



## Rev. Leonard C. Laetsch

November 7, 1941 - April 5, 2021

Rev. Leonard C. Laetsch, age 79 of Tucson, AZ, (formerly of Highland, IL) died Monday, April 05, 2021, at Chester's House in Tucson, AZ.

He was born on Friday, November 07, 1941, in Hays, KS, the son of Rev. Willis and Melba (nee Bohlmann) Laetsch.

Pastor Laetsch was born at Hays, KS. His father was pastor at the local church near there. Pastor was a graduate of Concordia Senior College and then Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. After his ordination he worked at Concordia College in Seward, Nebraska, for several years. He served congregations at Holy Cross Church-Waterloo,, IL; Zion Church-Carlinville, IL; Redeemer Church-Gillespie, IL; Resurrection Church- England (for 8 years); and came to Hope Lutheran Church in Highland, IL in 1987. He retired as Pastor Emeritus in 2017. After retirement he moved to Arizona to be near his brother and sister and their families.

While at Hope Lutheran Church he built a new church facility in 1998. "I cannot remember a time when I wasn't planning to be a minister". Both his father and grandfather were Lutheran ministers.

Survivors include:

Brother - Dr. Theodore W. Laetsch. PhD, Tucson, AZ

Sister - Charleen K. Miller, Choctaw, OK

Nephew - Michael J. (Victoria L.) Laetsch, Tucson, AZ

Nephew - Theodore W. (Mackenzie Frost MD) Laetsch Jr. MD, Philadelphia, PA

Nephew - Dr. Thomas A. Laetsch, PhD, New York, NY

Nephew - Adam J. Miller, Oklahoma City, OK

Nephew - Daniel J. (Jenny) Miller, Dr. of Pharmacy, Oklahoma City, OK

Niece - Charlotte Laetsch

Nephew - Elijah Laetsch

Nephew - Adam Miller

Nephew - Jacob Miller

Niece - Vivian Laetsch

Niece - Violet Laetsch

Niece - Alyssa Miller

Nephew - Lucas Miller

Nephew - Dominic Miller.

He was preceded in death by:

Father - Rev. Willis E. Laetsch - Died 11/23/1996

Mother - Melba C. Laetsch, nee Bohlmann - Died 5/9/2019.

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Memorial Service will be at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at Hope Lutheran Church in Highland, IL, with Rev. Scott Busacker, Pastor, officiating.

Interment will be at Saint Peter's Cemetery in St. Louis, MO.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hope Lutheran Church - Highland, IL.

# Tribute Wall

MJ

“ *Charleen (Charlie) - I saw the notice of your brother's death in today's Seward Independent. May the joy-filled promises of the Resurrection be with you and your family!*

*Mark (and Glenda) Joyce  
Seward, NE*

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**Mark Joyce** - April 14, 2021 at 09:28 PM

DL

“ *We met Pastor Laetsch when our family moved to Highland and became members of Hope Lutheran Church. We have very fond memories of Pastor Laetsch. We send our deepest condolences to his family. Thank you for sharing him with us!*

*The Litzenburgs  
Dean, Deanna, Allie & Dylan*

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**Deanna Leigh Litzenburg** - April 14, 2021 at 10:14 AM

BH

“ *Pastor Laetsch was such a great mentor for my brothers and I after our father left us. He was our Pastor in Wartburg Illinois, Holy Cross Lutheran, outside of Waterloo. He would even let us play with his train set. He would come down if he was invited to an event and we would get to visit. I can see his big smile and hear his laugh. We were sad for ourselves when he left but happy for him. We will see you again in His Glorious Kingdom. From The Fuller Family*

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**Brenda L. Haare** - April 11, 2021 at 01:40 PM

MM

“ *My family have been members at Hope Lutheran Church Highland since 1998 when the new church was built. Pastor Laetsch confirmed my daughter in 2009. We were able to hold offices in the congregation under Pastor. We have wonderful memories one is especially special is when Pastor was able to burn the mortgage on the new church way ahead of schedule!! To the Family, Pastor was a part of our family for over 20 years, please except our condolences . The past 4 years Pastor has been in my daily prayers and so now I know he is resting with our Lord in Heaven along with his parents.*

*Steve and Monica Martin  
Jackson and Martina Martin-Simmons*

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**Monica Martin** - April 08, 2021 at 01:21 PM