



Elizabeth Kuehl

Biographical Information

The Reverend Elizabeth Kuehl grew up in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. She is a graduate of Wellesley College where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in English in 1975. For over twenty-five years, Elizabeth worked in the reinsurance industry in New York City, Bermuda, Chicago, Baltimore and Philadelphia. The highlight of her career was meeting Phil Kuehl on opening day at Wrigley Field in Chicago on a blustery April day in 1987. She is grateful to the company that invited them both to attend the event but still regrets that the Cubs lost to their arch rival the St. Louis Cardinals! Despite different loyalties on the field, they were married in the chapel at Fourth Presbyterian Church Chicago in May of 1988.

In September of 2002, Elizabeth and Phil moved to Boston so that Elizabeth could study for ministry while Phil continued to work in the insurance industry. She studied at Harvard Divinity School, Gordon-Conwell (Pastoral Mentored Ministry at Hartford Street Presbyterian Church Natick, Massachusetts) and Caritas Holy Family Hospital where she spent two consecutive summers serving as chaplain in the Clinical Pastoral Education certification program. Her senior research paper at Harvard was a study of John Calvin. In addition to defending the paper she used the material to enliven her preaching and develop Sunday school programs. She received her Master of Divinity degree from Harvard University in June of 2005 and was ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA) on August 13, 2006 at Fourth Presbyterian Church in South Boston, Massachusetts.

Elizabeth and Phil were active members of Fourth from 2002 to 2006 and served in many different capacities. Phil served on Session for three years and Elizabeth taught Sunday school, worked with youth, led two searches for youth leaders, worked at the summer camp and assisted in worship services. It was a very important place and time for them. The Reverend Burns Stanfield, was their pastor but also the Presbyterian advisor at Harvard. He grew up in Des Moines, Iowa about twelve miles from Phil's hometown of Indianola, Iowa.

Elizabeth accepted a call to serve as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church Auburndale and led the congregation from September 2006 to June of 2009. Highlights of that call include a mission trip to Washington D.C., participation in the Tampa Bay Presbytery REACH initiative to make new disciples for Christ and worship that found expression in local missions.