

Bluffton News-Banner, Wells County, IN; Friday, May 24, 1985

A retired pastor, Rev. Wilson Bixler, 83, of Berne, died at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in the nursing wing at Swiss Village. Death followed an illness dating back to 1975.

Rev. Bixler began his active ministry in Wisconsin after graduating from Mission House College and Seminary. After pasturing 33 years in Wisconsin, Rev. Bixler retired and returned to Berne in 1969 and became the visiting pastor for the Cross United Church of Christ in Berne and of which he was a member.

Born Jan. 26, 1902, in Berne, he was a son of John A. and Rachel Yoder Bixler. His first marriage was to Marie Hilty, who died in 1965. A second marriage Aug. 22, 1971, was to Goldie Ellenberger, who survives.

Other survivors include a son, Dr. John Bixler of Brockport, N. Y.; a brother, Tillman Bixler of Berne, and two grandchildren.

Calling at the Yager-Kirchhofer Funeral Home in Berne will be from 2 to 9 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday.

Services at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Cross United Church of Christ in Berne will be in charge of Rev. Calvin Ley, assisted by Rev. Roger Wentz. Burial will be in the MRE Cemetery at Berne.

Preferred memorials to the Cross United Church of Christ Assistance Fund or to Swiss Village.