoyed home projects, always seeming to be working on one home remodeling or improvement project. In his later years, he applied his model building skills to bird houses, crafting numerous bird houses with exquisite details.

This loving husband, father and grandfather was preceded in death by his mother Gladys, father Earl, and brother David. He is survived by his wife Barbara, his daughter Sue and her husband Ed, his son Tom and husband Jim, grandchildren Sean and Ryan, sisters Shirley and husband Bill, Jocelyn and husband Bruce, and Gloria and husband Leon, as well as several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held on Monday, November 1, 2021 at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, 2220 Pennington Road, Ewing NJ 08638 at 11:00 AM.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Penn Medicine Liver Cancer Research Fund, Penn Medicine Development and Alumni Relations, 3535 Market Street. Suite 750, Philadelphia PA 19104 <https://giving.aws.cloud.upenn.edu/fund?program=MED&fund=601422>

The Rev. Luther Johnson

Pastor Johnson died June 7, 2021. He was born August 5, 1927.

The family moved from Akron, Ohio to southeast Pennsylvania when he was 5; he grew up in Upper Darby PA and graduated from Upper Darby High School, class of '45. He married the love of his life, Louise E. Faust, in May 1950. While working for RCA Service Corporation he earned a BS in Electrical Engineering from Drexel Institute of Technology after many years of night school.

He was then called to a second career in the ministry, graduating from The Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia and embarking on a pastorate at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sassamansville, PA from 1972-1993. Luther served many years as a member of the Board of Directors of Boyertown Area Multi Service. During his retirement he served as Chaplain at the Lutheran Home in Telford and as an interim pastor for many area congregations.

He was predeceased by wife Louise and sister Mary J. Brewer. He is survived by children Luther "Luke" E. Johnson Jr. (Jan) of Comfort TX; Marilee J. Cassidy (Dean) of Boyertown PA; grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In Luther's words "I've lived a good long life and have no complaints, more fun."

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11:00 AM on July 10th at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Gilbertsville, visitation time from 10:00 – 10:45 AM. Internment private.

In lieu of flowers contributions to St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church, 35 Wilson Ave., Gilbertsville, PA 19525 or to Boyertown Area Multi Service, 200 W. Spring St., Boyertown, PA 19512 would be appreciated. Either would be a fitting memorial to Luther.

The Rev. John Jorgenson

Pastor Jorgenson died December 24, 2021. He was born January 26, 1932.

In his ordained ministry of nearly six decades Pastor Jorgenson served in many ways: Hope Lutheran, Minneapolis; Board of Publications, Phila., PA; Board of Parish Education LCA; Division of Parish Education, Philadelphia, PA; Office of Communications, New York; Faith Lutheran, Mt. Penn, PA; St. John Lutheran, Boyertown, PA; Peace Lutheran, Plymouth Meeting, PA; and extensive work and leadership with The Institute for Successful Aging, Inc.

To cherish his memory is his wife Lorraine of sixty-four years, and all those he touched. A Service of Resurrection was held Saturday, February 5, 2022 12:00 PM (with visitation at 11:00 AM) at Good Shepherd Lutheran, 132 E. Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406. Internment private.

The Rev. Charles F. Miller, Jr.

Pastor Miller died March 23, 2021. He was born September 8, 1936.

He was the son of Charles Franklin Miller, Sr. and Pearl Rose (Sherry) Miller. Charles was a graduate of Liberty High School and served his country with the US Army right after the Korean War. He graduated from Muhlenberg College and The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

Pastor Miller a Lutheran minister who served churches in Philadelphia, Hatboro, Stowe and Chalfont. He continued to work for the Lutheran Church more widely with Lutheran Renewal and The Harbor as well as providing support, leadership, and counseling to hundreds of congregations in 32 countries and the US mostly in the Lutheran Church.

Charles is survived by two sons, Charles (Catherine) Miller, and Bill (Katie) Miller; a daughter, Carol (Mike) Gehman; grandchildren, Hannah, Jonathan (Sarah), Timothy, Joseph and Grace Miller, Beth (Josh) Mathieson, Jess Miller and Ethan (Lucia) Miller, Michaelah Gehman, Damaris (Logan) Mosemann and Elias Gehman; a brother, Philip (Bonnie) Miller; and many nieces, nephews and cousins. In addition to his parents, Charles was predeceased by his wife of 40 years, Anna Theresa (Panker) Miller.

The family will have a private service of remembrance when they are able to get together. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Oxfam or The Leprosy Mission:

<https://www.oxfamgifts.com/gifts/donate-in-someones-memory/>

<https://www.leprosymission.org/>

Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA Report of the Secretary – Changes to the Roster April 5, 2021 to April 15, 2022

Ordination

Dziuk, Jr., Ronald V. (06/12/2021)

Kerin, Kathleen (07/17/2021)

Deaths

Bruns, Russell (01/22/2022)

Charles, John Daniel (10/09/2021)

Hess, Richard E. (10/24/2021)

Johnson, Luther (06/07/2021)

Jorgenson, John (12/24/2021)

Miller, Jr., Charles F. (03/23/2021)

Transfers from Other Synods

Aashein, Sarah from Northwestern
Pennsylvania Synod to pastor at
Grace Wyndmoor effective
(06/14/2021)

Coleman, William from Northwestern
Pennsylvania Synod to pastor at St.
Paul Telford effective (09/01/2021)

Quincy, Elaine from New Jersey Synod as
Interim Pastor at St. Peter Pottstown
effective (12/01/2021)

Raabe, Nancy from South-Central Synod of Wisconsin to pastor at Grace Hatfield effective (07/05/2021)
Swartz, Felicia from Alleghany Synod to pastor at St. John's Melrose Park effective (06/21/2021)

Transfers to Other Synods

Book, Laura to Grand Canyon Synod effective (04/29/2021)
Burke, Bradley to Virginia Synod effective (07/11/2021)
Detweiler, Carol from director of senior faith formation to part-time director of senior ministry at New Hanover Gilbertsville effective (05/30/2021)
Gieschen, David to Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod effective (12/04/21)
Krych, Arden to New Jersey Synod effective (12/14/2021)
Krych, Margaret to New Jersey effective (12/14/2021)
Mathisen, Richard to Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod effective (02/08/2022)
Reimer, Eric to Upstate New York effective (09/01/2021)
Steinly, Katherine to New Jersey Synod effective (10/10/2021)
Sullivan, Joshua to New England Synod effective (08/16/2021)
Thorsen, Bruce J. to Northern Great Lakes Synod effective (07/27/2021)
Weidner, Christopher L. to Metro DC Synod effective (07/07/2021)

Roster Changes

Barkhau, Beth from deacon at Reformation Media to retired effective (12/01/2021)
Bannister, V, Stratford Cuthbert "Bo" from candidacy to mission developer at St. John Hatboro effective (01/01/2022)

Bergdahl, Julie from pastor at St. Michael's Sellersville to retired effective (01/01/2022)
Bruno, Laura from on leave to pastor at St. John Sellersville effective
Cartwright Knodel, Katherine from interim ministry at St. Paul's Olney to Resurrection Yardley effective (07/12/2021)
Chandler, Kristie from pastor at Trinity Fort Washington to retired effective (08/01/2021)
Deal, David from pastor Evangelical Durham to retired effective (10/01/2021)
Dziuk, Jr. Ronald V. from candidacy to pastor at Living God Honey Brook effective (06/12/2021)
Ericsson, Susan K. from lead pastor Saint Luke Devon to on leave effective (11/01/2021)
Flippin, Jr., William from assistant to the bishop to on leave from call effective (09/01/2021)
Harkness, Kathleen from associate pastor at Good Shepherd to pastor at Trinity Pleasant Valley effective (05/02/2022)
Keiser, Stephen A. from pastor at Christ Upper Darby to retired effective (01/01/2022)
King, Gwendoly from on leave to Trinity Havertown effective (10/11/2021)
Moritz, Wayne from pastor at St. Paul Red Hill to retired effective (11/01/2021)
Littleton, Dolores from pastor at Trinity Havertown to retired effective (11/01/2021)
Peterson, Kristine from pastor to retired effective (07/01/2021)
Phelps, Danny from full-time to part-time pastor at Bethany Roxborough effective (02/13/2021)

McMullan, Christian from interim ministry
to senior pastor at St. Matthew's
Chester Springs effective
(02/20/2022)

Rodrick-Schnaath, Heidi M. from on leave
to interim ministry at Christ Oreland
effective (08/22/2021)

Shelor, Wayne from interim ministry to
interim ministry at St. John
Phoenixville effective (09/1/2020)

Shelor, Wayne from interim ministry at St.
John Phoenixville to interim ministry
at Trinity Fairview Village effective
(02/01/2022)

Staniz, Matthew from pastor for youth and
family service to lead pastor at Saint
Luke Devon effective (02/20/2022)

Wesemann, Ronald P., from pastor at St.
Peter's Chester Springs to retired
effective (01/01/2022)