

# WRA Recognitions - 2011 Fall Annual Meeting

## Authorization for Ministry since Oct. 2010:

### Ordinations:

Adam Hange, ordained January 16, 2011. Serving at Plymouth Church UCC in Shaker Hts..  
Daniel Cooperider, ordained May14, 2011. Called to serve in the Massachusetts Conf.  
Dawn Meier, ordained June 26, 2011. Called to serve in the Penn Central Conf.

### Licensed:

Sara Ross. Licensed to Archwood UCC in Cleveland (*until ordained*).  
Carol Leahey. Licensed to Bethany UCC in Cleveland.  
Jenei Grigg. Licensed to Archwood UCC in Cleveland.  
Colin Jones. Licensed to Shaker Heights Community Church.  
Imani Jones. Licensed to Shaker Heights Community Church.  
Charlotte A. Brown. Licensed to Auburn Community Church in Chagrin Falls.  
Michele Teague-Humphrey. Licensed to Imani UCC in Euclid.

### Granted Partnership Standing:

Bradley Donahue. Serving at Lorain Christian Temple DOC.

### Standing Transfers to the W.R.A.:

James H. Cunningham Retired. Transferred from EOA, Ohio Conf.  
Barbara J. Essex National Office. Transferred from New York Conf.

## 2011 Anniversaries of Ordination

### 5 years

Stephen Adams  
Karen Farthing

### 10 years

Eric Bentrrott  
Elizabeth Terrill

### 20 years

Mary Schaller Blaufuss  
Mary Joseph  
Mary Kay Krejci  
Sally Wile

### 25 years

Lucille Abernathy  
Felix Carrion

Stephanie Haines  
Joan Ishibashi  
Mark Suriano

30 years  
Ronald Dauphin

35 years  
Wayne Brass  
Dan DeWeese  
Patricia J. Hough  
Thomas Marlin

40 years  
Jim Cunningham  
Leah Matthews  
Johnathan F. Moody

50 years  
Thomas Dipko  
John Sykes

## **Significant Local Church Anniversaries**

Dover Congregational UCC in Westlake - 200 years

## **Members in Discernment**

Brandy Bring  
Joe Cistone  
Terri Gelzer  
Edith Guffey  
Veronica Jefferson  
Susi Kawolics  
Sandie King  
JaRon Smith  
Joanna Wright Smith D'Agostino  
Sue Tamilio  
Alex Throckmorton  
Jeff Williams

## **Necrology**

**Rev. Homer Kopke** died on October 28, 2010. He was a minister at St. Paul's, Woodsfield; Immanuel, Cleveland; West Side UCC, Cleveland; First Congregational Church of Claridon, and provided pulpit supply and was an interim for many churches in the Cleveland area. His funeral was Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> at First Congregational, Claridon.

**Rev. Herbert Reichert**, who served as Chaplain of Deaconess Hospital for many years and who served the Western Reserve Association in a variety of ways. He was a faithful and devoted servant of God who died on October 29 in California, and services were held Nov. 11, 2010 at Middleburg Heights Community Church.

**Keith Kenneth Brooks**, husband of Interim Association Minister of the Western Reserve Association Donna Brooks, passed away on October 14, 2010 after a long illness. Keith practiced law in both Cleveland and Chardon and served for ten years as a volunteer adult guardianship attorney. He took great pride in serving as the president of the Mental Health Association for fifteen years, during which time he received the annual Geauga County Behavioral Health Advocacy Award. He also was a founding member of Welcome House, a facility for those with developmental challenges. Keith was an actively involved church member as well, having served as Moderator of the Community Church of Chesterland and he was an active participant in the churches Donna served as Pastor.

Keith and Donna, married 42 years, found joy in spending quality time with their four children and two granddaughters. Keith loved the outdoors, participating in many sport activities with the children as they grew up. He was an avid golfer, and he liked both sailing and deep sea diving. Keith graduated from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine and received both his law degree and an M.B.A. from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. Donna and Keith were deeply grateful for the Hospice of the Western Reserve who provided holistic care for both Donna and Keith at the end of his life.

**Rev. Charles W. Kline** died on April 22, 2011. He was a retired minister, having served in the Western Reserve Association as pastor at Strongsville UCC from 1968-1996. His funeral was April 26<sup>th</sup> at the Jardine Funeral Home in Strongsville.

**Rev. Dr. H. Richard Bucey** died on September 7, 2011. Dick served both the WRA and the EOA in significant ways. He was a retired minister who had served at Trinity UCC, Cleveland; Avon Lake UCC; Old Stone Church, Cleveland; Hudson First Congregational; as well as several churches in Florida. Dick was a mentor to young people, many of whom followed him into the ministry; a counselor to many in times of trouble; and an inspiring preacher who never flinched from the responsibility of relating the gospel of love to the difficult issues of our times: racial justice, war, poverty, world hunger, and the liberation of oppressed people across the world. His memorial service was held at First Congregational in Hudson on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Rev. Paul E. Rohrbaugh** died on September 17, 2011. Paul served as pastor in United Church of Christ churches in Cleveland, Upper Sandusky, Genoa, Richmond Hts. and Kent. He also served as moderator of the Northwest Ohio Synod of the United Church of Christ and as president of the United Church Homes. In his retirement, he and his wife Marian participated in

20 mission trips to Mexico and South and Central American countries to provide eye care in impoverished areas. A memorial service was held on October 16<sup>th</sup> at the Dover Congregational UCC in Westlake.

**Rev. George W. Eberhard** passed away on Saturday, October 22, 2011. Rev. Eberhard was a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and Eden Seminary and was called to serve St. Johns Evangelical and Reformed Church (now called Orchard Hill United Church of Christ in Chillicothe, OH.), Eighth United Church of Christ, Fellowship United Church of Christ (a new church start) and Trinity UCC (next to Metro General Hospital). He was a civil rights advocate and active in many community organizations and institutions throughout his life. His funeral will be held on Tuesday, October 25th at 7PM at Fellowship United Church of Christ, 30040 Ridge Road, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Calling hours will be at the church before the funeral from 5-7PM.