



Presbytery of the Cascades

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9/13/2021

Dear Colleagues,

The Reverend Dr. William (Bill) Creevey died on August 24, 2021. He was 90 years old. Bill was born April 24, 1931. Bill was a graduate of Whitworth College in 1953 and Princeton Theological Seminary in 1956. After seminary he spent a year at New College, Edinburgh University, Scotland, in New Testament Studies.

Bill was ordained in June of 1957 by the Presbytery of West Jersey in order to serve as Assistant Pastor of Woodland Park Presbyterian Church in Seattle, Washington. Bill soon became Pastor (Head of Staff) of Woodland Park Presbyterian Church in 1960 and remained there until 1967 when he was called to Westminster Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, California. During his time at Westminster he furthered his education with a seven month sabbatical at the Graduate School of Ecumenical Studies at the University of Geneva, Switzerland.

In 1979 he was called from Westminster to St. Peter's by the Sea in Rancho Palos Verdes, California and then called to First Presbyterian Church of Portland in the Presbytery of the Cascades in August, 1985. Bill was responsible for several social justice outreach programs during his time at First, Portland. Bill remained at First, Portland until retirement in June of 1997. He was later honored as their pastor emeritus.

After retirement Bill continued ministry as Interim Chaplain and Visiting Professor of Ministry at San Francisco Theological Seminary for a year. He served as a regional representative and Network Facilitator for the PCUSA's Theological Education Funding Network. He did interim pastoral work in Minnesota, at Valley Community Presbyterian Church, Portland and at Cascades Presbyterian Church, Vancouver.

Bill was widely known as a prophetic preacher with a heart for social justice and ecumenism. He spent time learning, lecturing, writing and in leadership for the PCUSA as well as for various arms of the World Council of Churches, especially the Ecumenical Institute. In Oregon, he served as President of the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon in 1993. He was part of the World Council of Churches delegations to North and South Korea in the 1980s. He served as a Trustee for Whitworth College and San Francisco Theological

Seminary at various times. He was the PCUSA preacher for the One Day broadcast during 1999.

Bill is survived by his wife Gladys, children Pamela and Mark and their families. A service for Bill will be held at First Presbyterian Church, Portland at 3 pm on September 19th, 2021.

Paul Belz-Templeman
Stated Clerk, Presbytery of the Cascades
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