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Lutheran pastor dies of stroke

Rev. Timothy F. Hungler served Lutheran churches

BY HOWARD MCEWEN | ENQUIRER CONTRIBUTOR

BELLEVUE - Sunday, Pastor Timothy F. Hungler stepped away from his pulpit and into the congregation to deliver his sermon at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Bellevue. The topic was the constant message of his 33-year pastoral career: Christian love, forgiveness and redemption.

Later that day, at his home, he suffered a massive stroke that ended his life on Wednesday. He was 58.

"He was a St. Francis type - gentle, very sensitive, caring, humble yet a person who had much strength," said Ralph Kempfski, Bishop Emeritus of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Tim Hungler was raised Roman Catholic in Fort Thomas. Later, he embraced the Lutheran faith.

He served churches in Crestline, Ohio in Cincinnati and in Floyd's Nob, Ind.

"I took a clear message from every sermon he ever delivered," said Christian Gausvik, president of the Prince of Peace Church Council.

In 1997, the Rev. Mr. Hungler was called to be an interim minister for the synod. The position requires skills in dealing with churches in transition.

In 2001, he married Diane Beckham at age 53.

At Hopeful Lutheran Church in Florence, he was Pastor of Spirituality and Ministry.

Visitation is 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Thomas-Justin Funeral Home, Kenwood. Funeral is 11 a.m. Wednesday at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 7701 Kenwood Road.

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