

Many members of Central will remember when Pastor Swanson mailed out the first issue of the "Central Circuit."

Following is his word to the members of the church upon the occasion of the first mailing of the "Central Circuit."

HELLO! - Members and Friends of Central

Introducing the "Central Circuit to the homes of our members and many friends. This little paper is to take the place, hereafter, of our weekly bulletin which has been distributed at the Sunday services and mailed to the shut-ins, servicemen and non-residents. In this way we will be able to place its message in all our homes each week. Your pastor will continue as editor and Miss Wambold will do the work of set-up, typing, folding and mailing. Clarence Nelson with assistants, will continue to care for the printing and Uncle Sam will bring it to your very door.

Please read it carefully, each member of the family, and then keep it as a reminder of the services and activities of the church. May it serve to bring honor to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Cordially in His Joyous service,

Pastor Everett F. Swanson

This "As I See It" was written by Pastor Swanson on October 22, 1950.

As I SEE IT By your Pastor

TEN THOUSAND HALLELUJAHS! GOD ANSWERS PRAYER. PRAISE THE LORD!

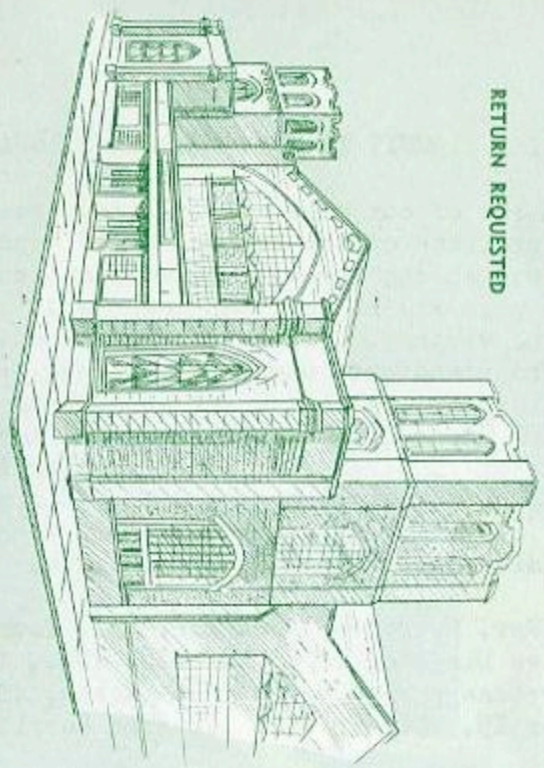
I think I shall never forget October 15, 1950. God visited us with a mighty working of His Spirit. Many of my readers were not there, so I share just the highlights with you.

The morning service was going on while I led a stranger to the Lord in my study. I came in about 11:25 and made the announcements, received the offering, intending to speak from Colossians but I didn't even read a text. The Spirit of the Lord came upon us and melted the whole congregation. I felt I could not preach but gave an invitation. People began to come. I think four or five men professed to be saved and the wife of the man I prayed with. Backsliders were restored, confessions made, testimonies given, prayer requests asked.

I think it was 11:40 when I gave the invitation and we didn't close the service until after one o'clock. God moved upon everyone present. The revival carried over to the Young People's meeting. They had a prayer meeting from 7 o'clock until about 7:45. All testified. Nearly an hour was consumed in the evening service for testimonies, praise, etc.

Many more need to be touched by God's Spirit. Let us pray on. Praise the Lord!

854 N. Central Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60651 Phone: MA 6-9292
Central Avenue Baptist Church



RETURN REQUESTED

The Central Circuit

Non-profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
Permit No. 6131

A MEMORIAL CIRCUIT TO REV. EVERETT F. SWANSON

When one of our most dearly loved precedes us to the presence of the Father, we of course, sorrow. Yet, at the same time, we must praise God for His ways are higher than our ways and He gives the victory. The challenge remains with us to "be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Most of Central's friends remember it was Pastor Swanson who initiated the "Central Circuit." It is therefore fitting that we reflect on His ministry in this memorial issue.

The Rev. Everett F. Swanson, 51, founder and Executive Director of COMPASSION, INC., the largest orphanage agency in South Korea, died Mon. November 15, 1965 in West Suburban Hospital, Oak Park.

A native of Sycamore, Illinois, Pastor Swanson served a number of Churches in the Baptist General Conference in Illinois and Washington. He came to Central Avenue Baptist Church in 1944 and served seven blessed years. God was calling to greater things and after a great struggle on July 22, 1950, to determine the will of God in earnest prayer, Everett arose from his knees, reached for a card and wrote:

- 1) To obey God's call to full-time evangelistic work wherever he may lead in this whole wide world.
- 2) To resign my pastorate September 10, to take effect, January 1, 1951.
- 3) To trust God to provide for my every need as He has promised (Philippians 4:19).
- 4) To trust God to take care of my family spiritually, physically, and materially.
- 5) To redouble my efforts to win others to Christ and to pray and work for revival.

Everett resigned as Pastor and within a year God sent him around the world to preach the Gospel and win many to Christ in many countries.

But God not only expanded his ministry of preaching. He enlarged his vision, burning deep into his heart a need that had never before challenged him. During his first six months tour he visited Korea, the battleground of a bloody war where tens of thousands of orphans and war widows were starving. He returned to the United States and Canada to continue his evangelistic preaching as Baptist General Conference evangelist. The next year he was invited back to Korea to conduct evangelistic meetings among the Korean armed forces. Again the unmistakable miseries of helpless children crowded into his mind and heart. The challenge came with thunderous impact when a missionary said to him, "Now that you have seen the tremendous needs and opportunities in this land, what do you intend to do about them?"

So, under God, was born The Everett Swanson Evangelistic Association now known as COMPASSION, INC. Everett proceeded with the help of resident missionaries, to establish orphan homes and to assume support of many destitute orphanages started by Korean Christians. He also raised funds to send out and support many Korean Christian workers.

This work of faith cares for 170 orphanages with over 22,000 children, serving nearly 100,000 meals daily; 379 native evangelists starting new churches, a literature work, technical schools, and farms and a budget of two million dollars a year.

The South Korean government bestowed on Everett the highest honors a civilian could receive. He also was given an honorary doctor of laws degree by Kon Kuk University, Seoul, Korea.

At the tenth anniversary Everett wrote: "God has done exceeding abundantly above all that we

could ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.

"My hands were empty when I began this work. As we have followed God's leading, taking one step at a time, He has supplied the 'power that worketh in us.' When we look back now, how beautifully it reveals His guiding and supplying hand!"

At no time was Everett's testimony brighter or his faith stronger than during these last eleven months of frustration, physical difficulties and suffering.

Everett anticipated the hour of his death and planned for his memorial service. He often said, "When you see me in a casket, it won't be me. I will be with the Lord." We believe he is there. We thank God for the time we had him. The Lord took him home. He lived only for God and others. We cherish his memory.

Taken in part from a tribute written by Lawrence Swanson, brother to Everett.

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee, by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine.
Yet all are one in Thee,
for all are Thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.