9-10-1976

Obituary; 1976-09-10; Stewart, Charles E

Bethel A.M.E. Church

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SERVICE OF TRIUMPH

DR. CHARLES E. STEWART
(A Great Christian Warrior)

Who Fell Asleep
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1976

Services
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1976 -- 5:00 P.M.

MOTHER BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH
419 RICHARD ALLEN AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

THE REV. RICHARD ALLEN HILDEBRAND
Eulogist

The Rev. Joseph L. Joiner, D.D.
Presiding
AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF CHARLES E. STEWART

Just before the end of the tragic days of the American Civil War, my forebears sold their holdings, prepared a covered wagon for the family and started from the plantation in South Carolina, journeyed through Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois; to the Squatters country of upper Michigan on the Canadian border.

On that eventful trip northward, the wagon train was often joined by other wagons carrying ethnic groups of Anglo-Saxons, African Descendants and Orientals seeking freedom and land opportunities.

I was born on a farm in northern Michigan, March 6, 1884. My parents became staunch members of the then growing new African Methodist Episcopal Church and their offspring have remained such down through the years.

I was educated in Illinois public schools, Illinois College, Chicago Musical College, and Baldwin Musical College; Howard University, Wilberforce University, B.O., Wilberforce University; L.L.B., Howard University; D.D., Wilberforce University; L.L.D., Freylenheisen University. Held church offices, from janitor up to Presidind Elder inclusive. Licensed to preach by Rev. N. J. McCracken at Bethel Church; admitted to West North Carolina Annual Conference; ordained Deacon by Bishop Coppin at Charlotte; Elder by Bishop Coppin at Greensboro.

The duty and privilege of pastoring and bringing into "Full bloom and Fruitage" a number of churches have been my blessings from The Almighty God. Several of these churches were and are among the most historic and prominent large-scale churches of the country, viz: Ebenezer, Baltimore; Metropolitan, Washington, D.C.; Trinity, Baltimore; St. Paul, Raleigh, N.C., and Emanuel, Portsmouth, Va. Pastor of Bethel, N.Y. January 1947-1953, Bethel, Buffalo, N.Y.; Israel A.M.E., Albany, N.Y., A.M.E. Union, Philadelphia; Mother Bethel A.M.E., Philadelphia; Tyree A.M.E., Philadelphia; Retired Presiding Elder N.W. District Philadelphia Conference 1972.

Additional services: President of Kittrell College, North Carolina; served as Presiding Elder of the Baltimore District, Baltimore Conference. Rebuilt Ebenezer and Emanuel; paid mortgages at Emanuel, Trinity, Ebenezer, Metropolitan; installed pipe organ at Ebenezer, Metropolitan and Emanuel. Delegate to General Conference since 1920. Served on the Financial Board, and Publication Board, and served as trustee and secretary of Wilberforce University Trustee Board; also trustee at Kittrell College. Published articles in the Afro-American, special correspondent for Journal and Guide and has written special articles for magazines. Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Masons, Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, Elks, St. Lukes, Past Noble Father, thirty-third degree Mason, and many civic clubs. Voted 1st Citizen of Portsmouth, Va. 1940; invited to speak before noted societies and universities; pastor of Trinity Church, and Dean of Religion at Wilberforce University, and Professor in Payne Theological Seminary 1945-1947.

Many A.M.E. families owe their success and happiness to the teaching and signposts the Holy Spirit enabled me to place before young couples as they looked down life's highway into the often foggy darkness of the future.

In 1965, under my administration as Pastor of Mother Bethel A.M.E.
THE ORDER OF SERVICE

THE REVEREND JOSEPH L. JOINER, D.D.—PRESIDING

THE PROCESSIONAL

HYMN—390

THE PRAYER

THE REVEREND GEORGE T. RICHARDS

SELECTION

The Cathedral Choir of Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church

SCRIPTURES—PSALM 91

THE REVEREND WILLIE W. CHARLES

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

A VOICE SPEAKS

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CARDS, TELEGRAMS AND CONDOLENCES

BY THE REVEREND HARRY J. WHITE, S.B.

SELECTION

The Senior Choir of A.M.E. Union Church

TRIBUTES—(2 MINUTES)

The Reverend John W. Collier — The Reverend L. Marshall Watt
The Reverend A. McNeil White — The Reverend Eustace L. Blake
The Reverend Edward K. Nichols, Jr. — The Reverend William P. Stedman

SOLO

Mr. Mark

THE OBITUARY

Silent Reflection

THE HYMN

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

THE EULOGY

The Right Reverend Richard Allen Hill

CLOSING SELECTION

“The Hallelujah Chorus”

By the Richard Allen Choral Society

(organized by Dr. Charles E. Stewart)

THE BENEDICTION

THE RECESSIONAL

The family of Dr. Charles E. Stewart is deeply appreciative of the kindness and sympathy shown by Reverend Joiner, Pastor of Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church, the officers, members, and friends, and those of other churches. We are especially grateful to Brother Sydney H. Upshur and Lucille Lovett for the constant care given from day to day. May God continue to bless each of you.

THE USHERS:

Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church

and

A.M.E. Union Church