

Celebrating 50 Years of Ordained Ministry

THE REV. C. DAVID GODSHALL, the son of Luther V. and Elizabeth C. Godshall, was born on December 3, 1934, in Pottstown. He graduated from Muhlenberg College in 1956 and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in 1959.

Following his ordination in May, 1959, he served as pastor of St. Luke, Gilbertsville (1959-1965); St. Mark, Birdsboro (1965-1984); and St. Stephen, Allentown (1984-1999). Following his retirement, he served as interim pastor of St. Timothy, Allentown, and assisted at Grace, Allentown.

Pastor Godshall has served his church and community in many capacities. He has been active with the Birdsboro

Community Ambulance Service, the exchange student program of Boyertown High School, and the ecumenical ministry recognition of the Chapel of the Four Chaplains in Philadelphia. He has served on the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod examining committee, the board of Lutheran Inner Mission Society, Reading, and the Ecumenism Committee of the Lehigh County Conference of Churches, as well as being dean of the Lehigh Mission District and mentor to first-call pastors.

On June 20, 1958, Pastor Godshall married Barbara Groller. They are the parents of three daughters, Dr. Christine Conway, Pastor Amy Godshall-Miller, and Laurie Vlasak.

THE REV. ROY E. GULLIFORD, the son of William E. and Emily M. (Lauff) Gulliford, was born on December 20, 1934, in Philadelphia. He graduated from Gettysburg College in 1956 and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in 1959.

Following his ordination in 1959, Pastor Gulliford served several congregations: St. John (Mayfair), Philadelphia (1959-1960); St. Paul, Lionville (1960-1964); and Reformation, Reiffton (1964-1970).

In 1970 he became executive director of the Eastern Pennsylvania Lutheran Camp Corporation, where he served until his retirement in 1996. He was active in the American Camping Association, serving as section vice president, and also served on the synod's Parish Life Committee.

Pastor Gulliford married Marilyn L. Kreider on May 24, 1958. They are the parents of one son, Bradley.

THE REV. PAUL J. HOH was born on September 27, 1934, in Lancaster, the son of Ernest J. and Ruth C. (Kirsch) Hoh. He graduated from Denison University, Granville, Ohio (1955) and

the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia (1959).

Ordained by the Central Pennsylvania Synod in 1959, Pastor Hoh's first call

was as pastor of Christ, Reading (1959-1966). In 1967 he became the executive director of the Reading-Berks Human Relations Council. In 1969 he joined the staff of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod as an Assistant to the President, a position he held until 1975 when he became pastor of St. John, Reading. In 1992 he became Vice President for Inner Mission and Community Ministries for the Lutheran Home at Topton, where he served until his retirement in 1997.

Pastor Hoh's involvement in church and community has been extensive and diverse. His church service has included the boards of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and the Lutheran Coalition on Public Policy, the management committee of the LCA's Division for Mission in North America,

and the social ministry committee of the Pennsylvania Council of Churches. In the realm of community service, he has been involved with the Reading Redevelopment Authority, the Berks County Prison Society, the YMCA of Reading and Berks County, Glenside Community Association, the Equal Opportunity Council of Berks County, and the Reading Parking Authority. From 1965 to 1966 he served as a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and from 1995 to 2002 he was president of the Reading City Council.

Pastor Hoh was married to Mary (Kate) C. Houseman on June 17, 1956. They are the parents of four children, Christopher, Robyn, Eric and Scott.

THE REV. RICHARD L. MILLER was born on December 10, 1932, in Centerport. His parents were Clark T. and Dorothy (Rentschler) Miller. A 1954 graduate of Albright College, he then graduated from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in 1959. He was ordained on May 15, 1959, by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania.

Following his ordination, Pastor Miller served as assistant pastor of St. John,

Boyertown, from 1959 to 1961. In 1961 he was called as pastor of Holy Cross, Bethlehem, and he served there until his retirement in 1996.

On August 5, 1961, Pastor Miller was married to Judith Mae Dotterer. They are the parents of three children, Rebecca Ann, Michael David, and Matthew Daniel.

THE REV. ELTON P. RICHARDS was born on July 24, 1932, in Chester, Pennsylvania, the son of Elton P. and Lillian (Russell) Richards. He graduated from Dickinson College in 1954 and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at

Philadelphia in 1959. He earned a Master of Theology degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1966. He has also been awarded honorary degrees by both Muhlenberg and Albright Colleges.

Ordained on May 15, 1959, by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, Pastor Richards served the following congregations: St. Paul, Ardmore (1959-1961); Resurrection, Levittown (1962-1968); Trinity, Reading (1968-1989); St. John, Des Moines, Iowa (1989-1997). Following his retirement in 1997, he continued to serve the church as an interim pastor and through his involvement with Grandview College.

Pastor Richards has been involved in a variety of civic, social and humanitarian agencies, including Community General

Hospital, United Way, the Lutheran Home at Topton, the Greater Reading Council of Churches, Planned Parenthood, Berks County Senior Citizens Council, the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, Muhlenberg College, and Albright College. He has been highly regarded as a preacher both in the Lutheran Church and ecumenically and has been heard on The Protestant Hour. On June 23, 1962, Pastor Richards married Anne Elizabeth Schland. They are the parents of two sons, Elton Russell and David Roy.

THE REV. DALE E. SANDSTROM was born on June 24, 1933, in Enderlin, North Dakota. His parents were Arthur M. and Anne (Langland) Sandstrom. In 1955 he graduated from Concordia College, Morehead, Minnesota, and in 1959 he completed his seminary education at Luther Seminary. In 1972 he earned an MBA degree in hospital administration from Wagner College. He was ordained in Glendive, Montana, on July 11, 1959, by the American Lutheran Church.

Following his ordination, Pastor Sandstrom served the following congregations: Bethany Eidsvold, Big Fork MN (1959-1963); Shiloh, Elmore MN (1963-1967); Our Savior, Staten Island NY (1967-1972); and Holy Trinity, Rockaway NJ (1972-1978). From 1972

to 1978 he served as Assistant Administrator and then Assistant Vice President of Nyack Hospital, Nyack NY. In 1978 he was called to serve as president of The Good Shepherd Home and Rehabilitation Hospital, Allentown, where he served until 1995.

Always active in the field of social ministry, Pastor Sandstrom served as secretary of the Lutheran Social Services System, and as chair of the Association of Christian Social Ministry Executives, and was involved with the American College of Health Care Administrators.

On June 5, 1956, Pastor Sandstrom was married to Lillian Gustavsen. They are the parents of three children, Peter Dale, Marcus Rolf, and Kari Lynn.

THE REV. WILLIAM H. SUNDERLAND, the son of Percy and Marie (Emilius) Sunderland, was born on January 9, 1933, in Philadelphia. He graduated

from Muhlenberg College in 1956 and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in 1959. He was ordained

in that year at Immanuel, Souderton, by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania.

Following his ordination Pastor Sunderland served as assistant pastor of Grace, Shillington, from 1959 to 1966, when he became senior pastor of that congregation. In 1979 he was called as executive director of the Lutheran Inner Mission Society (East Berks, West Berks and Schuylkill districts) where he

served until his retirement in 1991. Following retirement he became the executive director of the Reading Emergency Shelter. He also served as a contract chaplain at Wernersville State Hospital and as interim and supply pastor at numerous congregations.

Pastor Sunderland married Mae A. Garito on April 28, 1962. They are the parents of one daughter, Ruth Ann.

THE REV. DONALD W. WERT, the son of Raymond E. and Mildred G. (Kidd) Wert, was born on May 29, 1933, in Catasauqua. He graduated from Moravian College in 1956 and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia in 1959.

He was ordained on May 23, 1959, by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania. He served as pastor of the Line Mountain parish (1959-1962); the Grimsville parish/Zion, Krumsville (1962-1973); St. Paul, Orwigsburg (1973-1979); Huffs, Huffs, and New Jerusalem, New Jerusalem (1979-1986); and Union, Neffs (1986-1995). Following his

retirement in 1995, he has continued to serve as an interim and supply pastor.

Pastor Wert has been active in church and community activities throughout his career. He served as mission district dean and as a member of the synod Stewardship Committee, Rural and Appalachian Ministry Committee, and Executive Board.

On July 31, 1954, Pastor Wert married Janice Ruth Reichard. They are the parents of three children, Robert Thomas, Ronald Timothy and Randall Todd.