

Rev. A.R. Achtemeier

Rev. Arthur R. Achtemeier, 79, Monticello, retired minister, died at 1:40 a.m. today, Saturday, Aug. 2, 1975 in St. Clare Hospital of a heart condition. He had been hospitalized since July 23, following a heart attack at his home.

Rev. Achtemeier was pastor of Zwingli United Church of Christ in Monticello and Washington Reformation from 1938 to 1959. He and his wife, Clara, returned to Monticello in their retirement in 1971. Rev. Achtemeier came out of retirement to again serve his churches there as interim minister for a year-and-a-half. Upon leaving Monticello in September 1959, Rev. Achtemeier accepted a call from the Board of National Missions of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to serve as a special field secretary in the Rocky Mountain and Dakota Synods. He was visiting pastor in the Northwest and Canada for three years and was an associate Minister of the Nebraska Conference of the newly-formed United Church of Christ. Rev. and Mrs. Achtemeier then spent six years in Southeastern Ohio where he served as interim pastor in Farmersville and in Fort Recovery.



Mr. Achtemeier was born Sept. 28, 1895 near Harbine, Nebr., and attended Harbine and Beatrice, Nebr. schools. He received his B.A. degree at Mission House College, attended Missionary Theological Seminary, receiving his B.D. degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. He did graduate work at the Nebraska University, Garret Bible Institute and Chicago University. He served churches in Nebr, 1923-33, Kohler, Wis., 1933-38, and in Monticello, 1938-58. He had been a member of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Council of Churches, of Mission House College and Seminary, served as secretary of South Wisconsin Synod for a term and was vice president term. He was secretary of the denominational Town and County Church Committee.

Rev. Achtemeier observed his 50th year of ordination in June 1970.

He and Clara Barnstein of Manitowoc were married June 16, 1921. She has been especially active with him in all the church fields.

Surviving are the widow, Clara; a son, Paul John Achtemeier, Richmond, Va., also an ordained minister; two grandchildren, Clark and Marie Achtemeier; and a brother, Albert, Fairbury, Neb.

Two brothers preceded him in death, as did their parents, Frederick and Amelia Sonneberg Achtemeier.

Rev. Achtemeier, a member of Zwingli Church, was an avid gardener and had pursued his hobby until shortly before his heart attack.

Funeral services were conducted on Tuesday, August 5, in the Zwingli United Church where he was a member. The Reverends Charles G. Workman, pastor of Zwingli Church, Howard Beil, Belleville, and William A. Schultz, Manitowoc, officiated at the services. Hymn selections used during the service were "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" and "For All the Saints."

Pallbearers were Fred C. Durtschi, Willis H. Babler, Kermit Kammerer, Roland Ritschard, Henry E. Spring, and Jacob M. Wittenwyler.