

**Rev. Elton R. Bickel**, 87, of Pigeon, formerly of Elkton, passed away Thursday, February 6, 2025, at McLaren Bay Region Hospital in Bay City.

Pastor Bickel was born February 4, 1938, in Columbus, Wisconsin to the late Reuben and Rose (Miller) Bickel. He was baptized March 20, 1938, in Reeseville, Wisconsin and confirmed April 6, 1952 at Zion Lutheran Church, Columbus, WI. He graduated from Dr. Martin Luther High School in New Ulm, Minnesota. He then graduated from Northwestern College in Watertown, Wisconsin and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, Wisconsin. During college he worked summers for the US Forest Service in Idaho, fighting forest fires and trying to save the White Pine. He served his Vicar year at Grace Lutheran Church in Tucson, Arizona. Upon graduation from the seminary, he began his pastoral ministry at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Kalamazoo, MI. He subsequently served at St. James Lutheran Church in Portage, MI, Apostles Lutheran Church in Temperance, MI, St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Toledo, OH and Trinity Lutheran Church in Elkton, MI, where he retired in 2008. Throughout his ministry he was a strong proponent of Christian education.

Pastor Bickel married Donna Steinke on July 12, 1969, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Omro Township, Minnesota; she preceded him in death on November 14, 2006. After retiring he moved to Country Bay Village in Pigeon. His close friends Chad and Julie Seley were a great comfort and help to him in his later years.

Pastor Bickel is survived by his sister Marilyn (Ronald) Belau of Florida. He was preceded in death by his sister Caroline Bickel.



*In Loving Memory*

*Rev. Elton R. Bickel*

*1938 ~ 2025*

*Jesus said,  
"I am the resurrection  
and the life;  
he who believes in me,  
though he die,  
yet shall he live,  
and whoever lives  
and believes in me  
shall never die."*

**John 11:25, 26**



*In Memory of*

**Rev. Elton Robert Bickel**

February 4, 1938



February 6, 2025

**Graveside Service**

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery—

*WELS*

Omro Township, Minnesota

Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

2:30 PM

**Officiant**

Pastor Johann Caauwe

**Interment**

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery

Omro Township, MN

