

Obituary – as written by Paul himself (apart from a couple additions of deaths of his siblings deaths & births of great grandchildren)

PASTOR PAUL EUGENE ALBERS

Paul was born on 2nd August, 1924 at Golden, Illinois USA – the fifth of eight children born to Eilert and Wilhelmine Albers. He was preceded in death by brothers Albert, Walter, Francis, Raymond and sisters Mildred Croxton & Rosalie DeNiro. Surviving is his brother Ernest. Paul was baptised on 7th September 1924 and confirmed in 1939 by Pastor Johnson in Immanuel Lutheran Church, Golden. His Confirmation text was Matthew 26:41.

Paul attended the Immanuel Lutheran Primary School, La Prairie High School, Warburg College in Waverly, Iowa (where he met his future wife Erna while working at the Lutheran Children's Home), Lutheran Bible School in Chicago, Illinois and Warburg Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa.

Paul married Erna Kathrina Betty Fick on 14th June, 1953 in the Immanuel Lutheran Church, Rock Rapids Iowa. Their marriage was blessed with four children, Mark, Timothy (Cathie), Anna (Avito) and Ruth (David); grandchildren, Samuel (Melissa), Lauren (Travis), Rachel, Daniel (Julie), Kimberly (Phil) and Christy; and great grandchildren, Tyler, Eilo, Avah, Aria, Luke, Benjamin & Lucy. Erna preceded him in death on 20th December 2008.

Paul was ordained on 28th June, 1953 in the Immanuel Lutheran Church, Golden. The Ordination text was Galatians 6:17. Paul served over fifty years of active ministry in nine Parishes.

First Parish (from July 1953) now called Shepherd of the Hills Parish, serving Schapville (Zion) and Guilford (St John's) Illinois USA

Second Parish (from February 1956) established a Home Mission Congregation in Bloomfield (Good Shepherd), Iowa USA

Third Parish (From September 1960) answered the 'Macedonian Call' to come to Australia to spread the gospel serving Angaston (Zion), Penrice (Salem), Eden Valley (St Petrie), Keyneton (St Peter's), SA

Fourth Parish (from February 1964) serving Walla Walla (Zion), Culcairn (St Stephen's), Alma Park (Salem) NSW

Fifth Parish (from March 1969) serving Townsville (St Paul's), Ayr (St James), Charters Towers, Qld. Paul became a naturalised citizen of Australia in Townsville in 1971.

Sixth Parish (from September 1973) serving Highfields (Christ Church), Toowoomba (Our Saviour's), Glencoe (Bethlehem), Qld

Seventh Parish (from January 1978) serving Carlruhe (St John's), Saddleworth (Zion) and Riverton (St Matthew's), Black Springs (Trinity) SA

Eighth Parish (from November 1983) as Assistant Pastor serving Mannum (St Mark's), Bowhill (St John's), Forster (St John's) SA

Ninth parish (from July 1991) as a Chaplain in semi-retirement serving Riverview Lutheran Rest Home, Loxton (Concordia, where he was a member and St Peter's), Bookpurnong (Pilgrims of Zion), Meribah (Fountain of Living Waters), Myrla (St John's), Taplan (St John's) SA

In August 2004 Paul and Erna retired and moved into an Independent Living Unit in Zinnbauer Court, LHI Retirement Services, Hope Valley. They were members of the Trinity congregation where Paul was a Communion Assistant and a Bible Study leader. Paul later moved into McLaren Apartments in February 2014 and then into the Nursing Home.

Paul let people know of his relationship to Jesus as his own personal Lord and Saviour. He spent a lot of time in prayer and was much involved in the distribution of Gospel tracts. He served the Church at large in various ways including Lutherans for Life, Lutheran Men's Fellowship, the Bible Society and Gideons International.

Blessed be the memory of the deceased. 'Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints'. Psalm 116:15