



Kathleen Reel

Longtime musician retiring

Kathleen Reel, prominent Mid Ohio Valley musician, is retiring after a lifetime of serving churches in the area. On Easter Sunday, she will retire after almost 70 years of music ministry. Currently she serves as the organist at The First Presbyterian Church in Williamstown.

Reel began playing in church at the age of 4 at Baptist Temple in Parkersburg where her parents were charter members. Gifted with the ability to play by ear, she would

amaze the congregation with her ability to play hymns in worship. After extensive piano and organ training she began serving as organist in local churches, including St. Paul, Stout Memorial and First Methodist churches, and was organist/choir-master for over 30 years at First Presbyterian in Parkersburg. After retirement she served at Marietta College and Emory and Henry University in western Virginia. After yet another retirement she returned to the valley and

for the past 1 1/2 years has served as organist at First Presbyterian Church in Williamstown.

Enabling others to worship and make music has been the joy of her life. While she is retiring, many others who were in her choirs, studied piano, organ or voice with her, or who learned to play hand bells under her leadership are continuing her legacy of service throughout the United States in churches, schools and community ensembles.