

Clergy Obituaries – 2007

REV. CHARLES OSWALD BURRILL

Rev. Charles Burrill was born in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. He dedicated his life to the Lord's service and in over half a century of ordained ministry, lovingly shepherded congregations in Boiestown, Oromocto and Minto in New Brunswick and in Upper Stewiacke, Port Maitland and Halifax in Nova Scotia. In 1993, he retired from active ministry but continued serving the Lord with preaching engagements in various churches in the Halifax area.

Rev. Burrill passed away on May 30, 2007 at the age of 78. He is survived by his wife, Janet; three daughters, Jane, Wanda and Donna; six grandchildren, Joshua, Kaleb, Micah, Sarah, Rachel, and Matthew and three brothers, Henry, Prescott and Fred.

REV. WILLARD PARKER CLAYTON

Rev. Willard Parker Clayton was born in Liverpool, Nova Scotia. He excelled as a mature student earning a Bachelor of Arts, Divinity and Education degrees from Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia. He earned the Doctor of Religion degree from Geneva St. Alban's Theological College, North Carolina, USA. He was Life President of the class of 1948 Horton Academy, Wolfville. He obtained Diplomas in Administration and Special Education from the N. S. Department of Education.

He was a student pastor in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Following ordination in 1952, he served as pastor of the African United Baptist Association of Nova Scotia churches: Windsor Plains, Lucasville, Upper Hammonds Plains, Guysborough Road, Weymouth Falls, Acaciaville and Beechville. Mr. Clayton also served as pastor at New Tusket, Bethel Baptist and Riverside churches in Nova Scotia and as associate pastor of Cornwallis Street Baptist Church, Halifax. Mr. Clayton retired in 1998 after completing 46 years of service in the Baptist ministry.

Rev. Clayton passed away on April 17, 2007 at the age of 85. He is survived by his wife, Jean; three daughters, Joyce, Shelley and Heather; one sister, Rhona; one brother, Andrew and many nieces and nephews.

REV. PATRICIA SHIRLEY "PAT" GOW

Rev. Patricia Gow was born in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia. She was a graduate of Acadia University with degrees in Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Education, Master of Divinity and Master of Theology (Pastoral Care). She also studied at the Andover Newton Theological School in Newton Center, Massachusetts where she worked toward a Doctor of Ministry Degree. Pat was ordained in 1989. She worked at Acadia University as Adjunct Faculty at the Divinity College teaching Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), Grief Counseling and Basic and Advanced Pastoral Counseling. She worked as the Coordinator of Valley Pastoral Counseling at the Eastern Kings Memorial Community Health Center. Pat was Chaplain for three years at the Cape Breton Psychiatric

Hospital in Sydney, Nova Scotia. She had also been an Associate Teaching Supervisor with the Canadian Association for Pastoral Practice and Education (CAPPE). Pat served as Interim Minister at various local churches.

Rev. Gow passed away on October 17, 2007 at the age of 57. She is survived by her parents, Frank and Shirley; one brother, Peter; one sister, Sharon; two nieces, Jennifer and Denise; many aunts, uncles and cousins.

REV. THOMAS DAVID MCGAW

Rev. Thomas McGaw was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He was a graduate of Graham Creighton High School. He received his B.A. in Biblical Studies at Atlantic Baptist College (1984), M.Div., M.R.E. from Acadia Divinity College (1988) and a Diploma in Applied Information Technology (1998). Tom was ordained in 1989. He served as summer student pastor in the Guysborough Field of Baptist Churches and Port Mouton. He served as pastor in Baptist Churches in Arcadia, Chebogue, Rockville, New Canada, Northwest, Mahone Bay, and Lawrencetown in Nova Scotia. Tom provided pulpit supply from time to time since 2005. He served on the Board of Governors, Atlantic Baptist University. Tom was an active member of the Lawrencetown and Bridgetown Volunteer Fire Departments. Since 2005, he worked as Team Lead at Convergys in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia.

Rev. McGaw passed away on October 31, 2007 at the age of 48. He is survived by his wife, Roxanne; one son, Bruce; one daughter, Rebecca; his mother, Helen; two brothers, Dan and Jackson; two sisters, Debbie and Tina; one niece, Danielle and one nephew, Shane.

REV. JOHN WILLIAM PORTER

Rev. John Porter was born in Blomidon, Nova Scotia. He earned the degrees B.A., B.Ed. and M.Div. He served in five pastorates during his 40 years in the ministry and in 10 churches as Interim Pastor during his 15 years of retirement.

Rev. Porter passed away on May 2, 2007 at the age of 79. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis; one son, Keith; one daughter, Shelagh; two grandchildren, Dawn and Christopher; one sister, Hilda and many nieces and nephews.