

The family thanks you for the gift of your presence today and for every expression of kindness. Following the service, the family cordially invites you to join them in the Christian Education Building for a time of fellowship and refreshments prepared by the Presbyterian Women of Northwood and the Kitchen Krew.

*In lieu of flowers,
the family requests memorial donations be made to:
The Florida Council of the Blind
<https://www.fcb.org/>
800-267-4448*

Obituary of Mary Rennie Borden Smiech

Born at Amarillo Air Force Base in Amarillo, Texas on January 10, 1954, to Colonel David Borden and Sara Borden. She was three months premature and was put in an incubator and given Oxygen. Unfortunately, because premature babies who lived were so rare that the Doctors didn't know the correct amount of Oxygen to give. They gave her too much, burning and scaring her optical nerve. This is how she became blind.

In the early 1960's Mary's father was transferred to Paris, France where she started Elementary School at the American School of Paris and learned to speak French. And while living in Paris, she learned of the Lord and became a Christian. However, French Schools were not well equipped to work with Blind Children, so her father requested a Compassionate Transfer, and he was then transferred to Wiesbaden, Germany. Mary continued her Elementary Education a German School for the Blind and also learned German.

In 1963 Mary Rennie's father retired to Clearwater. The family joined Trinity Presbyterian Church in Clearwater. Mary Rennie went to Skycrest Elementary School starting in the 3rd Grade and also joined the "Cherub Choir" at Trinity Presbyterian Church. This began her lifelong love of music and singing which continued until her passing. She was anxiously waiting for the Northwood Choir season to start with rehearsals for the Christmas Cantata.

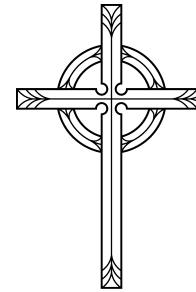
At Skycrest Elementary School Mary Rennie was the first Blind student, and there were few resources available to children with Special Needs. Therefore, at the beginning of her 7th Grade (Middle School) her parents sent her to The Florida School for the Deaf and Blind in St. Augustine. She met many friends and was still in contact with at the time of her passing.

After graduating from The Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, High School in 1973, she enrolled at St. Petersburg College and graduated with a AA Degree in Psychology.

While living in Clearwater, she volunteered as a Receptionist and answer phones at Trinity Presbyterian Church and taught Braille at The Lighthouse for the Blind in Clearwater.

In August 1979, Mary Rennie married Mark Smiech at Trinity Presbyterian Church and was married until her passing, days before her 47th Anniversary.

Rev. Dr. E. Chris Curvin, Pastor
David Furr, Organist



A Witness to the Resurrection



**To the Glory of God &
In Loving Memory of**

Mary Rennie Smiech

January 10, 1954– July 26, 2026

Northwood Presbyterian Church
2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761-3231
727-796-8090
www.northwoodpc.org

In Gratitude to God for the Gift of Life of Mary Rennie Smiech

Saturday, September 12, 2026
11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

INVOCATION

*HYMN #438

“Rock of Ages”

TOPLADY

(stanzas 1,2,4)

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.
Let the water and the blood from thy wounded side which flowed
be of sin the double cure, cleanse from guilt and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill the law’s demands.
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone. Thou must save, and thou alone.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when my eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSONS

Psalms 146

Psalms 23 (Unison)

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

Ray Jirikowic & Mark Smiech

*HYMN #610

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

AZMON

O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear redeemer’s praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God’s grace.

The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner’s ears brings life, and health, and peace.

Christ speaks, and listening to his voice new life the dead receive;
the mournful waken to rejoice; the poor in heart believe.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS

John 9:1-8; 1 Corinthians 15:35-44

MEDITATION

Chris Curvin, Pastor

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY #606

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*HYMN #69

“Here I Am, Lord”

HERE I AM

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

*BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Robert Hobby

(Please remain in the pews while the family is escorted from the Sanctuary.)

*Please stand if able.