

Rev. Dr. James H. Mennerick

The Rev. Dr. James Mennerick is a graduate of Elmhurst College. He graduated from Eden Theological Seminary with Master of Divinity degree in May of 1968. His time at Eden included an Intern Year (1966-'67) at Morningside UCC, Inglewood, CA. This congregation had been served by Rev. John Flucke, father of Lolly Wehrli. Jim was ordained on June 2, 1968, at his home church, St. John United of Christ, Wood River, IL. In 1985, he received the Doctor of Ministry degree from Eden Theological Seminary.

Jim was called first to serve Hope United Church of Christ, Belleville, IL. After 6 ½ years he received the call to serve as Associate Pastor/Administrator of what would become THE WELL Community Center in a new housing development at Glen Carbon, IL. This was a joint venture of the Illinois South Conference, Eden Church, and the National UCC Division of Evangelism & Church Extension under the banner of Do & Tell Evangelism. He served on the Church & Ministry Committee of the Illinois Conference/Association. In 1977, he received the Kiwanis Glen Carbon Citizen of the Year award.

In 1978 he was called to serve Trinity United Church of Christ, Jasper, IN, where he served for over nineteen years. During that time he supervised three intern students from Eden Seminary and one theology student from Germany. He took part in mission trips to Honduras and Puerto Rico. While in the Indiana-Kentucky Conference he served as Moderator, member of the Board of Directors, and co-chaired the IKC-EKU Partnership Committee with the Church of Westphalia and took part in people-to-people exchange trips with German church members. He also chaired the Church and Ministry Committee for the Lincolnland Association. In addition, he served on the Dubois County Boys Home board, Dubois County Hospice, and the Hoyleton Children's Home board.

Jim was next called to St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Grand Haven, MI, during which time he chaired the Church & Ministry Committee in the Grand West Association.

This ministry was followed by a call to be Chaplain at Parkside Meadows Retirement Community in St. Charles, MO. With worship there on Sunday afternoons, Jim was available to supply and preach at a variety of congregations in the Eastern Association where he also served on the Committee on Ministry.

Upon retirement, after five years at Parkside, Jim was called to serve as Minister of Visitation at St. John United Church of Christ, St. Charles, MO. In this position he served 7 ½ years before retiring for good.

Over the years he served as a delegate to General Synod meetings in Washington, DC, Ames, IA, Cleveland, OH, Atlanta, GA, and Hartford, CT.

Jim is married to Ruth Kolze Mennerick who is a retired teacher. They have three married children, eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. He enjoys furniture refinishing and chair caning. He and Ruth enjoy national and international travel -- including mystery trips planned for and taken with grandchildren.