



Rev. Theodore A. Michalk

September 24, 1920 - May 7, 2013

Theodore Adolph Michalk was born at home on Galveston Island on September 24, 1920 to Emilie Theresa (Woelfel) Michalk and Rev. Adolph Fredrick Michalk, as their first born of 7 children. He was baptized at St. John Lutheran Church in Galveston on October 31, 1920, and confirmed at Trinity Lutheran in Fedor, TX by his father on March 28, 1934. He was commissioned as a missionary to India by Rev. Max Studtmann and his father in Fedor on September 2, 1945. Pastor Ted graduated from Concordia College in Austin, TX in 1938 and St. Paul's College in Concordia, MO in 1940. He received his Bachelor of Divinity Degree from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO in January of 1945, after a vicarage at Trinidad (Spanish) Church in San Antonio, TX. He completed his Master of Divinity in 1953, during a furlough from the India Evangelical Mission Church. Pastor Ted married Katherine Belle Kicker of St. Louis, MO on July 1st, 1945 after they completed Mission School. Their wedding was held at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in St. Louis, MO where as a student Ted had taught Sunday school. Ted's second sister, Ruth Doering was a bridesmaid in that wedding. They honeymooned in Texas introducing Kathy to many of Ted's relatives before taking an empty troop ship, the Marine Panther, to India in November of 1945. They arrived just in time to have the Indian nationals protest against the British – demanding “white man go”. Kathy thought that was incredulous because “we just got here!” Kathy was 19 years old and very brave. Ted's brother, Erwin was stationed in India with the US military and had met their ship in Calcutta. By the end of the day

he had to help them evacuate to south India. Their marriage was blessed with 5 children: Nancy (Bob Barth) of Lamy, NM, Audrey (Rev. Alan Abel MD) of Big Spring, TX, Grace (Ed Perez) of Austin, TX., Judith (Barry Mascarenhas) of Tacoma, WA, and Paul of Giddings, TX : four grandchildren; Andrea Abel (Jeff Thompson) of Tyler, TX, Jon Abel (Alicia Valasco) of Richardson, TX, Katherine Perez (Mike Currier) of Jonestown, TX and Deanna Perez (Bobby Diamond) of Smithville, TX and 5 great grandchildren; Gregory, Jacob, Daniel and Mary Abel of Richardson, TX and Taylor Thompson of Tyler, TX. Pastor Michalk's ministry was spreading the love of Jesus Christ to those in Ambur, Pernambut, Krishnagiri, and Kodaikanal and as a Professor of Theology at Concordia Seminary, (1966-1971) Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu, India. He served at St. Peter Lutheran Church, Evansville, Illinois from 1972- 1985 and retired in Giddings, TX to care for his mother, Emilie until her death in 1992. He served several congregations in the area as Vacancy Pastor, as well as faithfully leading weekly services at the nursing homes. All who came to know him were touched by his humility and gentle nature. Pastor Michalk passed away the morning of Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at his home in Giddings. Pastor Ted is survived by his beloved wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, his sisters Ruth Doering of Giddings, TX and Dorothy Geisler of Grand Coulee, WA; sister-in-law, Barbara Michalk of Tucson, AZ; brother-in-law, Edward Bernthal of Waupun, WI and many, many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his sister, Hildegard Michalk in 1940, his brother, Paul Michalk who died in 1945 during WWII, his father, Rev. Adolph Michalk in 1975, his mother, Emilie Michalk in 1992, his brother, Erwin Michalk and his sister, Bernice Bernthal both in 2009 and his brothers-in-law, Curtis Doering and John Geisler. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, 2013 at Immanuel Lutheran Church located at 300 North Grimes in Giddings, Texas with Rev. Robert Tiner, Rev. Allen Doering & Rev. Keith Aschenbeck officiating. Burial will immediately follow in the Giddings City Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Friday, May 10, 2013 from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 11, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at

Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home located at 588 North Main Street in Giddings, Texas. The family will be present for visitation Friday evening from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Serving as pallbearers will be Pastor Ted's grandson, Jon Abel, his great grandsons, Greg Abel and Jacob Abel, his grandsons-in-law, Jeff Thompson, Mike Carrier and Bobby Diamond and his daughter, Judith Michalk. Honorary pallbearers will be his close friend, Monroe Bieberstein and his sons-in-law, Bob Barth, Rev. Alan Abel, MD, Ed Perez and Barry Mascarenhas. In lieu of flowers, the Michalk family recommends that memorial contributions be made to The Bethania Kids Christian Mission in India, P.O. Box 2140, Winchester, VA 22604-1340, the Immanuel Lutheran Church Forward in Faith Building Fund, 300 North Grimes, Giddings, TX 78942 or to the charity of one's choice.

Tribute Wall

- NM** “ *Rev. Theodore A. Michalk*

Nancy Michalk - June 11, 2013 at 09:37 PM
- NV** “ *Rev. Theodore A. Michalk*

Nancy J. Ryan nee Veath - May 11, 2013 at 08:39 PM
- MF** “ *Rev. Theodore A. Michalk*

Mrs. Raquel L. Perez and Family - May 10, 2013 at 06:38 PM
- FK** “ *Rev. Theodore A. Michalk*

Floyd Kasper - May 10, 2013 at 06:30 PM
- MH** “ *Rev. Theodore A. Michalk*

Melvin Heinemann - May 09, 2013 at 09:11 PM
- SA** “ *Rev. Theodore A. Michalk*

Shelby Bierman Asselmeier - May 08, 2013 at 10:10 PM
- CA** “ *Rev. Theodore A. Michalk*

Cathy Ashcraft - May 07, 2013 at 02:41 PM

MM

“ *Rev. Theodore A. Michalk*

Mark and Leann McClain - May 07, 2013 at 02:25 PM

MS

“ *Rev. Theodore A. Michalk*

Mary Ann Seidler - May 07, 2013 at 11:10 AM