

MEMORIAL FOR THE REV. BRUCE RODERIC MILLER

The Reverend Bruce R. Miller, Honorably Retired member of Albany Presbytery, passed away on Thursday, September 12, 2019, in Manchester, NH.

Bruce was born on July 6, 1930, in Trenton, NJ. He graduated from Maryville College in 1953 and from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1956. He served as a Staff Sergeant in the New Jersey National Guard from 1947 to 1950. He married Isabel Leitch on August 21, 1954, and they had two children: Deborah Isabelle and James Bruce. He was ordained by New Brunswick Presbytery on May 29, 1956. He served the Churchville Presbyterian Church in Churchville, Maryland from 1956 to 1961, and the First Presbyterian Church in Enfield, Connecticut from 1961 to 1967.

Bruce joined Albany Presbytery and was installed as pastor at United-Fourth Presbyterian Church in Albany on September 10, 1967. He served as pastor at United-Fourth for over 20 years until January 20, 1988. He went on disability leave with the Board of Pensions in the summer of 1988, and was designated as honorably retired by Albany Presbytery on November 21, 1989. He provided volunteer pastoral care at Villa Mary Immaculate Nursing Home (3 days a week) and Teresian House (2 days a week) in Albany following his retirement, as well as serving on the presbytery's Session Records Committee. He also provided pulpit supply at numerous churches within the Presbytery and was a Parish Associate at Christ's Church Presbyterian in Catskill for a time after retirement.

Bruce and Isabel became active at New Scotland Presbyterian Church in the late 1980's. Isabel joined as a member, while Bruce taught some classes, and sometimes served as pulpit supply when the pastor was on vacation. Bruce became part-time Interim Pastor at New Scotland Presbyterian Church in 1996 and served in that capacity until May 31, 1998. Bruce and Isabel continued to be active at New Scotland when they called the Rev. Holly Cameron as pastor in 1998. Bruce was known as "the pastor in the pew," and was a great supporter of the congregation and the larger community. Bruce was a friend to all who met him. He loved sports and kept up with everyone's favorite teams, and he continued to visit the local hospitals and nursing homes to offer pastoral care for those in need. When his beloved Isabel needed full-time care, Bruce was at the facility every day for lunch and dinner to be sure she was cared for. When she died in 2011, Bruce moved to New Hampshire to be closer to family.

He is survived by his children Deborah and James, and grandson Sean.

A memorial service for Bruce will be held Saturday, October 12, 2019, at 11:30 a.m. at the New Scotland Presbyterian Church.