

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE REPORT

Preaching the gospel, publicly and from house to house, is the function of the Evangelism Committee. This area of work is one of the most important aspects of the total church life. The church of Christ exists for the primary purpose of sharing with other people the good news of Christ and his kingdom. It is absolutely vital that the greatest possible effort be made to preach the gospel to a lost and unsaved world.

It is always necessary to find capable men who can preach the gospel when our regular minister is away. Serving in this capacity during the past year were the following men: John Murphrees, Loyd Smith, Jack Hoover, Lucien Palmer, Norman Wendt, Milton Fletcher, Martel Pace, and Paul Epps. When Martel Pace spoke here, Gene Carrell spoke for the Roseville church; Paul Epps, visiting song leader for the Cobo Arena meeting, was invited to fill the pulpit one Sunday morning during that meeting.

The highlight of the year, Evangelism-wise, was the meeting at Cobo Arena. Many months of planning went into this great effort, and many from this congregation were directly involved in this work. Our elders oversaw the entire campaign, Jack Hoover served as chairman of the Solicitation Committee, and Gene Carrell served on the Steering Committee and was chairman of the Program Committee. The results of this meeting were tremendously gratifying, with an average attendance of some 5,500 per night. The last night of the meeting saw some 9,000 in attendance, and the total number of responses was 668, with 219 of these being baptisms. A tremendous effort with tremendous results!

Our two gospel meetings saw the happy combination of splendid gospel preaching and very fine attendance. Alonzo Welch held our Spring meeting and Arnold Watson preached in our Fall meeting. Attendance records were broken during the Fall meeting, as we had over 200 average for week night attendance. We believe that the increased attendance was largely the result of an all-out effort to get our own membership committed (with signed commitment cards) to attend the meeting.

Mission work has gone along this year in a very fine way. The church has continued its support of Oliver Bunting, Glenn Hannah, Dean Clutter, and Ernest Stewart. Their reports will appear elsewhere in the yearbook. The church also was active in supporting the Herald of Truth broadcast and the Michigan State Fair Booth.

Personal work, while not all that we would hope for, has shown some signs of increased activity this year. Vern Adams and Kay have taken the responsibility of pushing this phase of the work. Hubert Nave has recently been teaching a class in cottage meeting work. It is our sincere belief that an increased interest in this work will be the means of stimulating the congregation to its greatest peak of evangelistic endeavor.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE MEMBERS, 1967: Gene Carrell, chairman; Vernon Adams; Walter Kos; Don Birk; Hugh Rogers; and Hubert Nave.

Sincerely,

Gene M. Carrell
Evangelism Committee Chairman