

Rev. Gary Miller, a Remembrance

I don't remember when I first met Gary Miller, but it must have been shortly after he arrived at Asylum Hill Congregational Church in 1998. They had already opened their doors to the neighborhood NRZ and members of the church were working with residents to create our first strategic plan and build up this new organization. We didn't keep very good records in those days, but I recall that whenever we needed any help, a place to meet or anything else, AHCC was the place to go.

He was always very busy, so I don't remember him attending lots of meetings, but I do remember that talking to Gary was a different experience. He was always in a really good mood, and when he spoke to you, you were the only thing on his mind.

Over time, AHNA became stronger and better organized, and Gary's influence at AHCC continued to grow. His selfless love for all God's children, especially those in this neighborhood, inspired parishioners and community members alike. Other's can tell how many new parishioners joined the church in the 13 years that he was senior pastor. I can only tell the effect it had on the neighborhood. It was his energy that inspired the small group of parishioners to begin the dream that years later became the Asylum Hill Boys & Girls Club for one. And anyone whose been to Fellowship Sunday at AHCC, where all of the organizations that receive support from the church are acknowledged, will know that there are many, many more. We can never know what life in Asylum Hill would be like if Gary Miller had not come to AHCC, and I'm glad for that. I believe, his warmth, wisdom and above all, his selfless love has not passed on with him. It has gone to seed in the hearts and minds of all of us who knew him. It's up to us to nurture it so it grows and blossoms into a gift that we can pass on to others. I'm sure that's what he would want. More info is available at

http://www.ctucc.org/news/20161026_miller_obit.html and on Facebook at rev gary miller

