



## Mary A. Lunde

March 14, 2016

Lunde, Mary A. age 75, of Crystal, entered into God's final great adventure on 3/14/16. The only child of Ivan and Pearl Lunde, she grew up on a small dairy and tobacco farm near Westby, WI. An avid reader from childhood, Mary soon felt the pull of a bigger world filled with people to meet, places to go and things to do. At Luther College, Mary found life-long friends, began to shape her progressive political views, and received a life-changing opportunity to study and travel abroad. Those things, plus a love of all things New Orleans - especially Jazz, set the themes for much of Mary's life journey. In the early 1980's, to her own great surprise, Mary encountered God's grace and heard God's call to ministry. She enrolled at Luther-Northwestern Seminary and graduated in 1987. She was ordained on Sept. 18, 1988. Pasto Mary served parishes in Fergus Falls, MN, Jacksonville IA, and Brooten, MN. Mary thought of these years as the most significant part of her life. She enjoyed the people, felt privileged to share in some of their most important occasions and was sent out every day to proclaim the miracle of God's love and forgiveness for you and me and the whole human family - yes, we're family all God's loved children! Think about that. As Mary often said "it's always the same sermon - there's only one -God's saving love for all proclaimed in a million ways, Amen." Mary was preceded in death by her parents Ivan and Pearl Lunde, her grandparents, two good friends Rosemary Oftelie and Joan Monti. Survived by Rosemary's children, Joel Bjorkquist, Sarah Oftelie, and Julie Oftelie, who have also been family to Mary, and her Luther College family who have

brought so much support, care and friendship. "Takk for Alt!" Burial at Westby-Coon Prairie Cemetery in WI at a later date. A memorial gathering was held March 19, 2016 at 2 PM at Pub 42, 7600 42nd Ave N, New Hope, for sharing stories and a meal. Memorials preferred to donor's choice. All is well..Old Buick for Sale. [www. Washburn-McReavy.com](http://www.Washburn-McReavy.com) Glen Haven Chapel 763-533-8643

# Tribute Wall

LI

“*Mary was a dear friend at seminary back in the early 1980s. She was a straight shooter and a person you could share any personal struggles.*”



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**lawrence isbell** - December 04, 2016 at 03:43 PM

LR

“*Pastor Mary was beloved by her West Lake Johanna rural Brooten MN congregation. Her sermons were always disarming, with a wry, knowing twist at the end. She was so very generous with her caring, yet wise in so many ways. She loved American jazz and was a friend of Butch Thompson, the pianist for Garrison Keillor. A few years ago, I had designed the set for Youth Performance Company's production of FREEDOM RIDERS about the 1960's civil rights movement in the South and invited her to see it. She met me at the theater and only then told me that she was on one of those buses herself....she was a real Freedom Rider!*”  
*Larry Rostad, Minneapolis*

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**Larry Rostad** - April 30, 2016 at 08:57 AM

JB

“*Can you tell me what she died from? I was on staff with her at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls. She was a great lady.*”  
*Djbradow@prtcl.com*

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**judy Bradow** - April 10, 2016 at 08:46 PM

TP

“ We are saddened to see the passing of our beloved Pastor Mary. Pastor Mary married my husband and I and baptisms our daughter Liv before she moved. We were so sad she missed out on the baptism of our sons. She had a soft spot for my father in law Bob Petersen and would come back every year and we would have his famous sweet corn and catch up. We lost touch with Mary but she always had a big place in our hearts. She was one in a million.

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**tami petersen** - March 30, 2016 at 01:59 PM