

Ballad of Pastor Kerry
by Bill Schachter

Well the legend lives on from the Joint Board on down
of the preacher they call Pastor Kerry
He came and he stayed and he preached and he prayed
in the Edgeboro Church sanctuary

He arrived he one day from Emmaus, PA,
still a student down at seminary
(The congreg)ation said "Fine, you can stay for a time."
"Won't you be our student pastor, Kerry."

(--Then when) Pastor Wibro said that he had to go
(Well for) Kerry to succeed him we were wishin'>
('n' when Pres'dent) Wickman said "No, that's against all the rules"
We just voted him in by petition

(--Kerry) said I will be the best pastor I can
And I won't let fatigue even stop me
(-- -- So) when he was tired, (or) when he needed inspired -- He
went down to Wawa for coffee

(-- -- Be)sides drinkin' coffee he grew as a man
Grew a go-tee and looked liked a beatnic
While preaching and praying (he) also took time for playing
and he squirted some of us at picnics

(And amongst) all of this fun his life's task was begun
He took serious his work as a preacher
And though we knew him as neighbor and knew him as friend
(we) knew him as well and as teacher

(He) (said that in) order to grow, sometimes we have to go and step
outside our safe sanctuary and
(if you step) out of the boat, Jesus helps you to float
even though it can be pretty scary

(And) soon he did show sometimes you have to go
when you trust in the Good Lord above ya
He announced to us all that he answered God's call
and was heading for Hope, Indiana

So with hurried good-bye's and with tears in our eyes
We watched as the pastor went packin'
(With his gu)itar and kazoo, his wife Karen, too
and his fine and beloved son, Jackson

The memories are dear and we'll miss you 'round here
God be with you wherever you're goin'
We won't fuss or fight 'and we'll all be alright
'cause we know it's God's work you'll be doin'

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The Ballad of Pastor Kerry

Sing to the tune of "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald" by Gordon Lightfoot
(Chords: G - Dm - F C G -)

Well the legend lives on from the Joint Board on down of the preacher they call Pastor Kerry
He came and he stayed and he preached and he prayed in the Edgeboro Church sanctuary

He arrived here one day from Emmaus, PA, still a student down at seminary
The congregation said "Fine, won't you stay for a time. You can be our student pastor, Kerry."

Then when Pastor Witbro said that he had to go... well for Kerry to succeed him we were wishin'
And when Pres'dent Wickman said "No, that's against all the rules," we just voted him in by petition

Kerry said "I will be the best pastor I can. And I won't let fatigue even stop me."
So when he was tired or when needing inspired, he went down to Wawa for coffee

Besides drinking coffee he grew as a man, grew a goatee and looked liked a beatnic
Between preaching and praying he took time for playing and he squirted some of us at picnics

Amongst all of this fun his life's task was begun; He took serious his work as a preacher
And though we knew him as neighbor and knew him as friend, we knew him as well as a teacher

He taught that in order to grow, sometimes we have to go and step outside our safe sanctuary
And if you step out of the boat, Jesus helps you to float, even though it can be pretty scary

And soon he did SHOW sometimes you have to go when you trust in the Good Lord above ya
He announced to us all that he'd answered God's call and was heading for Hope, Indiana

So with hurried good-bye's and with tears in our eyes we all watched as the pastor went packin'
with his guitar and kazoo, lovely wife Karen, too and their fine and beloved son, Jackson

These memories are dear and we'll miss you 'round here. God be with you each place that you're goin'
We won't fuss or fight 'and we'll all be alright 'cause we know it's God's work that you're doin'

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He came and he stayed and he preached and he prayed in the Edgeboro Church sanctuary

words by Bill Schachter--September, 2002