



Dr. James Leonard Spickelmier

January 14, 1941 - September 25, 2013

Pastor, Educator, Age 72. Born January 14, 1941, in Bonne Terre, MO, died September 25, 2013. Preceded in death by parents, Leonard R. and Glenda (Stacy) Spickelmier. Survived by beloved wife of 46 years, Carole (Lundquist) Spickelmier, three sons Eric (Anna), Grant (Jennifer), Mark (Jessica Madole), and three wonderful grandchildren, Matthew, Katie and Miah; brother, Dan Spickelmier; sisters, Marilyn (Bob) Greason, Marjorie (Larry) Cannady, Margaret (Stan) Austin and Beth (Paul) Himes; many nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives, as well as a host of dear friends. Jim was a graduate of both Bethel College and Bethel Seminary, with a Th.M. from Princeton Seminary and a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. He pastored three churches: Trinity Baptist in New York City; Kensington Baptist in Kensington, CT and Central Baptist in Sioux Falls, SD. He was campus pastor at Bethel College and later administered the field education and doctor of ministry programs at Bethel Seminary. From 1997 until his retirement in 2010, he was associate vice president for seminary development. During his years at Bethel he also served as interim pastor for 12 Minnesota churches. Following retirement, he and Carole co-edited three books of history on the Baptist General Conference and Bethel. They also co-authored a book on the life of Dr. Carl H. Lundquist, which was completed only a week before Jim's death. Visitation Sunday (Sept. 29) from 2-6 PM at HOLCOMB-HENRY-BOOM-PURCELL FUNERAL HOME, 515 Hwy 96 W., at Mackubin, Shoreview. Funeral Service 11 AM, Monday, Sept. 30 (visitation 10-11 AM) at

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 2120 Lexington Ave. N., Roseville. Memorials preferred to Bethel University, 3900 Bethel Dr., Arden Hills, MN 55112.

Tribute Wall

LS

“ Sorry to hear of Jim's passing. We shared times and travels together while doctoral students at the UofM: a scholar, a gentleman, and a brother in Christ.

Larry Selin - October 06, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JI

“ Carole,

God's grace to you as you both celebrate Jim's life and grieve this loss. What a powerful example of a life well-lived. I'm so thankful for Jim. I'm so thankful for the legacy he has left here at Bethel and the blessing he has been to me and the seminary community as a whole. We grieve and celebrate with you.

Grace and Peace,

Justin Irving

Justin Irving - October 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ I wanted to give my condolences to the family of Pastor Jim. I knew him as the Campus Pastor at Bethel University when I was a student from 1975-1978. He was a wonderful example of Christ's Love and Grace. He always had a smile on his face! May The Lord give you peace and comfort during this time of grief and loss.

Debbie Hamilton - October 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ Dear Spickelmier family--
We consider ourselves privileged to know part of your wonderful family, Grant, Jen, Matthew and Katie. We have stayed in their home many times, in MN, and often heard them speak of Grant's parents. Unfortunately, we never managed to be there at a time when we could meet the wonderful grandparents! Now you have lost a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and GOOD friend. We always knew that the Spickelmiers were "famous" around Bethel and the cities, but we did not know about Dr. S's time on the east coast, an area that is also special to us. Besides saying how very sorry we are at the early death of a special man, I want to thank you for sharing him with the world. May you all be blessed as you gather to remember him, his ministry, and the life God gave him. May you grieve WELL, for that is the best tribute to a person who gave their life to the service of others. And, may you have wonderful memories as God gives you the PEACE that passes all understanding as you walk this journey.

Love and respect to you all--
Ed and Susanna

Ed and Susanna Brown - September 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Our condolences to Carole and the family. Pastor Jim officiated at our wedding in May 1977. May God bless and comfort each one.

Margo Fellows Grant - September 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ I was honored to work with Jim. He was a man of God with a servant's heart. I was blessed to know him. Praying for the family as they grieve and as they celebrate Jim's homegoing.

Deb Brist - September 30, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ We remember Jim with great appreciation. I was his pastor for only three years.

We greatly appreciated Jim's gentle spirit and encouraging words.

We will be praying for you, Carol, and for all of the family.

May the Lord Jesus undergird all of you with His great love and His faithful presence.

Dr. and Mrs. Norman P. Anderson - September 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Carole, Eric, Grant and Mark,

Connie and I thought the world of Jim. He was so effective as the campus pastor at Bethel and theological educator at the seminary. From our perspective he represented the best of the evangelical-Baptist Christian tradition.

We recently talked to him about his most recent book. A good man. He will be missed. Bob & Connie Duffett

robert duffett - September 28, 2013 at 12:00 AM

NG

“ Dear Carole, and family,

I am so sorry to hear of Jim's passing and yet I rejoice that he has received his reward for a life well lived in service of his Lord. Please accept my sympathy in your loss of a very special man. I watched him tenderly care for Jennifer Gloe, who was the mother of our grandson, Kendrik. She looked up to Pastor Jim a lot. She passed away on May 28 at the age of 40, very unexpectedly. I thank you for sharing Jim with all the many people who were ministered to by Pastor Jim. Blessings to you all.

Nancy Gross - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ A kind and patient man who was interested in my whole well being, Mr. Spickelmier was part of the village of dads in Falcon Heights, MN who raised me. I will miss his presence in the world. My thoughts and prayers are with the Spickelmier family.

Craig Bierbaum - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ It was only a couple of Sundays ago that I was arriving at Central Baptist Church in Sioux Falls and I heard voices calling my name. I turned around and saw Jim & Carol Spickelmier walking in to attend Sunday service. His beaming smile & shiny black eyes brought back welcoming memories. The next day I met a friend for prayer at Central and as I was leaving I noticed Jim & Carol by the stone memorial in front of the church, which memorialized completion of construction when Jim had been Central's pastor. Now I realize they must have been reviewing reminders of life's journey which the Lord had brought them through. Jim had a spiritual gift of mercy and the heart of a pastor to shepherd his flock. It's been a year since my husband left his earthly home for heaven so I understand some of the grieving process that you, Carol and family, are experiencing. It's been a comfort for me to affirm that whatever is my situation in life: single, married, or widowed...I still am the Bride Of Christ! (Jacquelyn Gunnarson)

Jacquelyn Gunnarson - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ *I'm sorry Carole for your loss and Bethel's loss. He was a wonderful man. I always enjoyed my conversations with him.* ”

Paula K Williamson - September 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM