REPORT OF THE SYNOD SECRETARY

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Psalm 96:1-2

This has been a year of significant transition for this synod and for me as the newly-elected secretary of this synod. The former secretary and assistant to the bishop, the Rev. Thomas E. McKee, retired after many years of faithful service. His position and its responsibilities were divided among the synod staff members, the executive assistant for the office of the bishop, Debbie Clark, and the elected secretary. It has been challenging for everyone to learn the ropes that Tom knew by heart. We have a patient and merciful God and synod. It is a blessing that our synod is led by a team that works well together.

As synod secretary, I have prepared calls of meetings, agendas, and minutes for the Synod Council and its Executive Committee. I have participated in staff meetings and retreats. I have served as staff support to the Nominating Committee, Assembly Planning Committee, Constitution Committee, and Gifts Discernment Committee. I have helped to prepare pre-assembly materials, the bulletin of reports, the notifications of proposed amendments to our governing documents, resolutions, and memorials, and the final minutes book; completed necessary correspondence, including letters of election, appointment, retirement and anniversary of ordination; reviewed numerous congregational governing documents and provided guidance for congregations that are updating their documents; assisted congregations in the process of closing; reported the official actions of this synod to the churchwide organization; maintained the policy manual, updated the index of actions, maintained the record of the corporate minutes; and have answered the numerous questions and requests that come to the secretary’s office. I have gathered and plan to inventory materials to be transferred to the regional archives at the United Lutheran Seminary, Gettysburg Campus.

In the wake of the novel coronavirus pandemic, some of this work was challenged and challenging. Zoom meetings increased and reliance on electronic means of communication was primary. As I write this, we are under stay-at-home orders.

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to express my personal appreciation to: Tom McKee for continuing to share his knowledge and assistance; Debbie Clark for invaluable mentoring, Dana Blouch-Hanson, Deacon Marsha Roscoe, Marty Shifflett, and Cathy Deitrich for the valuable staff assistance they provide to me and my office; to Bishop Dunlop, officers Lucinda Bringman, Joe Stepansky, and all the members of this synod’s staff for their encouragement and support; and to you, the synod in assembly, for this opportunity to serve the Lord Jesus and His Church.

I give praise and glory to God for revealing love and grace to us in Jesus Christ and for giving us the promise of eternal life.

Beth A. Schlegel, synod secretary

SYNOD COUNCIL ACTIONS SINCE JUNE 1, 2019

Calls, Appointments, Elections

+ Elected to the Synod Council Executive Committee the Rev. Matthew B. Best, the Rev. Joel S.B. Folkemer, and Jennifer R. Lau
+ Elected as vice chair of Synod Council the Rev. Joel S.B. Folkemer
+ Called the Rev. James S. Dunlop to the office of bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod for a six-year term, effective September 1, 2019, and expiring August 31, 2025
+ Called the Rev. Dana J. Blouch-Hanson to serve as assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod, effective September 1, 2019, and expiring February 28, 2026
+ Extended the call of the Rev. Robert C. Blezard to serve as assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod until February 28, 2026
+ Extended the call of the Rev. Elizabeth G. Martini to serve as assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod until August 31, 2020
+ Extended the call of the Rev. Richard E.T. Jorgensen Jr. to serve as Director for Evangelical Mission of the Lower Susquehanna Synod until February 28, 2026
+ Extended the call of Deacon Marsha L. Roscoe to serve as Director for Mission Interpretation of the Lower Susquehanna Synod until February 28, 2026
+ Appointed Sister Davia Evans to the Compensation and Benefits Committee for a 1st three-year term expiring in 2022
+ Appointed to the Synod Worship Committee the Rev. Sean S. Titus for a 1st three-year term expiring in 2022
+ Appointed to the Assembly Planning Committee: Stella Ludwig, chair, sc; Lucinda L. Bringman, synod vice president; the Rev. Beth Schlegel, synod secretary, Charlie Roberts, staff; the Rev. Dana Blouch-Hanson, staff, assembly manager; the
Rev. Becca Ajer Frantz; the Rev. Matthew Best, sc; the Rev. Elizabeth George; Daniel Picone, sc; the Rev. Edward J. Robbins; and the Rev. Gwenn Trout

+ Appointed to the Constitution Committee: Carlotta “Chucki” Streigv, chair, sc; the Rev. Beth Schlegel, synod secretary; Jen Lau, sc; the Rev. Jeffrey C. Compton; Jered L. Hock; and Joanne Wilhelm

+ Appointed to the Finance and Budget Committee: Virgil Gibson, chair, sc; Lucinda L. Bringman, synod vice president; Joseph M. Stephensky, synod treasurer; Meredith Killian Askey, sc; Dawn O. Frees; Joyce E. Frigm; Wayne R. Gongaware; the Rev. Gretchen Ierien, sc; Vicki Rutter; and William Shoemaker

+ Appointed to the Gifts Discernment Committee: Kay Hinkle, chair, sc; the Rev. James S. Dunlop, bishop; the Rev. Beth Schlegel, synod secretary; the Rev. Eric Anderson; Debra Barrett, sc; the Rev. Douglas DeStephano; Holly Freas-Webster; Robert Walton; and Jane Wigand

+ Appointed to the Mission Committee: the Rev. Joel Folkeme, chair, sc; the Rev. James S. Dunlop, bishop; Lucinda L. Bringman, synod vice president; the Rev. Richard E. Jorgensen Jr., DEM; the Rev. Jack Horner, sc; Jennifer Lau, sc; the Rev. Jillian Riddle, sc; the Rev. Matthew Best, sc; the Rev. Kathleen J. Baker; and Holly Freas-Webster

+ Appointed to the Personnel Committee: Zach Weiss, chair, sc; Lucinda L. Bringman, synod vice president; Dallas Barcliff, sc; the Rev. Martha Boyd; the Rev. Elizabeth D. George; Gary L. Laabs; Linda Long; the Rev. Timothy W. Sadler; and the Rev. Timothy Seitz-Brown, sc

+ Appointed the following Synod Council liaisons to committees: Audit, Lucinda L. Bringman, synod vice president; Compensation and Benefits, Kay Hinkle sc; Criminal Justice System Ministries, Chucki Streigv, sc; Evangelism Mission Tables, Dallas Barclift, sc; Gift and Bequest Acceptance, Virgil Gibson, sc; Global Mission, Debra Barrett, sc; Konde Diocese, the Rev. Timothy Seitz-Brown, sc; Lower Susquehanna Synod Mission Fund, Jennifer Lau, sc; Stewardship, Zach Weiss, sc; Synodical Worship, the Rev. Joel Folkeme, sc; Toward Racial Justice, the Rev. Gretchen Ierien, sc; United Campus Ministries Shippensburg/Millersville, Daniel Picone, sc; World Hunger, the Rev. Jillian Riddle, sc; Lutheran Camping Corporation, Meredith Killian Askey, sc; Region 8 Steering Committee, Lucinda L. Bringman, synod vice president

+ Appointed the following Synod Council liaisons to conferences: Chambersburg, Chucki Streigv; Gettysburg, the Rev. Timothy Seitz- Brown; Hanover, Kay Hinkle; Harrisburg, Meredith Askey; Lancaster, Debra Barrett; Lebanon, the Rev. Jillian Riddle and the Rev. Gretchen Ierien; North Lancaster, Stella Ludwig; North York, Jen Lau; Perry, Zach Weiss; South York, Daniel Picone; Upper Dauphin, Dallas Barclift; West Cumberland, Virgil Gibson; West Shore, the Rev. Matthew Best and the Rev. Jack Horner; and York, the Rev. Joel Folkeme

+ Elected to the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania Board of Directors: Daryl Ackerman for a first term, expiring 2022; the Rev. Brenda Kiser for a first term, expiring 2022; the Rev. Stephen Herr for a first term, expiring 2022; and Cornelia Taylor for a second term, expiring 2022

+ Elected to the SpiriTrust Lutheran Board of Directors (contingent on the SpiriTrust Lutheran Board of Directors approving these motions when they meet on November 26, 2019): Robert Bowen, for a first three-year term, expiring December 31, 2022; Angela Thomas, for a first three-year term, expiring December 31, 2022; and the Rev. Mark Oldenburg, for a second three-year term, expiring December 31, 2022

+ Called the Rev. Katrina Holland as Intentional Interim Pastor of St. James Lutheran Church, York, effective September 16, 2019, until September 15, 2020

+ Called the Rev. Amy Wagner as Spiritual Care Coordinator for Heartland Hospice in Carlisle, effective December 2, 2019, until December 1, 2022

+ Appointed to the Candidacy Committee the Rev. Caitlin M. Kurtz for a 1st five-year term, expiring 2025

+ Appointed to the Synod Worship Committee the Rev. Carl P. Rabbe for a 1st three-year term, expiring 2023

+ Elected to the SpiriTrust Lutheran Board of Directors Samm Smeltzer for a 1st three-year term, expiring December 31, 2022

+ Called the Rev. Lois K. Van Orden as the intentional interim pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Hummelstown, effective November 1, 2017, until October 31, 2020

+ Called the Rev. Kurt S. Strause as the intentional interim pastor of Swamp Lutheran Church, Reinholds, effective February 1, 2020, until January 3, 2021

+ Called Deacon Jennifer Murphy as a Spiritual Counsellor for the Visiting Nurse Association of Hanover and Spring Grove, without conditions of term, effective December 5, 2019

+ Called the Rev. Amy M. Wagner as Chaplain for SpiriTrust Lutheran for a three-year term, effective March 4, 2020, until March 4, 2023

+ Appointed Jeff Fagan to the Audit Committee for a first three-year term, expiring 2023

+ Appointed to the Candidacy Committee the Rev. Nancy Easton and the Rev. Keith Fair for first five-year terms, expiring 2025; and the Rev. Nicole Wachter to a second five-year term, expiring 2025

+ Elected the Rev. Karen Larson to the Consultation Committee to an unexpired term expiring in 2020

+ Called the Rev. Eric N. Anderson as the intentional interim pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, York Springs, (on behalf of Garden of Grace Community of Churches), effective February 24, 2020, until February 23, 2021

+ Called the Rev. Timothy J. Seitz-Brown as the intentional interim pastor of Benders Evangelical Lutheran Church (and by contract to St. Paul Lutheran Church), Biglerville, effective April 1, 2020, until March 31, 2023
New Business

+ Authorized the following officers of the Lower Susquehanna Synod as signatories on all financial accounts of the Lower Susquehanna Synod: Bishop James S. Dunlop, Lucinda L. Bringman, the Rev. Beth A. Schlegel, and Joseph M. Stepansky; and for access to financial accounts only: Catherine L. Paul
+ Adopted $62,000 per year as the starting base salary and housing allowance for the Rev. Dana Blouch-Hanson
+ Approved that the total compensation paid to the Rev. Dana J. Blouch-Hanson for the period beginning September 1, 2019, shall include an annual payment $21,000 to be designated as housing allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code
+ Adopted $22,500 per year for fifteen hours of service weekly as the base salary and housing allowance for the Rev. Elizabeth G. Martini for the year, September 1, 2019, until August 31, 2020
+ Granted on-leave-from-call status to Deacon David Hope-Tringali, effective July 1, 2019, until July 1, 2020; the Rev. Jennifer Hope-Tringali, effective July 1, 2019, until July 1, 2020; the Rev. Kurt S. Strause, effective November 1, 2019, until November 1, 2020
+ Continued on-leave-from-call status for the Rev. Janice Marie Lowden, effective September 18, 2019, until September 18, 2020; and the Rev. Timothy J. Seitz-Brown, effective September 22, 2019, until September 22, 2020
+ Rescinded on-leave-from-call status for the Rev. Michael K. Fischer, effective May 23, 2019 since he is continuing employment with Country Meadows, York
+ Approved the retirement requests of the Rev. Glenn D. Miller, effective July 1, 2019; the Rev. Thomas E. McKee, effective September 1, 2019; the Rev. Stephen W. Yambor, effective September 1, 2019; the Rev. Linda S. Trout, effective October 1, 2019; the Rev. William C. Snyder, effective December 31, 2019; and the Rev. Margareta M. Breden, effective January 1, 2020
+ Certified the minutes of the 2019 Synod Assembly as the official protocol of said assembly, to be deposited in the archives
+ Accepted the reports of the independent auditors for fiscal year 2018
+ Adopted a change to the wording of section D.6. of the 2020 Rostered Ministers Compensation and Benefits Manual so that it reads, “A specific Parental Leave Plan for rostered ministers should be carefully drafted. This plan should include eight weeks of parental leave with full salary, housing, and benefits, but not less than six weeks, to be taken within the first twelve months following the birth of a child or the placement of an adopted child. Any other specific conditions should be clearly defined in a written document.”
+ Continued the on-leave-from-call status of the Rev. Cynthia Baxter, effective February 8, 2020, until February 8, 2021
+ Approved the retirement requests of the Rev. Scott K. Davis, effective December 31, 2019; the Rev. Kathy A. Swords, effective January 1, 2020; and the Rev. Dennis L. Trout, effective January 31, 2020
+ Approved that the total compensation paid to the Rev. James S. Dunlop for the period beginning January 1, 2020, shall include an annual payment of $22,500 to be designated as a housing allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code; that the total compensation paid to the Rev. Robert Blezard for the period beginning January 1, 2020, shall include an annual payment of $25,000 to be designated as a housing allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code; that the total compensation paid to the Rev. Dana Blouch-Hanson for the period beginning January 1, 2020, shall include an annual payment of $21,000 to be designated as a housing allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code; that the total compensation paid to the Rev. Richard E. T. Jorgensen Jr. for the period beginning January 1, 2020, shall include an annual payment of $19,000 to be designated as a housing allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code; and that the total compensation paid to the Rev. Elizabeth Martini for the period beginning January 1, 2020, shall include an annual payment of $0 to be designated as a housing allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code
+ Approved the 2019 Bylaws of the Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania
+ Set the 2020 base salary and housing allowance for Bishop Dunlop at $101,178
+ Authorized for Level I executives a 2.2 percent increase in their base salaries and housing allowances, and that the Synod Council set their base salaries and housing allowances for 2020 at: the Rev. Robert Blezard, $67,050; the Rev. Dana J. Blouch-Hanson, $63,365; the Rev. Richard Jorgensen, $81,050; and the Rev. Elizabeth Martini, $23,000 (15 hours/week)
+ Authorized a 2.2 percent increase in salaries across the board for all remaining staff in 2020
+ Approved that the Executive Committee appoint a pastor to serve on the Consultation Committee until the 2020 Synod Assembly
+ Set the dates for the 2020 Synod Assembly of the Lower Susquehanna Synod as follows: Business Session on Saturday, June 6, 2020 at Messiah College and Edification Days on Saturday, May 16, 2020, at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Neffsville (Lancaster) and Saturday, May 30, 2020, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in York
+ Adopted the revised Salary Development Worksheets for Ministers of Word and Sacramento and for Ministers of Word and Service
+ Enacted continuing resolution S10.01.01.r.A19. stating that for the purposes of the 2020 election, the Synod Council understands “clergy” to include ministers of Word and Sacramento and ministers of Word and Service
+ Authorized the formation of a Task Force on Homelessness and Affordable Housing
Granted on-leave-from-call status to the Rev. George B. Scott, effective December 28, 2019, until December 28, 2020
+ Continued the on-leave-from-call status of the Rev. Pamela Carnes, effective March 1, 2020, until March 1, 2021
+ Approved the requests for retirement of the Rev. Kenneth Jetto, effective February 1, 2020; Deacon George E. Bennett Jr., effective February 5, 2020; the Rev. Nancy R. Easton, effective April 1, 2020; and the Rev. Anne-Rose Reeves, effective May 1, 2020
+ Approved that the total compensation paid to the Rev. Jennifer H. Richards for the period beginning February 15, 2020, shall include an annual payment of $30,000 to be designated as a housing allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.
+ Approved the Proposed Agenda for the 2020 Synod Assembly for recommendation to the 2020 Synod Assembly for adoption
+ Adopted the following registration rates for the 2020 Synod Assembly: $175 Early Bird Registration (2/16-3/17); $200 Registration (3/18-3/31); $250 Walk up Registration; $30 Retired Rostered Ministers
+ Adopted the following complimentary packages for attendance at the 2020 Synod Assembly to rostered ministers on leave from call, rostered ministers called by the Synod Council whose agency or institution does not fund their attendance at the Synod Assembly, seminarians under the care of the Lower Susquehanna Synod Candidacy Committee, lay synod officers, lay members of the Synod Council, members of the Assembly Planning Committee and members of the Worship at Assembly Committee who are not serving congregations or elected assembly voting members from their congregations, and synod staff, who register by March 17, 2020: $175.00
+ Acted to recommend to the Synod Assembly the adoption of the recommended amendments to the synod constitution and bylaws from the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly
+ Acted to recommend to the Synod Assembly the adoption of continuing resolution S7.11.01.r.A20. The regular assembly of this synod shall be held annually between May 1 and June 30 at such place as the Synod Council shall designate.
+ Acted to recommend to the Synod Assembly the adoption of other suggested bylaw amendments from the Constitution Committee, excluding S10.01.01.
+ Directed the synod secretary to provide notice to the voting members of the 2020 Synod Assembly of the proposed amendments to the constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions of the Lower Susquehanna Synod
+ Approved a 5% distribution from the Legacy Fund to be distributed according to the formula in the Legacy Fund policy
+ Adopted a spending authorization for 2020 in the amount of $2,412,413.98
+ Adopted the proposed changes to the Personnel Policies of the Lower Susquehanna Synod
+ Changed article 6.70 of the Personnel Policies of the Lower Susquehanna Synod from “ordained employee” to “An employee who is a Minister of Word and Sacrament”
+ Acted to recommend to the 2020 Synod Assembly that the 2021 minimum base salary and housing allowance for Ministers of Word and Sacrament with no years of experience and no parsonage provided be set at $53,875 and that the 2021 minimum salary for Ministers of Word and Sacrament with no years of experience and with a parsonage provided be set at $37,480, representing a 3% increase over the 2020 minimum salaries
+ Acted to recommend to the 2020 Synod Assembly that the 2021 minimum base salary for Ministers of Word and Service with no years of experience be set at $48,530, a 5.5% increase over the 2020 minimum salary with the intent to achieve parity within six years
+ Approved a $5.00 increase to the supply rate for one service in 2021, making the 2021 supply rate for one service $180; approved an additional $50 for each additional Sunday morning service and an additional $70 for each additional service other than Sunday morning
+ Moved the designated Synod Program money in the amount of $2,226.97 from last year’s Legacy Fund distribution from the reserve account to the General Fund to offset the cost of the 2019 Healthy Leaders Retreat
+ Granted on-leave-from-call status to the Rev. Robert W. Moore, effective February 17, 2020, until February 17, 2021
+ Granted on-leave-from-call for graduate study status to the Rev. Adam T. Morton, effective March 31, 2020 until March 31, 2021
+ Approved the request for retirement of the Rev. John G. Largen, effective June 30, 2020
+ Acted to recommend to the 2020 Synod Assembly the amendment of bylaw S10.01.01. to clarify the constituent membership of the Synod Council
+ Acted to recommend to the 2020 Synod Assembly the amendment of constitution provisions S9.05., S9.06., and S9.07. to conform to the ELCA Constitution for Synods
+ Acted to recommend to the 2020 Synod Assembly the amendment of bylaw S16.02.01. regarding indemnification
+ Amended continuing resolution S11.01.r.C16. to correct the description of ABX and to change the name of the Congregational Leadership Resource Team (CLRT) to Leadership Support Team (LST)
+ Postponed indefinitely the Edification Days scheduled for May 16, 2020, and May 30, 2020
+ Changed the location of the June 6, 2020, Synod Assembly from Messiah College to the corporate headquarters of the Lower Susquehanna Synod at 900 S. Arlington Ave., Ste. 220B, Harrisburg, PA 17109
+ Proposed to postpone the 2020 Synod Assembly by moving to adjourn following the determination of quorum at the June 6, 2020 Synod Assembly.
+ Archived the 2010 and 2014 stewardship strategies
Adopted continuing resolution S10.01.r.B20. that clarifies the start and conclusion of Synod Council terms
+ Accepted with regret the resignation of vice president Lucinda L. Bringman effective August 30, 2020, or the last day of the second month following the conclusion of the 2020 Synod Assembly, whichever is later
+ Recommended the nomination to the Synod Assembly of Jennifer Lau for the office of synod vice president for a term ending in 2024

AMENDED PERSONNEL POLICY

Page 7 – COMPENSATION Section 6.40
  D) **Overtime rate**
  Non-exempt employees shall be compensated for time worked in excess of the regularly established hours per week (35) as follows: 36 through 40 hours, regular hourly wage; 41 hours or more, one and one-half (1 ½) times the hourly wage rate.

  E) **Rate Compensation**
  The base hourly rate for salaried employees is computed by dividing the annual salary by 2080 hours (40 x 52).

Page 8 – COMPENSATION Section 6.70

**Housing Allowance**
An employee who is a Minister of Word and Sacrament may request that a portion of his/her annual salary be designated as housing allowance, in keeping with Internal Revenue Service regulations.

Page 10 – WORKING HOURS AND HOLIDAYS Section 8.20

**Work Week**
The work week extends from 12:01 a.m. on Saturday to 12:00 midnight on Friday.

Page 11 – EMPLOYEE BENEFITS Section 9.20

**Social Security**
The employer shall make contributions required of employers under the Social Security Act for its lay employees and Ministers of Word and Service. The policy of this synod in dealing with synod employees who are Ministers of Word and Sacrament shall be consistent with the policy enacted by the synod assembly for Ministers of Word and Sacrament.

Page 12 – ABSENCE FROM WORK Section 10.10

**General**
All leave must be approved by the personnel officer and reported through the HRdirect application by submitting a Time Off Request. Records shall be maintained under the direction of the personnel officer.

Page 15 – ABSENCE FROM WORK Section 10.80

**Parenting Leave**
Up to eight weeks of parental leave with full salary and benefits, but not less than six weeks, is available to a new mother (upon completion of medical leave) or father to be taken within the first twelve months following the birth of a child or the placement of an adopted child. As much advance notice as possible is expected.

Adopted by the Synod Council
February 15, 2020
SC20.02.17.
SC20.02.18.

AMENDMENTS TO OUR GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

S11.01.r.C16. Consonant with the provisions of S11.01.15. these ministries may include:

1) **ABX (Alpha Beta Christos)**, which shall be a ministry of the bishop’s office of this synod in collaboration with the Region 8 Office of the ELCA to gather newly rostered leaders during the initial three years of their first call for the purpose of support, collegiality, and disciplined reflection on ministry in accord with ELCA First Call Theological Education requirements. The bishop shall designate an assistant to the bishop to provide this ministry.
4) The Congregational Leadership Resource Support Team (CLRST), which shall be composed of 8 to 12 persons, both ministers of Word and Sacrament and lay. A chairperson/convener shall be appointed by the bishop. This team shall work with congregations and leaders of the Lower Susquehanna Synod to achieve positive responses to change, anxiety, and conflict. Members of this team shall possess skills and willingness to assist congregations in healthy communication and leadership patterns, as well as addressing conflict management, mediation, and resolution.

Adopted by the Synod Council
April 18, 2020
SC20.04.24.

S10.01.r.B20. The term of office of Synod Council members shall begin at the close of the Synod Assembly at which they are elected and conclude at the close of the Synod Assembly held three years later or two years later in the case of a youth member. When a person is elected to fill an unexpired term on the Synod Council, the term shall begin upon election and conclude at the close of the Synod Assembly when the term would have ended had there been no vacancy.

Adopted by the Synod Council
April 18, 2020
SC20.04.31.

Beth A. Schlegel, synod secretary
May 1, 2020
THE REPORT OF THE NECROLOGIST – 2020

THE REV. CARL EDMUND BENTZ
Born August 14, 1934 – Died July 29, 2019
Age 84 years, 11 months, 15 days

THE REV. CARL EDMUND BENTZ, son of the late Lester Walker Bentz, Sr. and Mary Kathryn (Brown) Bentz, was born August 14, 1934, at York, Pennsylvania, and died July 29, 2019, at Savannah, Georgia.

He was baptized April 7, 1935, at Advent Lutheran Church, York, Pennsylvania, where he was later confirmed.

He was graduated from William Penn High School, York, Pennsylvania in 1952; from Duke University, Durham, North Carolina in 1956 with a bachelor of arts degree; from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1962 with a master of divinity degree; and from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1978 with a master of sacred theology degree. Before serving two years in the United States Army, he attended Dickinson School of Law, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.


In retirement, Pastor Bentz served as interim pastor in various settings, including Trinity, Seven Valleys, York County, Pennsylvania and Messiah Lutheran Church, Railroad, Pennsylvania. During retirement, he also served as supply pastor.

At various times during his active ministry and during retirement, Pastor Bentz served as dean of the North York District, Central Pennsylvania Synod; as emergency chaplain at Memorial Hospital, York, Pennsylvania; and as a member and leader of Lions Club International, Lutheran Men’s Club of York, Lutheran Ministers and Spouses Club, and New Hope Seniors group of Glen Rock, Pennsylvania.

On June 27, 1959, at First Centenary Methodist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee, he was married to Isabel Fair (Hembree) Bentz, who survives him. Their marriage was blessed with three children, all of whom survive him: Paul Joseph Bentz, Stephen Monroe Bentz and wife, Danielle Heaps Bentz, and Margaret Kathryn Staley. He is also survived by six grandchildren: Hannah and Abigail Bentz, Zoe and Ellie Bentz, and Joseph and Jessica Staley. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Lester Walker Bentz Jr. and a sister, Ethel Mae (Bentz) Judd.

His memorial service was held August 9, 2019, at Advent Lutheran Church, York, Pennsylvania, where he was a member, with the Rev. Mary Anne Kingsborough officiating. Burial was private at Greenmount Cemetery, York, Pennsylvania.

THE REV. CARL JAY FREDERICK
Born March 23, 1931 – Died September 3, 2019
Age 88 years, 5 months, 11 days

THE REV. CARL JAY FREDERICK, son of the late David LaMar Frederick and Gertrude Nelson Frederick, was born March 23, 1931, at Brunnerville, Lititz, Pennsylvania, and died September 3, 2019, at Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

He was graduated from Lititz High School, Lititz, Pennsylvania in 1949; from Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 1953 with a bachelor of arts degree; and from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1956 with a master of divinity degree.

Pastor Frederick was ordained by the Maryland Synod, United Lutheran Church in America, May 6, 1956, at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, while he was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lititz, Pennsylvania. He served as pastor, St. John’s Lutheran Church, Hagerstown, Maryland, 1956 – 1958; Trinity Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 1958 – 1964; and Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 1964 – 2000, when he retired.
At various times during his active ministry, Pastor Frederick served as a member of the Executive Council of the Central Pennsylvania Synod, member of the Synodical Committee on Higher Education, secretary and dean of the Lancaster District, board member of Lutheran Social Services East Region, and chaplain to the McCaskey High School football team and a fire company. He took part in campus ministry at Millersville College and served as a PTA president.

In retirement, Pastor Frederick served as a member of the Redeemer Lutheran Church choir and occasional member of the Redeemer Brass Band, served as supply pastor and teacher, took part in Bible study and prayer group, provided parish visitation as requested, and was a member of various congregational committees, perhaps especially in the area of social ministry.

On May 30, 1954, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lititz, Pennsylvania, he was married to Kathleen Brubaker Hess Frederick, who survives him. Their marriage was blessed with three children, all of whom survive him: Barbara Lou and husband, Dr. William Roberts, Carl Joseph and wife, Beverly, and Susan Jane and husband, Paul Roy. He is survived by nine grandchildren: Megan Roberts, William Roberts, Dr. David Roberts, Dr. Catherine Main, Carl Frederick, Paul Frederick, Aaron Frederick, Kelley Gockley, and Dr. Paula Roy. He is also survived by seven great-grandchildren: Kayla Gockley, Sophia Main, Henry Main, Eleanor Main, Carl Eduardo Frederick, Colin Antonio Frederick, and Hugh Roberts. He was predeceased by his sister Vera Shaub.

His memorial service was held September 14, 2019, at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where he was a member, with the Rev. Dr. Daniel Yeiser officiating.

THE REV. IRVIN EDWARD “IRV” STRAW JR.
Born June 10, 1940 – Died September 6, 2019
Age 79 years, 2 months, 27 days

THE REV. IRVIN EDWARD “IRV” STRAW JR., son of the late Irvin Edward Straw Sr. and Catherine Romaine Carter Straw, was born June 10, 1940, at York, Pennsylvania, and died September 6, 2019, at Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

He was baptized November 24, 1946, and was a son of Advent Lutheran Church, York, Pennsylvania.

He was graduated from Central High School, York, Pennsylvania in 1958; from Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1962 with a bachelor of arts degree; and from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1966 with a master of divinity degree. Later, he engaged in further study at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg.

Pastor Straw was ordained by the Central Pennsylvania Synod, Lutheran Church in America, June 8, 1966, at Christ Chapel on the campus of Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, while he was a member of Advent Lutheran Church, York, Pennsylvania. He served as pastor, Dornsife Parish (Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Hunter Station, Lykens, Pennsylvania and St. Peter Lutheran Church, Red Cross, Pennsylvania) 1966 – 1972; Hametown – Loganville Pastoral Charge (Christ Lutheran Church, Loganville, Pennsylvania and St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hametown, Pennsylvania) 1972 – 1983; and Salem Lutheran Church of Kissel Hill, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania 1983 – 2000, when he retired.

In retirement, Pastor Straw served as interim pastor, Mount Eden Lutheran Church, Quarryville, Pennsylvania; Brickerville United Lutheran Church, Lititz, Pennsylvania; and St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lititz, Pennsylvania, where he also served as visitation pastor until his death.

At various times during his active ministry, Pastor Straw served as board member, Lutheran Social Services – South Region, secretary of the Lykens and South York Districts of the Central Pennsylvania Synod, dean of the South York District of the Central Pennsylvania Synod, and South York District leader of the “GO” Campaign and Strength for Mission. He also assisted with Lutheran Youth Encounter at Lutheran camps, served as chair of the Lititz CROP Committee, Boy Scout leader, fire-fighter in York and Lancaster counties, treasurer of the Lion’s Club and participant in the International Youth Program of Lion’s International, and was a member of the Kiwanis Club. He served on the Election Board, Brunnerville, Pennsylvania, as advisor to the Key Club, Line Mountain High School, and member of the Executive Committee, Pocono Lutheran Youth Congress.

During retirement and in addition to serving as interim pastor as indicated above, Pastor Straw served as supply pastor, member of the St. Paul, Lititz choir, confirmation class teacher, and participant in the Sr. Shepherd Ministry, the mission of which is to make wooden toys for children at LUTHERCARE, Hershey Children’s Hospital, and Warwick School District.

On January 14, 1967, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sand Hill, Hershey, Pennsylvania, Pastor Straw was married to Loris Jean Snyder Straw, who survives him. Their marriage was blessed with three daughters, all of whom survive him: Michelle Ann, husband Tait...
Harbaugh, Christine Marie Golbourne, and Catherine Elizabeth Sload. He is also survived by three grandchildren: Brandon, Caitlin, and Tiffany, and by two great-grandchildren: Acacia and Qadira. A sister, Doris Romaine Straw-Maisack, survives him.

His memorial service was held September 15, 2019, at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lititz, where he was a member, with the Rev. Robert Myallis officiating. Burial was private in the Brickerville United Lutheran Church Memorial Garden.

THE REV. DR. KENNETH CHARLES SENFT
Born August 20, 1925 – Died September 21, 2019
Age 94 years, 1 month, 1 day

THE REV. DR. KENNETH CHARLES SENFT, son of the late Harry Senft and Effie Krebs Senft, was born August 20, 1925, at Jefferson, Pennsylvania, and died September 21, 2019, at Camp Hill, Pennsylvania.

He was baptized October 8, 1925, at St. Jacob’s Lutheran Church, Stone Church, York County, Pennsylvania.

He was graduated from high school in York County, Pennsylvania in 1942; from Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1946 with a bachelor of arts degree; from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1952 with a master of divinity degree; and received a doctor of divinity degree from Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1973. While a student at Gettysburg College, he served as chair, United Student Christian Council, member of the World Christian Youth Conference, and as student delegate to the opening of the Lutheran World Federation in Helsinki. While a seminary student, he served as director of resettlement of displaced persons under the Lutheran World Federation, Service to Refugees, and as student assistant, Keller Memorial Lutheran Church, Washington, D.C.

Pastor Senft was ordained by the Pacific Southwest Synod, United Lutheran Church in America, June 8, 1952, while he was a member of St. Jacob’s Lutheran Church, Stone Church, Brodbecks, Pennsylvania. He served as mission developer and then pastor, Messiah Lutheran Church, Redwood City, California, 1952 – 1963; Secretary of Church Vocations, Board of College Education and Church Vocations, Lutheran Church in America, 1964; pastor, Bethany Lutheran Church, Lutheran Church of the Cross, Berkeley, California, 1965 – 1967; pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Pasadena, California, 1968 – 1970; Assistant Executive Secretary, Board of American Missions, Lutheran Church in America, Chicago, 1970 – 1972; Executive Director, Division for Mission in North America, Lutheran Church in America, New York, New York, 1973 – 1988; and president, Mission Resource Institute, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, August to December 1988, when he retired.

In retirement, Pastor Senft served as supply pastor, continued his career-long commitment to and service with refugees, served part time at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Hanover, Pennsylvania, and at Christ Lutheran Church, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and received a “Walk in Faith” award from Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services.

At various times during his active ministry, Pastor Senft participated in ecumenical dialogues, served as a member of the board of the Council of Churches of California; member of the Governing Board of the National Council of Churches; member of the Executive Board, Pacific Southwest Synod, Lutheran Church in America; vice-president of the Pacific Southwest Synod, Lutheran Church in America; vice-president of the Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary Board; and member of the board of directors, Lutheran Social Services of Northern California. He is the author of God Lives in Word and World and New Life in the Parish.

On October 21, 1949, at Insula, Berchtesgaden-Strub, Germany, he was married to Josephine Haugen Senft, who predeceased him. Their marriage was blessed with two daughters, who survive him: Elizabeth Clare Senft, and the Rev. Catharine Marie Senft Geib, husband Rev. Richard B. Geib. He is survived by five grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. He is predeceased by seven sisters and one brother.

His memorial service was held October 5, 2019, at Tree of Life Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where he was a member, with the Rev. Richard B. Geib and the Rev. Stephen Herr officiating. Burial was private, October 5, 2019, at St. Jacob’s, Stone Church, Cemetery, Glenville, Pennsylvania.

THE REV. ALFRED ANTHONY AMBROSE
Born September 14, 1942 – Died October 15, 2019
Age 77 years, 1 month, 1 day

THE REV. ALFRED ANTHONY AMBROSE, son of the late James Ambrose and Angeline Ambrose, was born September 14, 1942, at Altoona, Pennsylvania, and died October 15, 2019, at Mount Dora, Florida.

During his years of active ministry, Pastor Ambrose served as a member of the New England Synod’s Task Force on Aging and Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod’s Division of Church in Society. He was active in the Lutheran Deaf Ministry in Altoona and Milton, Pennsylvania and co-founder of the Milton-Lewisburg, Pennsylvania Meals on Wheels.


In retirement, Pastor Ambrose served as interim pastor, Union Lutheran Church, York, Pennsylvania, 2002 – 2003; and the Hellam Parish (St. James Lutheran Church, Hellam, Pennsylvania and Our Saviour Lutheran Church, York, Pennsylvania, later the Hellam – East York Lutheran Parish), 2003 – 2008. At St. Philip Lutheran Church, Mount Dora, Florida, where he as a member, he was active in Stewardship Ministry, outreach ministry, and served as adult Bible Study leader and worship assistant. He also served as supply pastor.

On September 21, 1968, at Altoona, Pennsylvania, Pastor Ambrose was married to Janice Marie Hescox Ambrose, who survives him. Their marriage was blessed with two children, who survive him: Bradley Scott Ambrose and Gwendolyn Leigh Ambrose. He is also survived by a brother-in-law, the Rev. Mitchell C. Hescox.

At the time of his death, Pastor Ambrose was a member of St. Philip Lutheran Church, Mount Dora, Florida. His memorial service was held November 1, 2019, at Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, Dover, Pennsylvania, with the Rev. Abby Leese and the Rev. Mitchell Hescox officiating. Interment was private.

THE REV. THOMAS EDWARD LIGHT JR.
Born August 27, 1947 – Died October 31, 2019
Age 72 years, 2 months, 4 days

THE REV. THOMAS EDWARD LIGHT JR., son of the late Thomas Edward Light Sr. and June L. Dundore Light, was born August 27, 1947, at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, and died October 31, 2019, at Lebanon, Pennsylvania.

He was graduated from Lebanon High School, Lebanon, Pennsylvania in 1965; from Millersville University, Millersville, Pennsylvania in 1969 with a bachelor of arts degree; and from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1973 with a master of divinity degree.

Pastor Light was ordained by the Central Pennsylvania Synod, Lutheran Church in America, June 20, 1973, at Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania, while he was a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Lebanon, Pennsylvania. He served as pastor, Buckhorn Lutheran Parish, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, 1973 – 2011, when he semi-retired. He served as pastor on a part-time basis, Columbia Montour Lutheran Parish, successor to the Buckhorn Lutheran Parish, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, 2011 – 2013, when he fully retired.

During his active ministry, Pastor Light served at various times as interim pastor, secretary of his conference, and member of Candidacy Committee, Church and Society Committee, and Nominating Committee. He also served as an intern supervisor. His service in the community included the Columbia County Board of Assistance and membership on the school board, Columbia County, Pennsylvania.

In retirement, Pastor Light served as interim pastor, Friedens Lutheran Church, Myerstown, Pennsylvania. He served as a member of the Congregation Council and choir, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Lebanon, Pennsylvania, as well as supply pastor, Sunday Church School teacher, and exchange parent.

He received the Glenn Heasley Award for ministry in Appalachia.

Pastor Light is survived by two sisters, Barbara J. Light and Linda M. Light, a brother, Stephen D. Light and wife Vickie, and a nephew, Michael Johnson.
His memorial service was held November 7, 2019, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Lebanon, Pennsylvania, where he was a member, with the Rev. Gretchen Ierien officiating. Inurnment was at the convenience of his family.

THE REV. DR. HOWARD JOHN McCARNEY
Born April 11, 1921 – Died November 13, 2019
Age 98 years, 7 months, 2 days

THE REV. DR. HOWARD JOHN McCARNEY, son of the late Rev. Guy Emory McCarney and Ethel Hamlen McCarney, was born April 11, 1921, at Sipesville, Pennsylvania, and died November 13, 2019, at Camp Hill, Pennsylvania.

He was baptized April 30, 1921.

He was graduated from Conshohocken High School, Conshohocken, Pennsylvania in 1938; from Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1942 with a bachelor of arts degree; and from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1945 with a master of divinity degree. He received a doctor of divinity degree from Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1963.

Pastor McCarney was ordained by the Central Pennsylvania Synod, United Lutheran Church in America, May 6, 1945, at Memorial Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, while he was a member of St. Mark Lutheran Church, Conshohocken, Pennsylvania. He served as Field Secretary, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, 1945 – 1946; chaplain, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, 1946 – 1950; pastor, Zion Lutheran Church, Middletown, Maryland, 1950 – 1956; St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Hanover, Pennsylvania, 1957 – 1966; president, Central Pennsylvania Synod, Lutheran Church in America, 1966 – 1980; and bishop, Central Pennsylvania Synod, Lutheran Church in America, 1980 – 1987, when he retired.

From 1988 – 2010, he served as visitation pastor, Grace Lutheran Church, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, which congregation, in 2015, awarded him the title Pastor Emeritus.

A brief and incomplete listing of his service during his active ministry includes membership on the Hanover School Board, and membership on the executive boards of the Maryland Synod, the Central Pennsylvania Synod, the Lutheran Church in America, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Gettysburg College and Susquehanna University, the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, and the Pennsylvania Council of Churches. Bishop McCarney was a member of the Commission on a New Lutheran Church, leading to the formation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and co-chair, with Roman Catholic Bishop, Rev. Msgr. (then Cardinal) Keeler, of the Pennsylvania Conference on Inter-Church Cooperation.

Pastor McCarney was an initiator of the Lutheran Church in America World Hunger Appeal. In 1999, the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg awarded him the Distinguished Alumni Award for a Celebration of Lifetime Service. In 1988, the Holy Spirit Hospital, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, awarded him the Community Service Award.

In retirement, Bishop McCarney served as chair of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Committee on Appeals, as supply pastor, as preacher at major events, as Bible Study leader, and as voting member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America churchwide assembly.

On April 7, 1945, at St. Mark Lutheran Church, Conshohocken, Pennsylvania, he was married to Ruth Naomi Sowers McCarney, who survives him. Their marriage was blessed with three daughters: Kathryn Faith McCarney Foster, and Christine Ruth McCarney, who survive him; and Elizabeth “Libby” Jean McCarney, who predeceased him. He is survived by six grandchildren and by nine great-grandchildren. A sister, Miriam McCarney Ehrhart, predeceased him.

At the time of his death, Bishop McCarney was a member of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. His memorial service was held November 30, 2019, at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, with his pastor, the Rev. Virginia J. Cover officiating, assisted by the Rev. Bishop Guy Edmiston and the Rev. Bishop James Dunlop. Burial was private in Rolling Green Cemetery, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania.

THE REV. DR. DONALD RAYMOND PEDERSON
Born August 30, 1936 – Died November 29, 2019
Age 83 years, 2 months, 30 days

THE REV. DR. DONALD RAYMOND PEDERSON, son of the late Hilda and Martin Pederson, was born August 30, 1936, at Westbrook, Minnesota, and died November 29, 2019, at York, Pennsylvania.
He was graduated from Westbrook High School, Westbrook, Minnesota in 1954; from Mankato State College, Mankato, Minnesota in 1963 with a bachelor of science degree; from Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota in 1966 with a master of divinity degree; and from Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa in 1980 with a doctor of ministry degree.


He served in the United States Air Force Reserves, retiring as Lieutenant Colonel. His writing includes materials prepared for the Alban Institute and Clergy Journal.

On August 25, 1962, he was married to Ann Marie Littlefield Pederson, who predeceased him. Their marriage was blessed with three children, all of whom survive him: Kristi Pederson, Mark Pederson and wife Katarina, and Nadine Pederson. He is survived by four grandchildren Andrew and Elena Pederson, and Sebastien and Gabriel Pederson and three siblings, Judy, Jerry, and LaDonna. In addition to his wife Ann, he is predeceased by four siblings, Lloyd, Anna, Harriet, and Alice.

His memorial service was held December 13, 2019, at Salem Lutheran Church, Jacobus, Pennsylvania, where he was a member, with the Rev. Christina Minnich officiating. Interment took place December 16, 2019, in Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville, Pennsylvania.

THE REV. RICHARD CHARLES JONES
Born November 1, 1933 – Died January 6, 2020
Age 86 years, 2 months, 5 days

THE REV. RICHARD CHARLES JONES, son of the late Paul Henry Jones and Catherine Madenford Jones, was born November 1, 1933, at Pine Grove, Pennsylvania, and died January 6, 2020, at Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

He was graduated from Pine Grove High School, Pine Grove, Pennsylvania in 1951; from Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1955 with a bachelor of arts degree; and from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1958 with a master of divinity degree.


During his active ministry and among other areas of service in church and society, Pastor Jones engaged in deaf ministry, especially while serving St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, marched with Civil Rights leader the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Chicago, and supported the Boy Scout program.

In retirement, Pastor Jones served as supply preacher, part-time assistant pastor, Faith United Lutheran Parish, Dillsburg, Pennsylvania, and interim pastor, Flohr Lutheran Church, McKnightstown, Pennsylvania and Quickel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Zion’s View Pennsylvania.

On February 12, 1955, at Reedsdale Evangelical Congregational Church, Schuylkill Haven, Pennsylvania, he was married to Mary Alice Reed Jones, who survives him. Their children survive him: David Richard and wife Pamela, Linda Marie and husband Carl Botti, Peter Reed and wife Maryclare, and Stephen Paul and wife Lisa. He is survived as well by seven grandchildren: David, Jazmine, Reed, Will, Tyler, Danika, and Sephora. He was predeceased by an infant brother.
His memorial service was held January 17, 2020, at St. Mark Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, where he was a member, with the Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull officiating. Inurnment was in St. John’s Lutheran Cemetery, Pine Grove, Pennsylvania.

THE REV. BARBARA JANE WINEY
Born July 24, 1932 – Died February 10, 2020
Age 87 years, 6 months, 17 days


She was graduated from John Harris High School, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in 1950; from Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania in 1954 with a bachelor of arts degree; from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1958 with a master of arts in religion degree; and from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1976 with a master of divinity degree.

Prior to study at the seminary, she taught English at the junior high school level.

Pastor Winey was ordained by the Central Pennsylvania Synod, Lutheran Church in America, March 19, 1978, at Lakeside Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, while she was a member of Grace Lutheran Church, State College, Pennsylvania.

Pastor Winey was the 32nd woman ordained by the Lutheran Church in America.

After receiving the master of arts in religion degree from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, she served full-time as Christian Education Director, 1958 – 1978, Messiah Lutheran Church, South Williamsport, Pennsylvania; Evangelical Lutheran Church, Waynesboro, Pennsylvania; and Grace Lutheran Church, State College, Pennsylvania.


During her active ministry, Pastor Winey served, among other capacities, as a member of the Central Pennsylvania Synod Commission on Ministry and Professional Development Committee, member of the Altoona Co-Mission, and member of the bishop’s Listening Committee.

In retirement, in addition to the pastoral ministry noted above, Pastor Winey served as supply pastor and, in the congregation where she held membership, as a member of the congregation council, communion assistant, choir member, and member of the Evangelism and Stewardship Committee. She also participated in a pericope group.

Pastor Winey is survived by cousins and friends.

Her memorial service was held February 14, 2020, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, York Street, Hanover, Pennsylvania, where she was a member, with the Rev. E. Robert Burkhart officiating. Burial took place February 15, 2020, in Glendale Cemetery, Middleburg, Pennsylvania.

THE REV. GEORGE EDWARD BUECHNER
Born May 4, 1941 – Died February 15, 2020
Age 78 years, 9 months, 11 days

THE REV. GEORGE EDWARD BUECHNER, son of the late Jesse Buechner and Ellen Buechner, was born May 4, 1941, at Syracuse, New York, and died February 15, 2020, at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

He was graduated from North High School, Syracuse, New York in 1959; from the University of Syracuse, Syracuse, New York in 1963 with a bachelor of arts degree; and from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1966 with a master of divinity degree.

Pastor Buechner was ordained by the New York Synod, Lutheran Church in America, June 2, 1966, at

During his active ministry, Pastor Buechner served as a member of the Central Pennsylvania Synod World Hunger Task Force, Committee on Reference and Counsel, Nominating Committee and Stewardship Committee. At one time, he served as secretary of the former Lancaster District and chair, Erie Mission Strategy. He served as a first responder, board member of the Crispus Attucks Center, member of the Advisory Committee to the Spanish-American Civic Association School of Business and Trade, member of the advisory group, Lancaster County Committee on Child Abuse, member of the Steering Committee for Moxham Children’s Ministry, prison volunteer, and administrator, Community Emergency Aid.

On June 16, 1962, at Zion Lutheran Church, Syracuse, New York, he was married to Carolyn J. Bobenhausen Buechner, who survives him. Their marriage was blessed with two children both of whom survive him: David James and wife Kathrine, and Kathleen Marie and husband Ron Bell.

At the time of his death, Pastor Buechner was a member of St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. As this necrology was prepared, his memorial service was pending.

**THE REV. ROBERT “BOB” E. CUSTER**

**Born January 27, 1938 – Died March 8, 2020**

Age 82 years, 1 month, 10 days


During his active ministry, particularly at Berwick, Pastor Custer served with Community Churches United, the Mental Health Association Board, District Cabinet, UNICEF, and participated in Community Ministerial meetings and meetings of district Lutheran pastors. He was always active in youth ministry at congregational, district, and synodical levels and was the contact person for Central Pennsylvania Synod youth staffs. At one time, he served as local CROP Walk chair. He was a volunteer hospital chaplain and served as a marriage and family counselor.

In retirement, Pastor Custer served as interim pastor, Bindnagle Lutheran Church, Palmyra, Pennsylvania, and as supply pastor, Providence Lutheran Church, Bedford, Pennsylvania, where he was a member at the time of his death.

On October 5, 1963, at Bortz Lutheran Church, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, Pastor Custer was married to Judy Arlene Houseworth Custer, who survives him. Their marriage was blessed with three children, all of whom survive him: Heidi Sue Custer and husband David Cook, Gretchen Naomi Custer, and Robert Sheridan Custer and wife Dawn. He is survived by six grandchildren: Caleb Carter, Theodore Cook, Naomi Cook, Silas Custer, Elijah Cook, and Levi Custer. A brother Donald and wife Kay survive him, as do nieces and nephews. Pastor Custer was pre-deceased by a brother Nelson Custer and by four sisters: Eileen Tranter, Geraldine Templeton, Lorraine Marks, and Edna Huff.

As this necrology was prepared, his memorial service was pending.
THE REV. PAUL A. JONES
Born October 3, 1943 – Died April 24, 2020
Age 76 years, 6 months, 21 days

THE REV. PAUL ANDREW JONES, son of the late John Paul Jones and Lorabelle Troxler Jones, was born October 3, 1943, at Syracuse, New York, and died April 24, 2020, in Florida.

He was graduated from Onondaga Valley Academy, Syracuse, New York in 1962; from Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky in 1966 with a bachelor of arts degree; and from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in 1970 with a master of divinity degree.

Pastor Jones was ordained by the Upper New York Synod, Lutheran Church in America, June 8, 1970, at Syracuse, New York, while he was a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement, Syracuse, New York. He served as pastor, Christ Lutheran Church, Water Street, Pennsylvania, and Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Petersburg, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, 1970 – 1973; and St. Peter Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, 1973 – 2005, when he retired.

During his active ministry, Pastor Jones served as a member of the Lewistown District Cabinet and the Petersburg Borough Council. He was active in hospital chaplaincy, Boy Scouts, and Upper Allen Township Parks and Recreation. He served as a fire hall chaplain.

In retirement, he served as visitation pastor, Calvary Lutheran Church, Apollo Beach, Florida, his winter home. During other months, he assisted Pastor DeFrehn, West Shore Conference, Lower Susquehanna Synod, with preaching, teaching confirmation, and providing visitation.

On August 28, 1965, at Syracuse, New York, he was married to Cynthia Ann Vanatta, who survives him. Their marriage was blessed with two children, both of whom survive him: John Andrew and Lora Ann.

At the time of his death, Pastor Jones was a member of St. Peter Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania. As this necrology was prepared, his memorial service was pending.

The Rev. Jeffrey C. Compton, synod necrologist
ELCA REGION 8 ARCHIVES

No report submitted by May 1, 2020.