



Pastoral Leader of a Half-Century

Reverend Kwang-Woo Kim (1906-1990)

The Rev. Kwang-Woo Kim was born on Deokjeokdo Island in the Yellow Sea of Korea. He studied Political Economy at Waseda University in Japan in 1928 and graduated from Seoul Methodist Theological Seminary in 1937. He served four years as the senior pastor of the Woljeong-ri Methodist Church in Cheorwon-gun, Gangwon-do, and joined the Geumgangsan Annual Conference as an associate member. Reverend Kwang-Woo Kim served the Wondong Methodist Church in Seoul from 1940 to 1945 and became a District Superintendent in Incheon in 1948. Later, he served eight years as the Secretary for the General Board of Education, the General Board of Evangelism, and the General Board of Church and Society of the Korean Methodist Church. He later served as North Seoul District's District Superintendent and Jakyo Church's senior pastor. From 1963 to 1972, he was the senior pastor of Jungdong First Church. From 1967 to 1968, he founded the Han River Central Methodist Church in Mapo, Seoul. Reverend Kwang-Woo Kim emigrated to the United States in 1979 and established the Woodland Hills Korean United Methodist Church. He passed away on February 17, 1990.

The Rev. Kwang-Woo Kim was very active in his service life. From 1952 to 1960, he served as a trustee of the Yonsei University Foundation, director and chairman of Pai Chai Academy, and director of Ewha Academy, Seoul Methodist Theological Seminary, and Daejeon Theological Seminary. He served as vice chairman of the Christian World Council of Churches, director of the General Conference of the Korean Methodist Church, member of the Central Council of the Korean Methodist Church, trustee of the Maintenance Foundation, and Yeongmyeong School in Gongju. He also served as president of the Korean National Council of Churches and chairman of the National Council of Churches in Korea. He significantly contributed to education and missionary activities as a trustee of the Ewha School Corporation and Pai Chai School Corporation, Samil Academy's chairman, and Ewha International Foundation's director. He also pioneered missions in Sarawak, Malaysia.

The Rev. Kwang-woo Kim left an autobiography titled "Half a Century of My Ministry."

