

The Presbyterian Family

After welcoming John Davidson to the Rochester Presbyterian Home, I realized again how important the Presbyterian family is to us in Genesee Valley. After John lost his wife Mary Lou, a loss felt by the whole Presbytery, he still has a home among friends. Firth Perryman, another RPH resident and member of Webster Presbyterian Church, helped me welcome John.

The past 16 months as RPH Chaplain I too have enjoyed being with RPH residents, who were my parishioners of Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 2001-2009: Donna and Hi Quine, Marilyn Mould, Lynn Loveland, and Jim Hughes. Donna became the RPH book keeper when she first arrived. Marilyn's son and daughter-in-law, Jack and Ann – members of Third Presbyterian, regularly visit.

So when it was time for Donna to pass over to the glory within the Communion of Saints in 2013, we were with her and with Hi, who continues to be with us on this side of that great Communion.

Then in May we said our good-byes to the Rev. James Hughes, the founding Pastor of Christ Clarion Presbyterian Church in Pittsford, and a member of a spirituality group with me for over 11 years. Spiritus Christi Pastor Jim Callen joined Pat Youngdahl and me to celebrate James' life on May 23 at Downtown Church.

On May 29 Lynn Loveland, having moved to the Episcopal Home, entered the eternal rest she so desired these past several months. For her pain has ended, and she weeps no more. But her Presbyterian family was with her.

In the Presbytery of Genesee Valley we are blessed to have the Rochester Presbyterian Home, as well as Kirkhaven and Valley Manor, places where we can enjoy being with members of our extended Presbyterian family. In the midst of life's struggles God's blessings abound.

The Rev. Gordon Webster

Chaplain, Rochester Presbyterian Home