

Dr. Albert Muehlmeier
July 1, 1868 – August 11, 1943

**Dr. A. Muehlmeier, Zwingli Pastor Here Many Years, Dies After Lingering Illness
Rites in Two Languages To be Held at Zwingli Sunday P. M.**

Mere words cannot describe the spell of hushed silence and deep remorse which enveloped the community of Monticello when it was learned that their friend and former pastor, Dr. Albert Muehlmeier, 75 years of age, had passed away at 1:30 o'clock Wednesday morning following a lingering illness.

Dr. Muehlmeier had been bedfast and critically ill for many weeks and it was only through his undeniable determination to live that he was able to cling to the last threads of earthly life during the last few days. His attending physician marveled on several occasions that the former pastor was able to carry on his fight for life.

Dr. Muehlmeier had been seriously ill on several occasions in the past number of years and deep concern was felt by members of his family and his host of friends. He rallied each time, however, even after his physicians had about given up hope of his recovery. A number of months ago he was a hospital patient and it was at this time that doctors found recovery from his illness could not be expected,

Held in High Esteem

Each morning, on every side, neighbors and friends inquired anxiously about the condition of Dr. Muehlmeier, this widespread concern over his illness clearly reflecting the lofty esteem in which he was held by the citizens of this community. And then, on Wednesday morning, after the sad news of his death had spread throughout the village and into the surrounding rural areas, one could sense even greater than ever before this deep feeling of respect this true and genuine reverence which the people of Monticello held for Dr. Muehlmeier because of the universal sorrow occasioned by his passing.

It is difficult indeed to pay a fitting tribute to Dr. Muehlmeier. Mere words do not do justice to his splendid character. His was a character built solidly upon the sturdy pillars of honesty, faith, sincerity, loyalty, sympathetic understanding, and devotion. Practically Dr. Muehlmeier's entire life was dedicated to loyal and unselfish devotion to the interests and spiritual well-being of his fellow men and their families. Always he was anxious about the welfare of others—never about his own. Nothing could more clearly or more emphatically affirm his concern for others and his unconcern for himself than the quiet determination with which he bravely and ever uncomplainingly bore the raving and a times almost unbearable pains of a long, exacting illness. So courageously did he bear his affliction that had it not been for the gradual weakening which was noted in his strength and vitality from day to day, one might never have realized that he was gravely ill.

Sincere Worker

For 50 years—a full half century Dr. Muehlmeier had served as a pastor with remarkable loyalty and devotion. He was a quiet, kindly and unassuming man and he brought to his pulpit a gentle dignity which one likes to associate with the ministry. In his long years as pastor of the local Zwingli church, he gave unstintingly and generously of his time and energy, always reflecting a watchful concern over the affairs of his congregation.

During these many years, Dr. Muehlmeier presided scores of marriages, baptismal ceremonies, and deaths, too, he was always a familiar figure at the bedside of stricken neighbors and friends.

Thus did Dr. Muehlmeier bring his message of hope and cheer, and of comfort and consolation, into the homes of hundreds of families residing in Monticello and its surrounding areas. And thus did this grand man leave an impression so deep in the hearts of this community that the memory of his splendid character will never be forgotten.

Born in Franklin

Albert Muehlmeier was born at the Mission House college, Franklin, Wis. on July 1, 1868, the son of Rev. Herman A. and Sophia Waldecker Muehlmeier. He grew up there and became well fortified with the faith and teachings of the church. He was confirmed April 7 1882, in the Town Herman Congregation, Franklin, Wis. by Rev. C. Martin. He graduated from the Mission House Theological Seminary in 1891. He studied at McCormick Theological Seminary in 1892. He was ordained as a minister of the Reformed church in Dale, Wis, which was his initial pastorate, beginning his work there in 1892. Dr. Muehlmeier was united to Lena Heuer in Dale, Dec. 7, 1892, the ceremony being performed by the gentleman's father, Dr. H. A. Muehlmeier, one of the founders of the Mission House college. He remained at Dale until 1898, when he accepted a call to occupy the pulpit in the Monticello Reformed church. He left Monticello in 1901, going to Klemme, Iowa, where he served the Reformed congregation at that place for eight years,

Recalled to Monticello

In 1909 he received a second call from the Monticello and Town of Washington churches, a charge which he held for nearly 30 years. One of the outstanding highlights of his long and faithful career occurred on Sunday, June 6, 1937, when he received a Doctor of Divinity degree from the Mission House college. On July 8, 1938, Dr. Muehlmeier delivered his farewell sermon as active minister in Monticello, at which time more than 400 persons crowded Zwingli church to be with their friend and pastor for his closing address as active minister. He was succeeded at that time by Rev. A. R. Achtemeier. He was honored again on Sunday, Aug. 2, 1942, by a large group of his friends upon the occasion of his 60th anniversary as a minister of the gospel. Dr. and Mrs. Muehlmeier had the pleasure of observing their golden wedding anniversary in November of last year,

Surviving, besides the bereaved widow, are seven daughters, Mrs. William V. Baebler, Mrs. Charles M. Rolph and Mrs. John S. Richards, Monticello, Mrs. Herman Meier, Madison, Mrs. Richard Sack and Mrs. Arthur Raiche, Milwaukee, and Mrs. Harold Nicolaus, Cudahy, Wis; one son, Ewald Muehlmeier, Milwaukee; 15 grandchildren, and three sisters, Mrs. Meta Kuenzel, Mrs. G. D. Elliker, and Mrs. J. W. Grosshuesch, one brother, Rev. Otto Muehlmeier, and one sister, Mrs. Steinniker, preceded him.

Funeral Services Sunday

Funeral services will be held at the Zwingli Evangelical and Reformed church at 2 Sunday afternoon. Private services will be held at the home at 1:30. The body is at the Voegeli funeral home and will lie in state at the church after 12 o'clock Sunday.

Rev. A. R. Achtemeier will officiate during English services, and Rev. H. G. Settlage, Waukesha, will preside during the German service. Rev. Jacob Elmer, Freeport, and Paul Edward Aultman will also take part in the services,

Pallbearers will be grandsons, John Richards, Jr, and Charles Rolph, Jr, Monticello, Robert, Calvin and Richard Meier, Madison, and Payton and Courtney Muehlmeier, Milwaukee,

Honorary pallbearers will be past and present members of the two consistories, Representing the local consistory are; Nick Freitag, John Baebler, Jacob Schlittler, Jac, Stauffer, John Dick, Albert Moritz, Conrad Stauffacher, Alfred Isely, Henry C. Elmer, Adam Duerst, Henry V. Babler, P. J. Aultman, Albert Schulz, Henry Spring, Fred Stauffer, H. L. Karlen. Washington consistory members, both past and present are; Charles R, Marty, Ed. Gempeler, Emil Ritschard, Ulrich Rufer, John Moritz, Henry Hefty, Ivan Marty, Fred Grossen, Wilbert Hefty and Herman Kruesi,