



Rev. Neeta R. Nichols

March 24, 1948 - March 2, 2024

Pastor Neeta R. Nichols was a member of Detroit Presbytery since 1993. She served 11 different congregations as Interim Pastor and also served briefly as the Presbytery's Acting Head of Staff. She earned an undergraduate degree in religion and philosophy from Defiance College in Ohio and a Master of Divinity degree from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Neeta was ordained as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament in 1973 to serve First Presbyterian Church, Adrian, Michigan. In 2023 Neeta celebrated 50 years of ministry, mostly in transitional (interim) settings. Her gift was to quickly assess a situation, help the congregation understand its situation, and offer appropriate options for resolution.

Neeta is quoted as saying, "I enjoy serving in a setting where people have a healthy commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ, are concerned about living in faithfulness to Christ, and are open to new possibilities for expression of their faith. I believe the Church must be open to new possibilities for expressing ancient rituals so that its message can be viable and vital with this generation."

Neeta served the Presbytery via committee work, including seven terms on Committee on Ministry, two terms on Committee on Preparation for Ministry, and two terms on the Permanent Judicial Commission. She was part of the Worship Committee for the 2014 General Assembly meeting in Detroit,

planning opening worship and the daily serving of the Lord's Supper. Neeta had an active role in the workings of the Synod of the Covenant, and she was a delegate to the GA in 1980 and in 2001.

On January 1, 2020, Neeta retired from parish ministry. After an interim position with the Presbytery of Detroit, serving as co-Head of Staff, Neeta found a church home at First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak, ultimately not staying retired for long and serving as their parish associate until her death.

Neeta was an enthusiastic volunteer at the Detroit Zoo and had a special fondness for the Polk Penguin Center.

Neeta enjoyed travel and visited Egypt, Ukraine, Russia and Belarus in recent years. Music played a part in her free time, as did the challenge of Sudoku. A diehard coffee fan, Neeta enjoyed a daily latte from Starbucks and spending time with her family.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 1:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak. The service may be viewed through livestream at <https://vimeo.com/924360743>

Memorial contributions to First Presbyterian Chorale Scholars Program or the Detroit Zoo.

Cemetery Details

First Presbyterian Church Columbarium

529 Hendrie Boulevard
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 6. 1:00 PM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak
529 Hendrie Boulevard
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Tribute Wall



“ *Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Rev. Neeta R. Nichols*



Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors - March 30, 2024 at 08:40 AM

TF

“ *Neeta was my liaison from the Maumee Valley Presbytery during my years as a candidate for ministry in the early 1980s. She was a wonderful mentor and friend. I went on to Princeton Theological Seminary and was ordained by the Muskingum Valley Presbytery in 1990. Neeta led the prayers of intercession in my service of ordination. I later married The Rev. Dr. Richard E. Fouse, who served as Interim Pastor at Royal Oak Presbyterian Church in the mid 1990s.*

The Rev. Kimberly Buechner Fouse - April 06, 2024 at 07:07 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rev. Neeta R. Nichols.*



April 05, 2024 at 09:37 AM

CV

“ *She was a wonderful person and a good friend.
She will be missed. Blessings and peace to the
Family.*



Carole vogt - April 04, 2024 at 04:40 PM

SC

“ *I am so saddened by this news. Neeta was a significant mentor to me when I dared to pursue a Master’s Degree in Pastoral Ministry when I was 58 years old. Her spirit has been with me since 2006 and will be with me all the remaining days of my life.* ❤️🙏



Sharon Campbell - March 29, 2024 at 10:13 PM