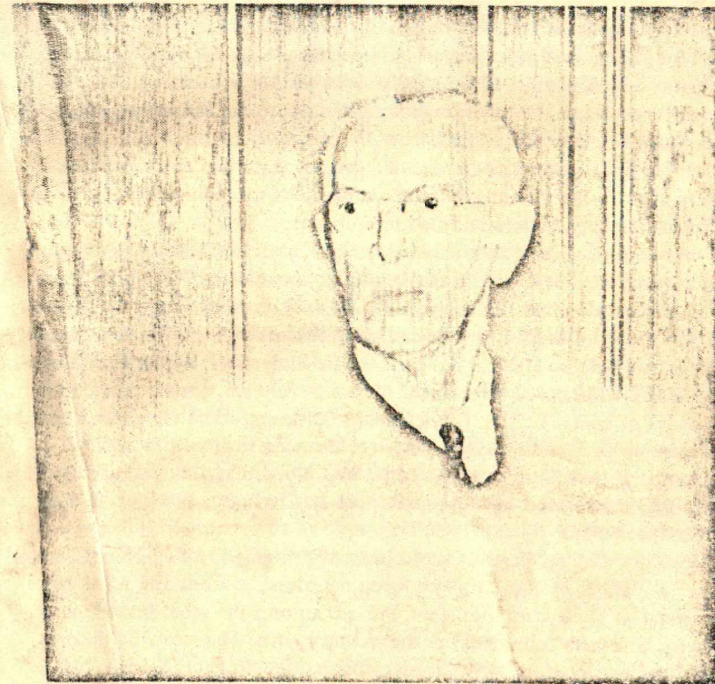


SERVICE OF TRIUMPH



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

Who Fell Asleep

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1976

Services

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1976 -- 8:00 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 Balatko 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 Presiding 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 to "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. Luke's, 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 sign-posts 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.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY (Continued)

Church, I had the church designated a National Historical Shrine by the Interior Department of the United States Government honoring the A.M.E. Church world-wide and its founder, Richard Allen. In light of succeeding events, I consider this one of the highlights of my years in the ministry. To my delight, the minister following me at Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church, The Reverend Joseph L. Joiner, continued the work, in having the church designated as a National Historical Landmark in 1974.

It was my honor to become the husband of Miss Margaret Guy, a Wilberforcean, who not only created a wonderful domestic setting for our home-life, but as a real missionary also helped many "lost souls" find themselves and their way and really "Become". Our more than sixty years of marriage bliss was increasingly a hallowed living that enhanced by half century as a servant and minister of The Eternal Christ.

Sunday, June 9, 1974, she started for The Kingdom, not looking back, for she knew I would follow in due order.

My last sermon was preached in Trinity A.M.E. Church, 27th and Cumberland Streets, Philadelphia, Pa. (Dr. Wm. P. Stevenson, Pastor).

It is not necessary for our multitude of relatives and friends scattered everywhere to mourn for us as we are all departing dust as time relentlessly takes its toll—preparing to make our contribution among the immortals.

*Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,*

*For though from out our bourne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crost the bar.*

Dr. Charles E. Stewart left these mundane shores to join his beloved wife, Friday, September 10, 1976, 7:30 P.M. from the St. Joseph Hospital—leaving to follow someday into the land "Beyond the Sunset"—a sister, Mrs. Mary Etta Stewart Johnson of Boydton, Va., several nieces and nephews, among whom is one niece, Mrs. James R. Redding of Oxford, N.C., who was reared by Rev. and Mrs. Stewart.



THE ORDER OF SERVICE

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

THE PROCESSIONAL
HYMN #190 "What A Friend We Have In
THE PRAYER The Reverend George T.
SELECTION The Cathedral Choir of Mother Bethel A.M.E. C.
SCRIPTURES:—PSALM 91 The Reverend Willie W.
I THESSALONIANS 4:13-18 The Reverend Charles E.
A VOICE SPEAKS Mr. Mar

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CARDS, TELEGRAMS AND CONDOLENCES
BY—THE REVEREND HARRY J. WHITE, SR.

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

TRIBUTES:—(2 MINUTES)

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

SOLO Mr. Marshall
THE OBITUARY Silent Reading
THE HYMN Combined
"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

THE EULOGY The Right Reverend Richard Allen Hilditch
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.

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THE USHERS:

Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church
and
A.M.E. Union Church