

Rev. Mary Margaret Thiel, 60

Rev. Dr. Mary Margaret Johnson Thiel, 60, of Punxsutawney, Pa., died Sunday, March 9, 1997, at her home.

Memorial services will be held on Saturday, March 22 at 11:00 a.m. at the United Church in Deep River, with burial of cremains to follow in the Golden Rod Cemetery at Deep River.

Mary Margaret was born October 30, 1936, at Rice Lake, Wis., the daughter of Charles Ritchie Johnson and Dorothy Katherine Perry. She graduated from Alma College in Alma, Mich., and completed her graduate work at the University of Pittsburgh. She received her master of divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and earned a doctor of ministry from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill.

She served on the Council of Women in the Church for the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., and was instrumental in the founding of the Womens Center of Princeton Theological Seminary. She was a member of the Coalition for Appalachian Ministry and had previously served as Pastor for the Punxsutawney Area Ministries. She cur-

rently served as Associate for Women's Ministries for the Synods of Trinity and Covenant and was also the Parish Associate and Lay Liturgist for the Punxsutawney Presbyterian Church.

Mary had previously served as Pastor of the Deep River United Church in Deep River.

She enjoyed many pastimes, including gardening, music, trains, reading, sewing and decorating her home. She enjoyed a good story and loved to laugh. Her friends and family were very important to her, and she delighted in her cats. Her entire life was spent in the service of the church.

Mary Margaret is survived by her two daughters, Elizabeth Thiel of Iowa City; and Katherine Thiel of Sunderland, Mass.; one brother, Rev. Timothy Johnson of Newark, N.Y.; and one sister, Mrs. Katherine South of Whitham, England.

Memorials may be made to the Punxsutawney Women's Shelter, the Pittsburgh Zoo or the United Church of Deep River.

Watts Funeral Home was in charge of local arrangements.

MR March 19, 1997