

Emory A. Hingst

Emory Arthur Hingst, 89, died Aug. 26, 2024. Born on Nov. 26, 1934, to Gertrude Gelhausen Hingst and Arthur Albert Hingst, he grew up in Vernon, Texas. He left Vernon at age 14 to attend boarding school at St. John's in Winfield, Kansas, because he knew he wanted to pursue pastoral ministry. He finished junior college at St. John's and graduated from Concordia College and Seminary with an M.Div. in 1960. He served as a pastor in Clinton and Creighton, Missouri, for two years before going to Austin, Texas, as dean of men and dean of the chapel at Concordia College.

In 1967 he came to Tallahassee to become campus pastor for Florida A&M and Florida State, a position he held for eight years. He also served as coordinator of religious affairs at FSU for four of those years and assistant chaplain for two years. In 1976 he became pastor of St. Stephen Lutheran Church, where he remained until his retirement in 1999.

Always a community activist and seeker of justice, Emory was very involved in the civil-rights movement of the 1960s and continued throughout his career to work for racial and economic justice. He served on the board of Florida IMPACT for 18 years; was founding president of Tallahassee Habitat for Humanity; was a volunteer chaplain at Big Bend Hospice for eight years; volunteered his time to the Tallahassee Crop Walk for many years; served as president of Rainbow Rehab for two years; was on the Elder Care Services Advisory Council and the Kindred Spirits Charitable Trust for many years; and served on the board of Tallahassee Citizens Against the Death Penalty.

With his wife, Ann Godley Hingst, Emory developed Daystar, a Midtown co-housing community, where they have lived happily for 32 years. He also started Ten Thousand Villages of Tallahassee, a nonprofit that assists artisans in developing countries.

In addition to Ann, his beloved wife of 45 years, Emory is survived by son Ethan Montgomery (and wife Heidi); son Seth Montgomery (and wife Crystal); grandchildren Savannah, Genevieve, Kyle and Kamryn Montgomery; and many nieces and nephews and their families. The family thanks wonderful caregiver Greta Scavone and all the friends who provided so much support during Emory's long illness.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 7, at First Presbyterian Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 2198 N. Meridian Rd., Tallahassee, FL, 32303; to Tallahassee Habitat for Humanity; or to a charity of choice.