

*Pastor Dale Bauer*



*June 7, 1946 - March 18, 2024*



# The Many Faces & Personalities of the Holy Spirit





## **Pastor Bauer – History Profile**

- June 7, 1968 – Married Edee Robinson at Valparaiso University Chapel
- June 9, 1968 – Graduated from Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana
- June 4, 1972 – Graduated from Hamma School of Theology, Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio
- 1972-1974 – Participated in eight quarters of clinical pastoral education at Presbyterian Medical Center, Denver, Colorado: Served as chaplain to all sections of a 600-bed medical facility; Chaplain to the oncology and maintenance dialysis units; and also participated in advanced training in pastoral counseling.
- May 12, 1974 – Ordained at Faith Lutheran Church, Akron, Ohio
- 1974-1979 – Served Zion Lutheran Church, Idaho Springs, Colorado
- 1979-1989 – Pastor of Epiphany Lutheran Church, Denver, Colorado-an urban ministry setting
- May 21, 1989-June 2, 2012– Pastor of Cross of Hope Lutheran Church, Albuquerque, New Mexico



**1946 - 2024**

**Dale Gene Bauer**  
**June 7, 1946 — March 18, 2024**  
**Albuquerque**

BAUER, THE REVEREND DALE GENE, a resident of Albuquerque, NM since 1989, passed away Monday, March 18, 2024, at the age of 77. He is survived by his wife, Edith of Albuquerque, NM numerous nephews, nieces, in-laws, and friends. Rev. Bauer was preceded in death by his father, Louis Edwin Bauer Sr., mother, Esther Irene Bauer and brother, Rev. Louis Edwin Bauer, Jr.

Dale touched countless lives through his compassion, faith, and zest for life and will be deeply missed.

Rev. Bauer attended Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Indiana where he met Edith Robinson. Dale married Edith on June 7, 1968, and he graduated two days later. Rev. Bauer attended Hamma School of Theology, Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio and earned his Master of Divinity in 1972. He served as Chaplain at Presbyterian Medical Center, in Denver, Colorado from 1972-1974.

Rev. Bauer was ordained at Faith Lutheran Church in Akron, Ohio and served Zion Lutheran Church in Idaho Springs, Colorado from 1974-1979, joining the volunteer fire department and embracing mountain living. He then served as pastor at Epiphany Lutheran Church, an urban ministry setting, in Denver, Colorado for ten years.

In 1989, he accepted a call to Cross of Hope Lutheran Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico where he served until his retirement in 2012. One of his proudest accomplishments was leading the establishment of the Cross of Hope Elementary School in 2004.

Dale was an avid skier and gardener, had a passion for geology and Civil War history, ran or biked almost daily, and with his wife, Edee, traveled the globe through cities both ancient and modern, mountains and canyons.

***Service will be held Saturday, April 20, 2024; 10:00 a.m., at Cross of Hope Lutheran Church, 6104 Taylor Ranch Road NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87120.***

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Cross of Hope Schools, 6104 Taylor Ranch Road NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87120

When I first interviewed with Pastor Dale for the Church Administrative position, he was impressed because I told him that he needed me. I really don't remember saying such a thing as that.

Church telephone message from Dale.... "Come and join us as we are a group of friendly folks "Walking in the Light of the Lord."

One time when it came to scheduling something on the church calendar, I made Pastor Dale fill out a building use form (because he never would) and he became indignant and said, "Are you being Contrite with me?" And I told him we all need to fill one out otherwise we will be on top of each other.

Pastor Dale would always celebrate special occasions, one of them was by taking the staff out to lunch at Sadie's. He would always have flower bouquets for the staff on appreciation day.

Pastor Bauer loved to dress and play the part for special event occasions.

**Linda Willoughby, Church Administrator**

One of my cherished memories of Pastor Dale was his passion for new members to become involved in Koinonia. His guidance and wisdom had a significant impact on my life and my bonding with Koinonia. **Deborah Rivera**

In 1996 we arrived in a vast desert without a friend. Cross of Hope found us and helped make Albuquerque home for 17 years.

Pastor Dale was beside us as we lost 3 parents and added three children to our family. Under Pastor Dale's leadership we had the privilege of being part of a Koinonia group yielding lifelong friends.

Our children were baptized, received their first communion, and one was confirmed. Our youngest had the joy of attending Cross of Hope elementary school. A true blessing.

For us Dale and Cross of Hope are synonymous and will always bring warm and cherished memories.

We were blessed by Dale! **Mark, Joan, Luke, Jake and Anya Salisbury**

One day I stopped by Cross of Hope on my way home from work. I asked Dale if he would rather be treated to lunch or have me give him a dead bobcat. He looked puzzled, so I went on to explain that when I was growing up my dad shot a bobcat and gave it to our pastor to turn in so he could collect the 5-dollar bounty. It didn't work out for our pastor since they wouldn't give him the bounty because he didn't actually shoot

the bobcat. For several months, members of our congregation could smell the dead bobcat behind our church. Dale opted for lunch instead. **Mark Salisbury**



Anya, Jake during children's time



Luke with last bag



Jake's First Communion



Anya's baptism

Pastor Dale was the head pastor of Cross of Hope for as long as I was there. He oversaw my baptism, my first communion, and my confirmation. I was part of his last confirmation class before his retirement in 2012. I was born into the Cross of Hope congregation (my parents attended before I was born) and I grew up in Cross of Hope's community of faith. I was 14 years old when we moved away, just on the verge of adolescence. For me Cross of Hope will always be the place where I was introduced to faith in Christ, as well as the place where I grew up and learned about God. All of this was possible thanks to Pastor Dale. It was his profound commitment to faith in Jesus that inspired me to strengthen my own faith, even when I had my own struggles while growing up. Pastor Dale was always a source of inspiration, and a constant bedrock of faith and comfort, not only for me but for the whole church community. It is no exaggeration to say that the ever-warm community of faith and support at Cross of Hope existed because of Pastor Dale. Even after we moved, I would still continue to look back on the days at Cross of Hope as a constant reminder of faith, and of the importance of trust in God's love always. I would always remember Pastor Dale's profound grace and faith with which he guided us all in learning about God's will and applying His will to our lives.



Even now, I still look back on Pastor Dale's sermons and his leadership for inspiration on how to live a life of faith in God. I still fondly remember all the many years I spent at Cross of Hope, as the bright and warm community. There was a truly inspiring and welcoming place throughout my whole childhood and the beginning of my adolescence. My personal journey in faith is something I owe to Cross of Hope and Pastor Dale, who showed me the way of God and the meaning of faith in Jesus. I will always remember the lessons of faith I learned.

God bless you, Pastor Dale. May you find peace and salvation with God. May you always be remembered fondly by those of us who owe our faith journeys to you.

And God bless Cross of Hope, a wonderful place that taught me what it means to be Christian and have faith in Christ Jesus. May God always be with Cross of Hope, and may God guide its leaders and congregations forever more.



Luke as alterboy

### **Luke Salisbury**

John was on the call committee as we searched for a Pastor. Dale Bauer fit all the important categories. We wanted a great teacher for our Bible studies. He somehow didn't fit the music category! But still, we chose our pastor.

Dale's favorite hymn was "I Love to tell the Story." and we all loved singing it with him.

Dale drove an old orange Bronco which offered him many laughs and jokes. He loved that truck!!



Cross of Hope began a building project which was to design and build an elementary school. Our preschool met inside the Great Hall at that time, but plans went forward through it all. It was exciting and lots of hard work. Dale was a very busy pastor with much on his plate.

Speaking of plates, Edee told us Dale didn't like pot roast one bit. So of course, when celebrating his birthday we cooked him a big pot roast. So many laughs.

Pastor Dale started our Koinonia program. They were small groups consisting of new members as they joined our church. We met with them, explained what Koinonia was and got them up and running. I was helping Dale at the time. They chose a name and meeting time, chose a project outside of church and amazingly flourished. At one time

there were 10 groups I believe. The intent of Koinonia was to embrace new people joining our church and giving them new friends and support.

Dale also began LOGOS, a mid-week gathering of all ages of children in church. It included dinner, activities, confirmation, and music. This was so successful and brought our kids into a warm safe environment.

When John and I built a new house in Placitas, Dale came and blessed each room with unique blessings for the room. We have shared this home with many, which was one of the designated blessings.

I think Pastor Dale started the Lunch Bunch years ago. Our dad, Ray, and Dale always toasted the group with a glass of wine. This group consisted of members 55 years of age and over and it is still going strong.

Dale also presided over our parents, "Ruth and Ray's" 50th anniversary. Sweet memories.

Our memories of Dale and Edee are endless as they devoted their lives to our little church out on the West Mesa. His imprint is in this church and in so many of our lives. We experience it every day.

God's peace Dale and Edee. **Susan and John McWilliams**

It's difficult wrapping our minds and hearts around the fact that Pastor Dale has died. He was a larger-than-life figure who touched our family in countless wonderful ways. In truth, he was part of our family and was deeply loved and respected by all of us. He baptized our children, ministered to us in times of loss and grief, blessed the homes we lived in, prayed over our children at their sweet 16 parties, led them each through confirmation and worshipped with them on the mountaintops of Rainbow Trail. He offered wise counsel and comfort through my difficulties with depression and anxiety, and he performed the marriage of our daughter, Riana. In essence, Pastor Dale watched over us all as we "grew up" as a family. He was a true and trusted friend with whom we celebrated nearly all our family landmarks.

Pastor Dale's love of Jesus and his unwavering dedication to his role as spiritual leader of our Cross of Hope community was beautiful. I remember the early days of dreaming about opening a Christian school on the West Side. I was a young mom and frustrated public-school teacher who was so very grateful to get to participate with all the other amazing Cross of Hope folks in his vision of an elementary school. Pastor Dale always had a heart for the youth in the church. The programs and events that took place at the church were astounding! Our children have such fond memories of things like Las Posadas, Christmas musicals, kids choir, teen choir, 3 Kings Night, midweek youth group, service projects, building houses in Mexico, youth conventions, the Seder

Supper, Cross Walk, Holy Week, Easter festivities, and vacation Bible Schools. Cross of Hope was abuzz with activity all year long...a testament to how he lived out his faith.

Our family is blessed to have journeyed through life with Pastor Dale. He will be deeply missed.

A personal note from Sharon:

Pastor Dale used to call me an Anglican heretic. I was his Pelagian-leaning friend who didn't always see eye-to-eye with him on some spiritual topics. Pastor, of course, maintained he was right in all things, God...but this time I get the last word...

Dale... I know if you were here, you would maintain that your death is the END of you until Christ's second coming. But I don't think you're gone. You have simply passed on and are not only in the company of your beloved Lord, Jesus, but are walking in the garden with your parents and brother, having tea with Queen Elizabeth, discussing the tactics of the Civil War with Abraham Lincoln, indulging in a tippie of single malt with Titanic's captain, Edward Smith, and soaking in the cantatas, Passions and oratorios of Johann Sebastian Bach. I hope you're having a ball, my friend!

You are loved... **The Halsted Family - Gregg, Sharon, Renn, Riana, Meagan and Sawyer**

Pastor Dale was an integral part of my family's faith journey. Janie and I were Pastor's Dale's first new members class at COH. He was instrumental in laying the faith foundation not only for us as parents but for our children who grew up and participated in all youth activities established at COH. They also attended COH preschool.

Kristyn and Christopher texted me the following when I told them of Dale's passing: "He was such a core person of our childhood and in the church."

May he rest in peace. **Ron Cordova**

Palm Sunday 2001 marks the day I first visited Cross of Hope Church. In November, I became a member of the church. My life of faith was profoundly impacted by Dale Bauer – by a promise he made to his mother and his lifelong dedication to God's calling, his blameless character and honorable reputation. As the first principal of Cross of Hope Elementary School, I had the privilege and blessing of working with Dale to be a part of his dream to build a school on the Cross of Hope Church campus. Those of us who knew Dale can testify to his practice of walking humbly with his Lord, remaining faithful to the task before him, and living as a devoted husband to Edee. Well done, good and faithful servant of God. Your eternal rewards will be numerous. **Sheri Phillips**



Hello            It was sad to hear about Pastor Dale.  
For our preschool tea parties. He saw how much I enjoyed them.  
He brought one of his mother's tea pots to use for our parties.



Then he ended up giving that tea pot to me, which meant a lot to me.  
... and sharing his knowledge about the Civil War because I liked that kind of history.



### **Ann Martin, Preschool Teacher to the Three-Year Olds**

Dale liked to teach – the Bible studies that he did were so complete and full of details about the history and times of the people in the chapters he taught. I was a Bible novice, and he made the lessons come alive. He was accepting of people's ideas and several times when someone came to him with an idea for a ministry outreach, he would say, "Why don't you lead that." Las Posadas and Pardi Gras grew out of those ideas. He loved the kids, and he was the biggest kid when it came to Water Day at Vacation Bible School. Everyone started out with a little squirt gun but soon cups of all sizes were being used to squirt each other and then bigger pails. Pastor Dale was the one who turned on the garden hose for his squirt gun. The kids love that and that he would play with them and get wet with them. Our granddaughter Victoria says water day and Pastor Dale playing with them is one of her best memories of him.

He was a good encourager too. I was a new Lutheran when we joined COH but before many months, he had me involved in being a lecturer, then usher and then assisting minister. In a few years Worship Director. He trained and mentored me as each new task came up. With his love of education, a school was always on his mind. He and Robert spent a lot of time thinking about the school and how it might look. The engineer in Robert was always designing a school. He and Dale would walk around thinking how it might fit on the property. They were both delighted when it was built and opened. And I believe he liked acting! When we did the Stewardship campaign with the theme of the "SS Covenant cruise," we had him be the captain. Doug Perry loaned him his dress whites and he welcomed everyone to the ship. Like on all cruise ships, we set up an area for photos with the captain. He had a great time being photographed with each family. **Carolyn and Robert Bye**



It is very hard to sum up my remembrances about Pastor Dale in a few paragraphs, because he was a part of our lives for so many years. I first met him when I was on the call committee for a new pastor after Pastor Ron Barth moved to Oregon. Pastor Dale came to visit the congregation and lead a devotion time after a potluck dinner. I will never forget that he told us up front that he could not sing, but then for the devotion he told us his favorite hymn was "I Love to Tell the Story" and chose to sing it for us. He actually did quite well.

Of course, the most memorable time was his officiating our wedding 34 years ago! I do not remember for sure, but I think we were his second wedding at Cross of Hope. He must have done something right, because here we are celebrating 34 years in April.



A special part of our Stephen Ministry formation was the two-week training for leaders in San Diego. Pastor Dale went with three of us to learn more about the workings of that ministry. It was an awesome time with much fun and laughter (and many steps up and down the gym to get to the tables set up on the floor). We all had strong legs after that training. Stephen Ministry was a part of Cross of Hope for over 10 years. I'm thankful for Pastor Dale's invitation to start ministries we felt called to start so we could reach out to the community.

Pastor Dale loved teaching, and he enjoyed teaching Sunday School classes between services. My favorite was "Bible 101" where I learned so much history of the writing of the Bible and all the translations that have happened since the velum rolls were created to guide the lives of his people. Thank you, Pastor Dale for all your teaching times!

As I said, these are just a few things that meant so much to me in my Christian walk at Cross of Hope. I thank God for His choice of a special person to lead our congregation in its expansion of Church, Preschool and School over the years he was here. Rest in peace, good and faithful servant! **Janet Wormwood (Charter Member of Cross of Hope)**

I am so grateful my time at Cross of Hope has included when Dale Bauer was pastor. He encouraged all of us to grow in our relationship to God, and to reach out to the community around us, near and far. One of his many gifts was to encourage each one of us to listen to what God was calling us to do, and then encourage us to join in and be a part of God's plan. Some of the results included starting the Cross of Hope School, Women on Wednesday, the Stephen Ministry, Mothers of Preschoolers, Triumphant News for Teens, Navajo Mission Outreach, Koinonia NM Retreats, Special Needs VBS, the Upper Room, and many more. Together, and with his guidance and leadership, we participated in bringing God's Kingdom to earth in ways that changed our lives, and the lives of those we served. **Patty Westerfield**

It is not possible to think of our family's beginning without Pastor Dale! It was when we were expecting our oldest, Thomas, that we came upon Cross of Hope and the welcome he provided alongside his in-depth, historical based sermons had us hooked! But what mattered even more was the individual time he spent with our family - from sitting at Presbyterian Hospital NICU with Kiersten when she was an infant and very sick, to taking our kids for joy rides in his red Mini Cooper, to playing on the floor with Elise and giving her his full attention. His support of MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) at COH impacted not just our family but dozens of others. The time and energy that he spent helping Richard learn the Lutheran way of worship has grounded him even now and his impact will forever be engrained in our entire family. **Richard & Erin Hielkema**



I always enjoyed when Pastor Dale would wait until the feast of Epiphany to hand out presents to the staff of COH. It was his way of keeping the gift giving separate from the true celebration of Christmas. This provided the children with a life-long lesson.

May eternal light shine upon him. **Marie Atencio, Retired, COH Pre-School**

I had the privilege of having Dale Bauer as a Pastor for close to 25 years. He loved God, his wife Edee, and the Denver Broncos. I served on the church council for several years, and Dale's passion was the driving force for many of the COH's major initiatives such as the development of the elementary school and the major building expansion. I recall his private passions as a Civil War history buff, avid skier, and keeping a 30-year-old orange Bronco International Scout running. I will miss Dale Bauer and his passion. **Sam Jones**

I will forever hold dear in my heart the memories, the lessons and the words of wisdom Pastor Dale gave me. He taught me what it means to know and love God, what it means to be a Lutheran and mostly what it means to be a Christian. Thank you, Dale. **Lisa Jones**

In 2008, I was "church shopping." I was looking for a place that was active in various ministries and welcoming. I knew immediately that Cross of Hope was the place. Over the years I was involved in various ministries and never regretted my decision. I found my spiritual home.

Dale was human, vulnerable, playful, thoughtful, open and welcoming.

Dale accepted his fate. He always loved the people who make up Cross of Hope. Now Dale dwells in the house of the Lord forever. **Mary Bresnahan**

Pastor Dale taught us – showed us – how to grow as Christians. His leadership and encouragement provided a solid foundation for our life in Christ. We have many

memories of him that will live on, but most of all we remember his love. He loved God, first and foremost. And he loved Edee. He loved to travel and was always excited to visit new places. He loved BLT's as long as the tomatoes were from his garden. He loved his family. He painted many word pictures about his mom and dad that made us feel like we knew them as well. He loved his friends. He loved watching the children march in to chapel on Wednesday's and sometimes there would be a little moisture in his eyes as they waved to him. He reached out to us when we needed support, like when our daughter died. He lives on in our hearts and we treasure all the memories.

**Kay Hendrickson**

