



Lorenz Louis Eichenlaub

Senior Pastor 1965 – 1981

Born on January 17, 1930 in St. Louis, Missouri.

Received Bachelor of Arts from Elmhurst College and, in 1956, a Bachelor of Divinity from Eden Theological Seminary. Gained Doctorate of Ministry from Eden in 1973.

Eichenlaub served as Associate Pastor at St. Paul's from July, 1956 to January, 1959.

Served as senior pastor here from January 17, 1965 to July 31, 1981.

Family: wife Barbara, two sons Mark and John.

During his pastorate in both associate and senior roles, the congregation engaged in a three hundred thousand dollar building program which included the construction of a new sanctuary, educational building, and the purchase of a parsonage.

The sanctuary became air-conditioned in 1967.

John Miller was elected as assistant minister from 1965 to 1967. Reverend Doctor Marvin Engelsdorfer was elected pastor from 1968 to 1977. In 1977, Eichenlaub became the senior pastor.

On February 1, 1969, Miss Eleanor Stoerker was selected director of Christian Education. She served in this position until her death in 1979.

The steeples of the former sanctuary (Heritage Hall) were removed because they were in danger of falling in 1970.

The Centennial Parish Hall, dedicated in 1939, was torn down in 1980. A multi-purpose building, called the Activity Center, was erected on the site and dedicated on October 11, 1981.

The former sanctuary of the second church became the site of St. Paul Chapel and Heritage Hall and was dedicated on the same October 11, 1981 date.

December 14, 1972 was the first meeting of the church's 135th Anniversary Committee. The mission project for the anniversary year would be the sponsorship of a Ghana Missionary.

The 135th Anniversary of St. Paul's was celebrated at a dinner at Fischer's Restaurant on September 29, 1974.

On June 7, 1981, a reception was held at the Elks Lodge for Eichenlaub to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination.

His affiliations, too numerous to list here, may be found on other papers in the church archives.

Served St. Paul's as Minister of Parish Life from July 31, 1981 to August 18, 1981.

In March of 1976, he learned that he had inoperable pancreatic cancer and was given nine to twelve months to live at the age of forty-seven.

He died over five years later, on August 18, 1981.

Information Sources:

Milestones of Our Heritage, St. Paul's publication celebrating the 150th Anniversary year, 1989. Proof copy.

Moments in History pamphlets compiled by Archivist Alice Jerome for insert to St. Paul's Church Service Programs during the 150th Anniversary year (1989).

Additional biographical data contained in the St. Paul archives.