

# Remembrances of Pastor Paul R. Schroeder

8/16/1933 – 9/9/2020

Pastor Paul led us from weak Christians to maturity in our faith. He taught us the basis of our faith. We are very grateful to his ministry. ~ Joan and Terry S.

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Pastor Paul baptized me, confirmed me, married me then was involved in both the baptism/dedication of both John and Alexandra. ~ Carrie P.

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So many wonderful thoughts go thru my mind that i sit here trying to figure out how to capture them & put in type. words cant do justice. God used Pastor Paul to impact my life, my marriage (he married Mark & me), my faith, my parenting, my walk with Jesus.... bible studies, Shouters Of Joy, "Popcorn" sermons, and all of God's people shouted AMEN, hard talks i needed to hear, lots of laughs, his (+ Pastor's Dougs) visits to Mark when he was sick, how Pastor would challenge us on a personal basis....wow - i could on/on. I keep thinking of him now in the arms of Jesus & how he would like to come back for 5 minutes to tell us how much more wonderful Heaven is than we could ever/ever imagine!!! "BE THERE" he would say!!! (3 exclamation points was Pastor's signature - 3 for Trinity = i use it all the time since he first said it in a sermon decades ago). He now has The Victory - no more illness, no struggles, he has peace forever with Jesus our Lord & Savior!!! thank you Pastor for all yuv done to bring the world to seek Jesus. i miss yu. a lot. but i will see yu again. "Be there" = "!!!" ..... xoxoox ~ Kathy K.

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So sorry to hear. My condolences to Pastor Paul's family. When I was growing up, our family would listen to Pastor Paul on the radio before going to Church on Sundays. Great messages and memories. ~ Mark K.

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We thank the Lord for the life a ministry of Pastor Paul. He had a desire to reach the world with the saving Gospel. He expanded our vision to make a greater commitment to the Lord by supporting such a goal with our prayers and offerings. He also brought us to a greater appreciation of God's Word. For his ministry to us for over 50 years, we are most grateful. ~ Dave and Karen K.

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We will always remember him as vivacious for the Lord; his sermons were one of the main reasons we decided to start attending our Shepherd Lutheran Church. He made us feel so welcome and had a genuine love and passion for teaching scripture and presented his sermons in an upbeat fashion. Even the last time we saw him at a Mother's Day service, he was playful about how many different doctors he had seen in just ONE day, keeping such a positive and humorous mindset despite the new challenges he was facing. We will always be thankful for having the opportunity to meet him, (even though once we started attending church at Our Shepherd, he retired not too far off after that). We pray that his soul is at peace and we look forward to reuniting with him and all fellow believers when Jesus returns. We will always remember him as being extremely passionate for the Lord and it was evident in the way he conducted his life, the way he treated others, and in the way he passionately delivered his sermons. ~ Randy and Beverly S.

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I am so sorry to hear about Pastor Paul. Our hearts and prayers are with all the family. Pastor Paul was a wonderful man. Happy to know he's in Heaven with our lovely Lord Jesus!! ~ Tricia W.

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What a true servant of God Pastor Paul was! I have been a member of Our Shepherd for 43 years now. Pastor Paul was truly the reason my Faith has grown over those years. He not only was a dynamic speaker, but I'd say he was a mentor in my growth of faith, both in knowledge of the Bible, & in donating. Although I have been a lifelong Lutheran, none of my former Churches gave me such knowledge & understanding of God's Word. I am on the Road to Heaven because of him. Blessings to His Entire Family, ~ Yvonne R.

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Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, especially at this time for Pastor Paul's faithful ministry to God's people at Our Shepherd. I look forward to sharing eternity with him in heaven.

I am thankful that I was able to have two recent telephone conversations w/Pastor Doug re: Pastor Paul and was able to lead a prayer w/PD for Pastor Paul's needs. To God be the glory for Pastor Paul's gift of his "salvation by grace through faith" in Jesus Christ.

May God grant Pastor Paul's family His strength, grace, mercy and peace as they mourn the earthly loss of Paul's love, guidance and example. ~ Elmer B.

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I always felt so close to Pastor Paul - from his sermons to our wonderful trip to Israel. I learned so much from his easy-going classes before church on Sunday mornings. Seeing him on those mornings gave me such a good feeling.

Our trip to Israel with all we saw and learned - it was truly amazing thanks to his stories. We saw so much, making the stories come to life. Then to have him baptize both Dick and me in the River Jordan really bonded our friendship. I will always think fondly of Pastor Paul for all the spirituality he brought to my life. ~ Jane I.

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I remember the first time I visited Our Shepherd. Pastor Paul was preaching. Wow! He got my attention. I knew that this was the church we needed to come to. He was not only a powerful preacher, but also a great teacher. I soon learned about giving back to the Lord. I joined Bible classes and took his challenge of reading the entire Bible in a year. I thank the Lord for giving me the opportunity to have Pastor Paul as a positive influence in my Spiritual life and growth. ~ Chris P.

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When we joined Our Shepherd in 1997, I had no true idea of stewardship. Pastor Paul's preaching opened my eyes to see the relationship between faith and committed giving...so obvious, yet so hidden! ~ Joe P.

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We thank the Lord for leading us to Our Shepherd. Here we met Pastor Paul. Every sermon we heard the "Word of the Lord". We even took notes!! What joy. I was so excited! Every Sunday we picked up the Bible and were instructed in the "Word of the Lord". I couldn't stop telling others about Our Shepherd where Pastor Paul talked, lived as a role model and taught the Word. I (we), thank God, Our Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord for Pastor Paul, through the Holy Spirit. He certainly is a man of God, His servant. We were so blessed to meet and be taught by Pastor Paul through sermons and bible class—I was so happy to do something for Pastor Paul and The Word

Today, to bring the Word of the Lord to the nations of the world—The Great Commission. What a thrill to deliver the Word of Salvation to all. ~ Sandy and Ken H.

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It is with deep regret that I heard the message of Pastor Paul passing away. I have contacted St. John in Charter Oak to give them the message. I send my deepest sympathy! I have so many family memories. He is at peace now with our Savior, precious Jesus, the day for which I am longing. Pastor Paul said repeatedly, "Come Lord Jesus, Come Quickly". I will remember that as long as I live and I am ready! ~ Joanne M.

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Our sympathies to all in the Paul Schroeder family. Paul Schroeder brought us to Christ in a way we never thought we would be. All the wonderful Bible classes, the scripture he taught us are lasting memories for us and have become the foundation of our Christian beliefs. "Well done thou good and faithful servant" applies to his preaching and teaching. ~Teri and Roy S.

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I am keeping you all in my prayers! I believe that it is because of your dad that Mark grew to have such a strong faith! Mark was one of the first in line to welcome your dad into Heaven. I am so thankful for the foundation he helped to lay in me! Your dad had an amazing gift for preaching and I am so thankful he shared it for so many years. He was a blessing and he is missed ~ Sonja I.

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What a legacy! We thank God for Pastor Paul's life and his great contribution to spreading the gospel in Africa and around the world, with The Word Today program. May God comfort you all. Praying for you and the family. ~ Juliet O.

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Keeping Sylvia, you, Doug and your family lifted in prayer. I'll never forget that evening Bible study at the Amazing Grace rental building. My back was turned to him and your father began to speak. Having been raised listening to The Word Today, I knew that voice immediately. It was like I was seeing a rockstar. We were blessed to have him with us for a while here in Florida. Well done thou good and faithful servant. ~ Lois S.

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He taught so very many so very much. I'm a better person for having met him. ~ Debi F.

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When I saw the email I thought to myself what an amazing life and what a greeting he will have in heaven with all those he led to Christ. ~ Mike G.

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Pastor Paul will be remembered fondly and with gratitude for helping me strengthen my faith! Praying for your comfort. ~ Theresa G.

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Our condolences to you and your family. We absolutely loved Pastor Paul while we attended Our Shepherd! Mike & I still fondly remember some of his stories and sermons from time to time. He was a blessing in our lives!! ~ Mike and Carrie C.

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He was such an amazing preacher!!! ~ Jill K.

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What a great man!!! He impacted so many!!! Heaven is rejoicing. ~ Debra P.

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Pastor Paul ran a good race with his eye always on the prize. I always credit him with my foundational beginnings; imparting sound doctrine in which I've been able to build upon and expand to a fuller understanding of who and whoes I am in Christ. I know when he met Jesus Pastor Paul heard, "Well done good and faithful servant." I sure loved him and over the years thought of and interceded in prayer for him and your Mother. What a gifted Pastor, preacher, teacher he was! ~ Vicky E.

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My condolences to Our Shepherd Lutheran Greendale and for The Word Today. Pastor Paul officiated in mine and Kathy's wedding, my sister's and her husband's marriage. He and his son Doug's baptisms of Sarai and Adam when they were born. Well done! ~ Zoli P.

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We have so many great memories of Pastor Paul. We had a wonderful experience when we toured Israel with him leading our group. I especially recall him rescuing me (Brett) from the grasp of two Rabbis who were taking me to the police for snapping pictures at the Great Wall. Without him I may still be there! Most importantly of all the things he taught us, he introduced us to the joy of giving and from that we achieved contentment. What a blessing it has been in our lives. We look forward to thanking him in person when we meet again. ~ Brett and Kerri M.

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Condolences to his family on behalf of myself and my family. Pastor Schroeder was my confirmation pastor and always impressed me with his depth of knowledge and understanding. A gifted preacher and teacher. If you paid attention at all in his class, you gained a great facility in use of scripture for daily living. ~ Daniel W.

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We were blessed to have been members of Our Shepherd in the 60's and early 70's. Pastor baptized two of our sons. Because of his ministering, we grew tremendously in our faith during those years. It was a wonderful time in our lives. Happy memories also of bowling with Sylvia!!! May God bless your family as you work through your grief. ~Ted and Susan O.

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To Sylvia, Doug, and Dana and rest of family,  
I was so sorry to hear of Pastor's passing. I'm so glad he got to spend a few retirement years down in Florida. He was a great man of God and my late husband Vern and myself thought so much of him and the entire family. Well done good and faithful servant! Welcome to your eternal rest! ~ Judy P.

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I learned so much from Pastor Paul that shaped and strengthened my faith. He taught me to be thankful for every day, the importance of studying the Word of God, sharing the gospel with others, and giving sacrificially. I used most of the materials he wrote and shared them with others. ~ Cathy S.

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**This Is Our Story Dedicated To The Schroeder Family:** The date was September, 2013. Although I do not remember the exact day, I do recall a beautiful warm sunny afternoon with a slight breeze. Harry and I drove our niece to Greendale High School for a dance audition. Rather than wait at the audition, Harry and I decided we would run a few errands. As Harry drove from Greendale High School I noticed a beautiful church, a church I have driven past many times before. However, this particular day I felt the need to stop and take a closer look (I love exploring churches, it is fascinating to me). As we approached the church I was impressed with the unique architectural design of the exterior. I noticed the large concrete sign at the main entrance of the church which reads: "Our Shepherd Lutheran Church."

I was intrigued, So, I suggested we try to see the inside of the church. Honestly, I did not expect to be able to see the interior, because gone are the days to walk into a church at anytime. As we approached the door, I pulled on the handle and to my surprise the door was unsecured. So we walked inside and as we did I felt peace that I had been searching for. While still in the main lobby, I noticed the beauty of the sun shining through the windows from the ceiling and I thought to myself, "What a great idea, windows in the ceiling to experience more of heaven's glory onto the alter." Just then, a man approached us and asked, "Can I help you?" I stated, "We were driving by and I became curious to see the inside...."

The man identified himself as Paul Schroeder. He stated that he was the lead pastor of this church and proudly informed us that his son is also a pastor of the church. Pastor Paul said that he did not have much time, maybe 15 minutes" to give us a tour of the church. He pointed out certain aspects of the architectural structure of the church, I asked him about the (white) light diffusers suspended from the ceiling, Pastor Paul explained the fact that light through the windows. I responded, "They look like dove wings..." He said, "No one has ever said that." He paused looked up at the light diffusers and said, "I guess they do look like dove wings."

After our tour Pastor Paul invited us to sit on one of the couches located in the main lobby of the church. He explained the history of the church to us and talked about his family. He proudly told us about his wife Sylvia, Pastor Doug's wife Connie, as well as his grandsons, Luke and Michael and his daughter Dana and her husband, Don.

An hour later we were still chatting with Pastor Paul, at which time he invited us to attend a church service. He asked if we belonged to a church, we said that we did. He indicated that his intention was not to take us from the church we were members of at the time of our conversation.

After attending a few church services, and many prayers for guidance, Harry and I made the decision to become members. We told my sister and her husband of our new discovery and how impressed we were (and still are) with both Pastor Paul and Pastor Doug's style of delivery of the word, as well as the kindness and warm welcome from the parishioners. As a result, they along with their daughter (and their now son in law) as well as my mom joined the church also.

We have grown to love the Schroeder family.

Many thanks and praise to God for that beautiful day in 2013 that led us to a deeper faith by using his dedicated servant Pastor Paul Schroeder to be a shepherd of this congregation.

"I will pay my vows unto the Lord in the presence of all his people.  
**Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."**  
**Psalms 116:14-15**

~Tina R.

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**Remembering Pastor Paul Schroeder:** It was a warm and sunny day in late summer of 2013. I couldn't recall exactly what day; in fact, I had the wrong month entirely. I thought that it was a day in April or May, but that did not add up with the math. A phone call had to be made to confirm the correct date range. It is weird to me that I remember everything else about my first experience with Pastor Paul except for what day that it was. The whole week was beautiful. For a change everything seemed to be going our way, that is for Tina and I, and that hadn't happened for quite some time.

We spent a lot of time that day talking about changing churches. It was important to us that we stay within Missouri Synod, so we were looking hard, and also trying to sever all ties to the previous congregation. We were not happy there anymore. We couldn't even feel the presence of the Lord there. There was no life, and I cannot express how unhappy we were as Christians just feeling trapped in a cycle of the same old, stale services with a never ending list of demands being made upon us, and watching no one else contributing.

Then it changed. Everything changed.

We had been making trips back and forth for a few weekends from the house to Greendale high School to watch our Goddaughter, Christeka Widule, audition for a musical production of American Kids. We would pass by Our Shepherd Lutheran Church several times a day, not really noticing so much because we were not sure of our route and were concentrating on the task at hand and our destination. One of the days we were passing by; it was just before lunchtime, maybe around 10:45am, and I mentioned to Tina that maybe we should check out this church since it was LCMS and closer to the house than where we were attending. Tina agreed and said how much she was impressed by the "Big Jesus Fish" on the side of the building. I had no idea what she was talking about as I never noticed it, but now cannot pass by without seeing it and remembering our encounter that day.

We pulled up to the main entrance underneath the canopy. It was warmer and sunny that day, so we were happy to be able to park in the shade and be able to leave the windows down. The plan was to just stop in for a moment, check out the worship area, and leave for lunch. As we walked up to the doors, I thought how odd that it was that the windows weren't square. We opened the doors and walked in together. As we crossed the threshold, we both released a heavy sigh. I remember the hair on my arms standing on end and a sensation as though my soul was crying out of happiness. We weren't more than three feet in from the door, when we started talking about what we both were feeling; knowing that we were home.

That is when we met Pastor Paul.

He was an stout, older gentleman with a military style, flat-top haircut; not all gray, there was still original color in his hair, and he had an air of military discipline about him. Even though he was obviously seasoned, there was a youthful energy that encompassed him. He had a look on his face that was both inquisitive and investigatory – considering that he was hearing voices that he did not recognize in his church. He asked if there was anything that he could do for us. We plead our case about looking for a new home to worship in, and that we had a "few minutes" to check out and see what this church had to offer. Pastor Paul mentioned that he was working on his Sermon for the weekend's worship, and that he also had a "few minutes" to show us around if we would like a tour of the church.

"A few minutes"

Pastor Paul lit up like a prom night school boy. The first thing that he talked about was the absence of right angles and deliberate lack of perfection symbolizing us, as humans never being able to achieve the perfection of Jesus Christ. Then we talked about our histories, our faith, expectations, desires and goals. I asked if he had ever been in the military, based on my first impression of him, and he responded, "No, why do you ask?" He walked us through the Chapel, the Library - with the God's Work Today artifacts, and the recording studio. On the way back to the main building he stopped in the hallway and went through the "Key Chapters of the Bible" framed works one by one. He was so proud of these accomplishments. I could barely keep up with him. The energy

that was portrayed, and the spirit that emanated from him was captivating. Ninety minutes later we left Pastor Paul to his duties and we never went out to lunch.

We found our Christian worship home at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church because of Pastor Paul Schroeder.

Years later I came across Pastor Paul at Pick 'n Save on Cold Spring. I was dressed kind of sloppy since I was just stopping for beer, milk and potato chips – not necessarily in that order. It was in the hot deli section at the southwest corner of the store between produce section and the bakery that I saw him. He looked kind of sad and lost, but that was just my impression at the time, he could have easily have just been stuck deciding what he wanted to have for lunch. I felt that I was in a hurry and tried making an excuse not to say “hi” and get involved in a conversation, but then I remembered how he had a “few minutes” for us a couple of years ago and I could not walk away from him. I said hello to him and I could tell that he did not immediately recognize me; this happens to me all of the time, and we were engaged in conversation – I don’t remember the topics – I could tell that he knew who he was talking to. He said that he went to Pick ‘n Save for lunch fairly frequently because it was hot, fresh and quiet; but not that day. We talked for over an hour and I am glad that we did; after all, he went out of his way to make a “few minutes” for us that strengthened our faith changed our lives forever.

Thank you, Pastor Paul. ~ Harry R.

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I was a young man, newly graduated from college and floundering in my faith. Although a believer, I had not worshiped in several years and my faith life was just not on my radar. At the (strong) suggestion of my future wife Jean, I decided to search for a place to worship in the area. That led me to Our Shepherd and Pastor Paul. It was soon clear this development was part of God's plan for me. I (and later we) began my Christian walk with Pastor Paul and it changed my life forever. I often think of those formative years and the blessing of having Pastor Paul in my life at just the right time. Today I continue to grow in my faith walk remembering one of Pastor Paul's important teachings...using the analogy of the vine...anything that is not growing is dying. Pastor Paul was a dedicated servant of Jesus and I will always treasure his continuing influence on my life. Blessings, ~ Dennis P.

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My memories of Pastor Paul: I will always remember Pastor Paul as a man who truly “walked with God”. He loved God and desired to do His will. He demonstrated this by faithfully carrying out the Great Commission of bringing God’s Word to the world through his pastoral ministry and through the Word Today ministry.

I will always be grateful to Pastor Paul for teaching me the importance of reading and studying God’s Word and of sacrificial giving to the Lord. This has helped me to develop a closer relationship with God and to walk with Him in faith and trust. ~ Mark J.

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#### PAUL, MY SHEPHERD AT OUR SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Over 20 years ago, I checked into the Federal Prison Camp in Duluth, MN. I had been convicted of what we call a white-collar felony and sentenced to 21-24 months at this camp. At this point, the details do not matter, but needless to say, I was devastated.

Pastor Paul had been a strong supporter of mine during the period leading up to my incarceration, with prayers, encouragement, and love. And he promised to visit me on a regular basis.

And that he did!! His first visit was 6 weeks after I arrived at "camp". He talked with me, joked, we laughed, prayed, and he read from the bible and gave me communion. This encouragement was all I needed to hold my head high at the camp and pray to God for help, forgiveness, and support.

Pastor Paul continued his visits on about a 6 week interval, and I believe, I saw him 15 times in all! The only person that visited me more was my faithful wife!!

And this was not easy chore for Pastor Paul. The drive each way was 6 hours plus stops. Many times he made the trip in the same day. He was having leg and hip problems also, which really made the trip difficult. But he never stopped the visits.

Towards the end of my time, I was in the recreation hall waiting for his visit and talking to some other inmates. They asked me who my visitor was today, and I said my Pastor. I told them that he comes to visit me every 6 weeks from Greendale, WI. One inmate said that he tried to get his pastor from Eau Claire, 2-1/2 hours away, but he never would. So this inmate had given up on religion. I told him to hang in there, as he just has to find the right pastor.

So as you see, I was the one that had a pastor that was caring, one that would do most anything to save a soul. And that he did! I can hear Jesus now saying to Pastor Paul: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant! I was in prison and you visited me! For whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers, you did for me.

I truly miss Pastor Paul, but know he is now in heaven and talking with the saints as he always wished he could do. ~ Dan S.

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I won't forget my first time going to Our Shepherd. I walked in, sat down, and was concerned because I didn't know if it was a Lutheran church. I grew up a strict WI synod member. I cried that morning in church, I cried on the way home and felt the Holy Spirit burn inside me as I had never before. I couldn't wait to tell Mark all about this church. Mark worked out of state all that summer, and when he came home, I prayed he'd love the church as I did. We have never felt so welcome in a church and a part of a church before this. Mark and I went thru Pastor Paul's classes. He explained the church's beliefs and expectations and compared them to what I was brought up to believe. We joined the chancel committee and attended bible studies. We will not forget our first Easter in church, Pastor Paul comes out to the front as always, pauses and states loudly, JESUS CHRIST.....HAS RISEN with Pastors pause and we were like, what happened. And then he said "has risen" Mark and I were like whew, we thought something happened, and he was upset! Pastor Paul sure knew how to get your attention!!

Pastor Paul counseled us prior to our marriage. I was comfortable with him and felt I could always ask questions with no judgment (I could not do that in the church I grew up in). I asked, "why do I have to say honor and obey in my vows?" and he explained the next few sentences in the Bible of what God requires of Mark. Due to my courage to ask, we got the answer that we both need to understand God's will. Pastor Paul married us, and he didn't just use an old sermon from the past. He really knew us and had a meaningful sermon for our life and guests that attended.

Pastor Paul also baptized Addeline, and then we moved away for a time. We are very thankful we moved back before Pastor Paul retired so we could hear his powerful sermons in person a couple more times. He certainly impacted our lives and taught us many keep points that we take with us today.



Doug, you spoke about giving the sermon at your dad's memorial. If anyone can give a powerful and meaningful sermon, it will be you. You blessed Mark, Mark's entire family, and me when you gave the sermon at Mark's dad's funeral. Mark's family were not churchgoers. You opened their eyes, and I'd like to think because of what you did that day, the Holy Spirit came to them too. The sense of peace and comfort you gave us will never be forgotten; by God's Words, you spoke to us.

Pastor Paul is smiling down on you and your family. You had the best mentor and father a person could pray for, and God gave you the Blessing of preaching together for all those years, which in turn, Blessed Our Shepherd. Not too many congregations can experience the messages you both gave. Your work together is a true Blessing. ~ Lynn and Mark E.



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Pastor Paul inspired me to read the bible each day. I also am still trying to become a stronger Christian each day. I will fondly remember his booming laughter. It cheered the whole congregation. ~ Ruth S.

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To All Who Have Fond Memories of Pastor Paul-

Carol and I first met Pastor Paul when we joined Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, in the summer of 1969, upon our move from Milwaukee to Greendale.

The relationship that was developed was immediate. Even though we only remained members of Our Shepherd Lutheran Church until August of 1970 that relationship remained intact and grew stronger by the year.

Our first venture with Pastor Paul and Sylvia was to a fine restaurant in the North Milwaukee area, possibly as far north as Mequon. It was an evening that was the beginning of several dinners.

As you may recall Pastor Paul did not begin The Word Today until approximately 8 years after our departure from Our Shepherd Lutheran Church. Ever since the beginning of The Word Today and having lived in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin for that period-of-time The Word Today became one of our major donation mediums. Mission's is a major part of Carol's and my life and what better way to support the World Mission of preaching the Gospel to the world than to contribute to The Word Today.

After the time we left Greendale and Our Shepherd Lutheran Church we have been back many times. Pastor Paul and Sylvia last came to Madison to visit Carol and I after our move to a condo development in Madison. On a Sunday afternoon we left Madison and traveled to the Watch Tower Inn in Beloit for a wonderful dinner.

We also made two trips to the Holy Land with Pastor Paul and God willing we would like to continue that effort with Pastor Doug.

We have continued this relationship even though we were members for only a little more than a year, way back in 1969-1970. Our most recent visit was to spend time with Pastor Doug, Sylvia and Pastor Paul who had just been relocated to a special facility for memory care. Once again, the five of us were able to have a fine dinner.

We attempted, one last time, to visit Pastor Paul and Sylvia that was not meant to be. It was merely one week before Pastor Paul's health deteriorated rapidly and The Lord calling Pastor Paul home – Pastor Paul I am calling you home, your work is finished here on this earth.

Even though a lot of our time seemed to be centered around the evening meal our time together was much more meaningful than merely eating. Pastor Paul was a mentor to many and especially to Carol and me. The Word Today, was a very-special effort, which created an unbreakable bond between the four of us. A bond that even after death continues. Pastor Doug and The Word Today!

Pastor Paul, with God's help, blessed so many in his lifetime including Carol and myself.

Our Son, Scott, his wife, Karen, and their Son, Quentin remain to this day as members of Our Shepherd Lutheran Church. ~ Niles and Carol J.

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These are some of my memories of Pastor Schroeder, I have many since we were members of Our Shepherd about 30 years before we moved here to Omro, 23 years ago.

I walked into the church in 1970 and immediately felt at home, one of the things he said that morning was that if you wanted to be a member, you must be a sinner. I definitely qualified, At the end of the service he plugged a new restaurant and was describing how delicious the food was. From that moment I knew he was a foodie, going into Arthur Treachers many years later , he was there and he asked me to join him and I thought that was pretty cool..

I loved his sermons and left church actually remembering what he said. I attended his Wed. a.m. Bible Study for years and I learned to really understand the Bible. He taught me how to give to the Lord generously, although always a Christian, I did not seem to understand that.

Over the years he baptized my son, confirmed and married both my children, and baptized my grandson twice, once in the hospital and again at the dedication. Adam, you are doubly blessed. And then 8 years ago , he was still the Pastor I wanted to give my Mom a Christian burial and he did.

In the years we have lived up here, I was never able to find a Pastor that could fill his shoes for me. I am so thankful to the Lord for letting me walk into Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Greendale, so many many years ago. I will miss you Pastor Paul Schroeder. ~ Darlene K.

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Pastor Paul was always interested in the growth of the Christian life of all his members. The first time I heard his voice it was over the phone in Bronxville, New York. He asked Dave to take the choir position at Our Shepherd if he accepted the call to Martin Luther High School. Because Dave did both, it was my pleasure to sing on Pastor Paul's TV show. Our 3 children were instructed and confirmed by Pastor Paul. More growth in the Christian life occurred when I conferred with him on a bible study I wrote for a Women's Retreat at Our Shepherd and through discussions as a Wednesday school teacher. Growth in the commitments of life and offerings was ongoing through Pastor Paul's teachings. ~ Karen K.

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I met Pastor Paul at Keith's Family Restaurant. I was a waitress he came in frequently for breakfast. I would serve him his is favorite pecan waffles. My boss was Keith N. Pastor Paul would talk with my boss often and they quickly became friends. Renae, Keith's girlfriend was also a waitress at his restaurant. One night Keith woke up to being stabbed 17 times by Renae's ex-boyfriend. After that near death experience Keith became a member of Our Shepherd Lutheran Church. Keith was one of many of Pastor Paul's witnesses and conversions.

My husband Jeff did not like the new pastor at his church. I told him about this wonderful pastor that I served pecan waffles to. We decided to go to Pastor Paul's church, Our Shepherd Lutheran, towards the end of 1977. I was laid off because I was pregnant and Jeff's company was on strike. The radio ministry The Word Today was just starting and my husband Jeff gave our last 50 dollars to the ministry. God has blessed us ever since we have had six children and 8 grandchildren.

Pastor Paul has taught me many lessons over the years and one I remember: He asked our bible class, "If you have a good dog and an evil dog which one would win?" We all thought the good dog always wins over the evil dog. Not true, the truth is the dog you feed is the dog that wins. Feed on God's Word, the Bible, not the evil of the world. All our power and strength come from staying in God's Word daily. One of the acronyms for the word Bible is- Basic, Instruction, Before, Leaving, Earth. One of Pastor's favorite Bible verses is, "Not by might, nor power, but by my spirit says the Lord." He also told us not to let Satan rob us of our joy!

I have been so blessed by Pastor Paul. He has given me wise council through the years. He has been like a father to me, for that I am extremely grateful to God for him.

I have been so blessed by his whole family. I love each and every one of you. I truly offer my deepest sympathy to all of you. His wonderful legacy still lives on in his family. I am sure Pastor Paul is enjoying the streets of gold in heaven. Pastor Paul is an awesome, remarkable man. He still is winning souls for heaven through his radio ministry The Word Today. Praise God! ~ Debbie V.

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I credit Pastor Paul with bringing me back into church and Christ's love. When we first visited Our Shepherd and subsequently decided to become members, Pastor Paul invited us to a new members class. I remember wondering (foolishly!)why I would have to do that as I've been a lifelong member of the Missouri Synod. Taking the classes, I couldn't have been more shocked. It was as if he were re-telling my life to me as a weak Christian without ever knowing me and with that smile he always had on his face! God puts people in your life when they're needed and that was Pastor Paul in that instance for me. It truly was a life changing experience and I will always remember him for it! ~ Ben M.

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## Our Good Shepherd – Pastor Paul Schroeder

Many years ago when I was still a member of Ebenezer Lutheran Church my parents and I visited Our Shepherd during their Lenten services. We didn't have Lenten services at our church for some reason or another. We were very impressed by what we heard and saw. Pastor Paul was preaching and we really like how he delivered his sermon. On our way home we discussed that if our church would ever close Our Shepherd would be our new church. My parents had passed on before Ebenezer closed and because of our discussion I went to check it out and see how I would like it. After a couple of weeks I decided that Our Shepherd would be my new home church. It was quite an adjustment for me because Ebenezer was the only church I ever knew. In the first weeks of going there Pastor Paul sat me down in the narthex, after the Saturday night service, and would tell me stories of some of his previous experiences. I know I was mesmerized by his words but I knew in my heart that he was a true disciple for Christ. You see I believe that Christ brought me to Our Shepherd because he knew that's where I needed to be. The thing I admired most about Pastor Paul was his honesty. He didn't sugar coat things like some do. He told you exactly the way it was whether you liked it or not. The most amazing fact about Pastor Paul was that he brought Jesus' command to go out and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit To Life. I feel truly blessed to have known Pastor Paul. ~ Lori T.

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What a pillar of faith was Pastor Paul! And what a joyous, strong, sure hope in Christ he brought to us! When I think of Pastor Paul, two things always come to mind: The doxology and the Benediction. Now he has both in all their fullness. Whew, Just imagine his shout of "AMEN!" Praying for comfort as you mourn and peace as you rejoice in the resurrection. ~ Lauren S.

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## Remembrances of Pastor Paul R Schroeder

It is hard to believe it has been 51 years since we first met Pastor Paul. We moved to Milwaukee in February of 1969 and began shopping for a new church home. After visiting several Lutheran churches on the south side of Milwaukee, we attended a service at Our Shepherd in Greendale. We were impressed by the warm reception of the people, but most of all by the pastor who preached in a down to earth, understandable manner without even an outline or notes. We decided this was the place where we wanted to worship, and after he visited us at our apartment a few weeks later, we joined Our Shepherd.

Many milestones in our lives occurred at Our Shepherd. Pastor Paul baptized both of our kids, Andrew and Heidi. He also married Heidi and baptized three of our four grandchildren. Pastor Doug married Andrew and Deb and baptized our fourth grandchild.

Most importantly, we learned that Pastor Paul had a strong passion for preaching, spreading the word and missions. His preaching was always clear, concise and based on what God placed on his heart as the shepherd of the flock at Our Shepherd. He told it like it was, even though the message may have offended, because as sinners we all need to hear not only the forgiveness, but the law.

The Word Today has been truly blessed by God, not only by the way it has spread around the world, but by the way it has been blessed financially by the contributions by members of the parish as well as the way the investments that sustain the ministry performed under his guidance.

Just as importantly, we and the parish learned from Pastor Paul what stewardship is really all about. The idea and the challenge of proportionate giving was new to us. He challenged

members of the parish to trust God and give it a try. I know that many have given it a try based on that challenge. I can't speak for the others, but God never disappointed us as we attempted to grow in our stewardship commitment. I also think of the occasions on which we discussed situations in which sacrificial givers left the parish, and the financial impact it would have on Our Shepherd. I advised Pastor Paul that I believed that many of these families came to Our Shepherd and learned what stewardship was really about under his guidance, and the Lord then moved them elsewhere to teach others how to give. What a blessing for the kingdom!

I also think of the personal relationship that developed between us. In addition to the many conversations we had over the years, we played racquetball and golf together for many years. The games were always very competitive, but also served as a release from what might have been going on in our lives, whether related to the parish or not. These personal times will always be a fond memory, and we feel very blessed to have known him not only as our pastor, but as a friend.

We are confident that Pastor Paul was welcomed home into heaven with the words found in Matthew 25:21, "Well done, good and faithful servant". ~ Dick and Katy G.

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Pastor Paul was a spiritual father and mentor to me. Being a member at Our Shepherd since 1968, hanging out with Dana since grade school, being confirmed and married by Pastor Paul and going on a holy land trip with him gave me so many opportunities to experience his godly example. He was a man of God on fire for the Lord with a passion for the lost. No matter what the subject or the cost, he was not afraid to take a firm biblical stand and proclaim God's truth. I have been so blessed to have had Pastor Paul in my life. ~ Kathy K.

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I always enjoyed Pastor Paul's sermons and his sense of humor. His tour of the Fish building ending in "and this is a very surprising room" as we entered the room where all were hidden for Dave K's surprise 70<sup>th</sup> birthday party was classic. ~ Brett M.

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Pastor Paul always talked about what a joyous day it would be when he met his Savior. I have som many fond memories of Pastor Paul. He confirmed me, married my husband and I, and baptized our two children. I had to attache a copy of this picture. It was such a precious moment after my wedding. Pastor was having a serious talk with me about mariage and how many end in divorce. It is with God's grace that Jim and I have been married for over 38 years! I know you will cherish all the wonderful memories. ~ Karen R.



I will always remember and cherish knowing Pastor Paul and all he contributed ` especially to The Word Today and what it meant to him and to all of us. His guidance was a blessing, always encouraging me to better serve our Lord by serving others. ~ Andy G.

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Pastor Paul was a great motivational speaker. I sure learned a lot from him. ~ Lois R.

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Pastor Paul would remind us at times like this, "Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall anser; thou shalt cry, and He says HERE I AM." Isaiah 58:9. What peace! ~ Bob and Diane H.

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I remember so many of Pastor Paul's powerful sermons. I think back now as a Christian that he let himself be so filled with the Holy Spirit that he not only had amazing messages, but accomplished so much for Christ—one of them being the radio show. In Christ's love. ~ Jon E.

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When I think of Pastor Paul's passing from this earth unto His presence with Jesus, I was both saddened and joyful. Saddened for the earthly loss of a father, father-in-law, grandfather for your family. But, joyful for the victory and celebration of eternal life for Pastor Paul. Vicky E.

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We feel so blessed to have had Pastor Paul as our church leader. We are so happy to be a part of the Our Shepherd family and raise our kids in the Christian life. ~ Steve and Lori T.

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Paul was a very special man used by God to bring countless people to faith! He was a huge blessing in our life. Thank you for sharing him with us all these years. Rhiannon and Jason B.

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So sorry to hear of Pastor Paul's passing. We are assured he is with the Lord as a disciple. I learned so much from him. The songs "This is the Day" and "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow." I sing them daily. I used his bible guide and gave it to a number of people. I also used his salvation pamphlet when talking to people at Ebenezer Church. Pastor Paul taught me sacrificial giving and I am a loyal TWT supporter. Of course, the Holy Land and Footsteps of St. Paul trips were awesome and strengthened my faith. ~ Cathy S.

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I remember how much Pastor Paul loved Taco Bell☺ I remember how excited he would get when he talked about Heaven. All the beautiful colors and sounds...it made me even more excited about Heaven! ~ Jason B.

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On our way home from the hospital after Mallory's birth we stopped at church to have her baptized. Pastor Paul baptized her and then said such a beautiful prayer for her. I will never forget that. Rhiannon B.

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I don't remember much, but I know that you were an amazing person and that you really believed the Word of God. I am glad that you are in a much better place. ~ Kayla G.

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I remember when Pastor Paul called me and asked me to be a Sunday School teacher. Tim and I had just joined the church about 33 years ago. I told him that I would miss is bible class. He told me when I prepare for Sunday school, it's like a bible lesson in itself. I still remember that today, 33 years later, as I prepare for Sunday School. ~ Patty O.

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It was through Pastor Paul that my faith became personal. He was always challenging me (and the congregation) to deepen our faith through a variety of ways. I thank him for that! ~ Naomi K.

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Pastor Paul made me smile. His belly laugh and sparkly eyes and spirit for the Lord made me know I was in the right place when I foirst walked into Our Shepherd 6 years ago. I talked to him about his artifacts and he always made me feel welcome at church. He was a great pastor and a wonderful man! ~ Dawn O.

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Chuck and I first met Pastor Paul at our son Matt's wedding. On our way to the reception Chuck said, "That's where we are going to go to church." We have been attending Our Shepherd ever since. Thanks to Pastor Paul, our faith has been renewed. ~ Cory H.

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We thank our Lord for Pastor Paul's spiritual guidance for 40-plus years. He also gave us the opportunity to spread the Gospel through TWT. ~ Otto and Joan K.

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I am sorry for your loss, but also rejoice along with you that one day we will join Pastor Paul in glory with Jesus. God used Pastor Paul as a strong influence to springboard my faith walk way back when I was 18. He opened up the Word of God like no one before in my life. It's a blessing kowning all of you. Love and Peace in Jesus! ~ Teresa H. and Family

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What a privelege I had to know Pastor Paul and worship at Our Shepherd. ~ Barb F.

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What a blessing Pastor Paul has been to us and our lives are forever changed as he helped us grow and strengthen our faith through his preaching and the life style he lived. He was on fire for the Lord and spreaking His word and we know he is with the Lord now! He truly cared for peple and had a great sense of humor. Once he got to know me and when my hair color was blonde, he couldn't wait to see me on Sunday and tell his latest "blonde joke"! It always made me laugh! ~ Kathy S.

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Pastor Paul was a true "Man of God". ~ Yvonne R.

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**P**reached from the heart

**A**ccentuated growing our faith

**S**poke with conviction

**T**old many Jokes

**O**n fire for the Lord

**R**ead; down to earth

**P**rayed fervently

**A**stute with stocks and money

**U**sed Law and Gospel in his sermons

**L**ed by the Holy Spirit

Pastor Paul—Unforgettable! Such a big influence on both of us! ~ Ed and Jill K.

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We are so sorry for your loss, but we look forward to the day when we can be with Pastor Paul again. He was such a wonderful man and we learned so much from him. He was an amazing storyteller and joke teller! ~ Paula B. and Julie S.

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It was an honor and a blessing to have Pastor Paul as our spiritual leader for all those years. We wish you God's peace and joy knowing Pastor Paul is celebrating in heaven. ~ Karl S.

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Pastor Paul touched many hearts and lives, and although it is hard to imagine the world without him, it is easy to imagine heaven rejoicing because he is there. Thanking God for Pastor Paul's life, and thinking of you during this difficult time. ~ June D. and Family

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Pastor Paul was an extraordinary pastor with an imposing presence, powerful voice, strong inspirational messages and large ambitions. I am grateful for his ministry as well as for his fine family and the part you have played in his mission. Certain precepts he impressed upon me have been guiding principles in my life. May God bless you as you each move forward in your individual life journeys. I am grateful as well for the impact the ministry has had on my sons' lives, Adam S. and Dr. Gabriel S. ~ Claudia D.

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We really got to experience Pastor Paul's love of God and for life in general. Connie and Mike

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It is with sad hearts that we learned of Pastor Paul's recent passing. However, we know heaven and our Lord are rejoicing! He was such a faithful servant of the Lord. We loved our years at Our Shepherd and the many bible studies he provided. We learned so much and are so grateful for that time in our lives. Don and Kathie G.

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Pastor Paul has such a special place in our hearts. He married us, baptized our daughter and influenced a great deal of our married life. We are grateful for those moments. ~ Tom and Jodi A. and Family

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Our memories of Pastor Paul date back to our childhood and growing up at Our Shepherd! Our mom would save cans for "The Word Today". Kathy, Elliott and Karl K.

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