

"Beautiful Savior, King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee
Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown."

These are words to Trudie's favorite hymn, and had special meaning for her. In her life, she came to know the meaning of "Jesus, the Light of the World".

Trudie Goebel Hushagen was born in Cheyenne, WY, November 24, 1927. She was the middle child, having two brothers. Her family moved to San Diego and then North Hollywood, CA. While growing up she remembers attending a children's Bible class and singing "This Little Light of mine" and not having any idea who the "Light" was or what that meant.

During her high school years Trudie's spiritual life changed. She visited her friend's church and heard God's Word in a new way. She met the parish worker there, and they became friends. Evie took special interest in Trudie's spiritual life. She introduced Trudie to Jesus, "Light of the world". Trudie enrolled in a religious instruction class, was baptized, confirmed and became a member of that church. Evie continued as a spiritual guide for Trudie, and encouraged her to attend Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis, MN.

Trudie's life's direction changed even further when she attended LBI. She began a relationship with Berton that turned into a loving, spiritual partnership. Berton and Trudie were married on March 21, 1951, and continued their path of faith together. Berton attended Augsburg College and Luther Seminary, while Trudie worked at various jobs at Augsburg Publishing, Calvary Lutheran Church, St. Luke's Hospital and Luther Seminary Library. After Berton was ordained as a Lutheran minister, he served parishes in Minnesota, Utah and Wisconsin. During these years they became parents to three children, Brian, Paul and Nora. The family

grew and in time they were blessed with a son-in-law, four grandsons, three granddaughter-in-laws and one great-grandson.

Along with being a busy mother, Trudie's life as a pastor's wife involved many facets of service. Throughout Berton's ministry, Trudie provided support as church secretary, homemaker and most importantly loving mother. She loved her children as any mother would, and enriched those relationships by daily examples of her faith and commitment to God's love and forgiveness. Her "family" extended beyond her children to include church members, neighbors and all who she came in contact with each day. She was a messenger of God's grace and forgiveness to all who knew her.

As a result of a friendship between Berton and his Norwegian language professor at Augsburg, Berton and Trudie welcomed the Flottorp's daughter, Thora from Stavangar, Norway into their home. Thora experienced a cultural, familial and spiritual renaissance. Trudie's love and concern was pivotal in Thora's spiritual growth. The time spent with the Hushagens transformed Thora's outlook on life, and her relationship with God. She became a true daughter of the Spirit to both Trudie and Berton. She became a sister to Brian, Paul and Nora, as well. Thora and her Family have become lifelong friends with the Hushagens.

Losing Berton in death, changed Trudie's life path, but not her faith in God. Once again, she found her anchor in Christ. She moved from Minnesota to North Dakota and Bethel Lutheran Church became her spiritual home. She was an active member at Bethel, including the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) and Bible Studies. Her love and grace were readily evident to all. Within her family she was loved for her kindness and generosity. Trudie let her "Light" shine into the lives around her.

One of her favorite Bible verses was John 1:9: "This was the real light-the light that comes into the world and shines on all people."

"Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, Praise, adoration now and forever more be thine!"



Ida Hushagen

NOVEMBER 24, 1927 ~ AUGUST 21, 2023



A MOTHER IS A TEACHER OF faith,
A GIVER OF hape,
AND GOD'S EARTHLY EXAMPLE OF lave.