

REV. PRAETORIUS, FOUNDER OF THE PIGEON LUTHERAN CHURCH PASSES AWAY

Rev. Richard Praetorius, 83, died at his home one mile west of Pigeon Friday evening following an illness of eight months.

He was born in Ellenburg, Germany on September 7, 1855. In 1887 he came from Germany to locate in Saginaw for a short time where he was united in marriage with Anna Proehl. His first charge was a church in Sterling, Mich., where he remained two years. He then became pastor of St. John's Lutheran church at Berne for two years. In 1891 he organized the Cross Lutheran church in Pigeon and continued as its pastor until 1925 when he retired.

Rev. Praetorius is survived by his widow and two daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Crabb of Louisville, Kentucky and Mrs. Magdeline Diener of Winsor township.

The funeral services were held in Cross Lutheran church at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. From 10 o'clock until 2 o'clock the body lay in state in the church and was viewed by members of the church as well as many friends.

The services at the church were conducted by Rev. Robert Born, local acting pastor and Rev. Frederick Volz of Saginaw. The service at the grave were conducted by Rev. Hemoerder of Unionville. Burial was in Cross cemetery.

Other pastors attending the funeral besides those already mentioned were Rev. Killmer and Rev. Kuner of Saginaw, Rev. Dorubrock of Rees and Rev. Weis of Freeland.