



Pastor James Swanson

October 19, 1938 - July 23, 2018

Pastor James “Jim” Swanson, 79-year-old resident of Onamia, MN died on Monday, July 23, 2018, at the Mille Lacs Health System Long Term Care Center in Onamia, MN. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at 11 AM on Saturday, August 11, 2018, at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Onamia, MN. Visitation will be held 1 hour prior to service at church. Memorials preferred. Arrangements are with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.

Jim was born in Superior, WI to Carl & Mildred Swanson on October 19, 1938. He graduated Duluth Central High in 1956 and St Olaf College in 1960. Jim had a life-long fascination for boats and trains. After college, he worked on the ore boats on the Great Lakes for 2 years before attending Luther Seminary in St Paul. He was ordained at First Lutheran Church in Duluth in 1966. His first call was to Calvary and St Pauli Lutheran Churches in St Hilaire, MN. Jim married Carolyn Armstrong from Twig, MN on August 5, 1967. They had two daughters, Rebecca & Elizabeth (Dee Dee). Jim's second call was to Trinity Lutheran Church in Cass Lake, where he served for 11 years while his family grew up. During his 50 year career in the ministry, he also served many churches as an Intentional Interim Minister. When his health began to fail, it was very difficult for him to retire from active ministry because he loved to tell the story of Jesus and his love.

Jim is survived by his wife of 50 years, Carolyn; his two daughters, Becky (Curt) Stacey and Dee Dee (Brant) Grages; and 6 grandchildren, Emily & Megan Stacey, and Luke, Tyler, Lily & Olivia Grages; He is also survived by

his sister, Carolyn (Wayne) Weidner; and a large extended family.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 11. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Holy Cross Center - Onamia
102 Crosier Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

Memorial Service

AUG 11. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Holy Cross Center - Onamia
102 Crosier Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

Tribute Wall



“ *Pastor James Swanson*

January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *While Jim was serving as interim Pastor in Two Harbors Mn. He kept us laughing and shared his powerful presence of God's love with us. He was a great mentor and colleague to me. He encouraged many to Trust and be faithful to our call to walk with God. He brought a gentle peace to us at a time of great change and helped us maintain stability and strength. I will miss Jim and will remember his strength and compassion!*

Grace and Peace to family and friends as you celebrate his life. We will be unable to join you, but our thoughts and prayers are with you!
Sincerely,
Pastor Dave and Sheryl Rogge

david rogge - August 08, 2018 at 01:16 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Pastor James Swanson.*



August 07, 2018 at 02:30 PM

KH

“ I didn't know Pastor Swanson well, but was good friends with both of his daughters in college. He and his wife raised two of the finest people I've ever met, and that reflects well on who he was as a person, in my opinion. God bless the Swanson family in this time of grief. You are in my thoughts and prayers. ~ Kelly (O'Shea) Hanson

kelly hanson - August 03, 2018 at 05:32 PM