## Rev. Alvin Boettcher

The Rev. Alvin H. Boettcher, 95, of the Mayflower died Monday, Feb. 9, at the Mayflower Health Care Center.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday at the Grinnell United Church of Christ – Congregational, with the Revs. Vicki Englemann and Bob Molsberry officiating. Organist was Alice Renaud, and soloist was Bill Surburg. Burial was in Buckingham Cemetery, Traer, with the Smith Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

He was born on a farm near New Hampton on May 6, 1902 and was the son of Adolph and Hannah Christoph Boettcher. He was a 1921 graduate of New Hampton High School and received his B.A. in psychology from the University of Iowa in 1925. After helping on the family farm for a year, he enrolled in the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology, Oberlin, Ohio, in the fall of 1926 and earned a divinity degree in May 1929.

He was ordained at Pilgrim Congregational Church in Metamora, Mich., where he also served as pastor. He then served as pastor of Riply Congregational Church in Traer.

On Aug. 7, 1935, he was married to Ruth R. Beecher in Traer. He served in six other churches in the Iowa Conference in the communities of Olds, Denmark, Reinbeck, Dubuque, Emmetsburg and Belle Plaine. He retired from the active parish ministry in June 1973 and moved with his wife to the Mayflower.

Mr. Boettcher served as a member of the board of directors of the Iowa Congregational Christian Conference, a member of the Iowa Conference Ministries Council and chairman of the Iowa Conference Board of Missionary Education and Stewardship. He was active with the Grinnell Lions Club and the Boy Scouts of America and did volunteer work at the Mayflower.

Surviving are his wife; two children, Paul of Cedar Rapids and Janet Hannasch of Omaha, Neb.; five grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and one brother, Raymond of Shelburne, Vt. He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Arthur.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mayflower Human Needs Fund or the United Church of Christ – Congregational.

H-R February 12, 1998