

*Appreciaton*  
*The entire family of Madam Janet Aba Baidoo  
wish to express their sincere gratitude to everyone who  
supported and mourned with them in their time of grief.*

*Thank you and God richly bless you*

Celebration of Life  
for the late

**MAD. JANET ABA BAIDOO**

*(a.k.a. Maame Aba Yayewa Darkoa)*

**1931 - 2019**

**DATE:** 11th May, 2019

**BURIAL SERVICE:** Calvary Methodist Church, Agona Swedru at 9.00 am.

**INTERMENT:** Agona Swedru Cemetery.

**THANKSGIVING SERVICE:** 12th May, 2019 at 9:00a.m at Bethesda Methodist Church, Agona Swedru.

**MHB 679    CAN 227**  
**PLEASANT ARE THY COURTS**

1. PLEASANT are thy courts above,  
In the land of light and love;  
Pleasant are thy courts below,  
In this land of sin and woe.  
O! my spirit longs and faints  
For the converse of thy saints,  
For the brightness of thy face,  
For thy fullness, God of grace!
2. Happy birds that sing and fly  
Round thy altars, O most High!  
Happier souls that find a rest  
In a heavenly Father's breast!  
Like the wandering dove that found  
No repose on earth around,  
The can to their ark repair,  
And enjoy it ever there.
3. Happy souls! their praises flow  
Even in this vale of woe;  
Waters in the desert rise,  
Manna feeds them from the skies  
On they go from strength to strength,  
Till they reach thy throne at length;  
At thy feet adoring fall,  
Who hast led them safe through all.
4. Lord be mine this prize to win:  
Guide me through a world of sin;  
Keep me by Thy saving grace;  
Give me by Thy side a place

Sun and shield alike thou art,  
Guide and guard my erring heart;  
Grace and glory flow from thee:  
Shower, O shower them, Lord, on me

**MHB 831**  
**GIVE ME THE WINGS OF FAITH TO RISE**

1. Give us the wings of faith to rise  
within the veil, and see  
the saints above, how great their joys,  
how bright their glories be.
2. Once they were mourning here below,  
their couch was wet with tears;  
they wrestled hard, as we do now,  
with sins and doubts and fears.
3. We ask them whence their victory came:  
they, with united breath,  
ascribe their conquest to the Lamb,  
their triumph to his death.
4. They marked the footsteps that he trod,  
his zeal inspired their breast,  
and, following their incarnate God,  
possess the promised rest.
5. Our glorious Leader claims our praise  
for his own pattern given;  
while the long cloud of witnesses  
show the same path to heaven.



***Mad. Janet Aba Baidoo***  
***(Maame Aba Yayewa Darkoa)***

**BURIAL, MEMORIAL AND THANKSGIVING SERVICE FOR THE LATE**  
**MADAM JANET BAIDOO**  
**(MAAME ABA YAYEWA DARKOA)**

**ON SATURDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2019 AT 9.00 AM**  
**AT CALVARY METHODIST CHURCH GHANA, AGONA SWEDRU**

**THANKSGIVING SERVICE ON 12TH MAY, 2019 AT 9:00A.M**  
**AT BETHESDA METHODIST CHURCH, AGONA SWEDRU.**

**OFFICIATING CLERGY**

VERY REV'D JOHN PRINCE SACKY (Supt Minister)  
REV. MRS. GRACE ANSANU (Circuit Minister)  
VERY REV. HUMPHREY AMO BAIDEN (Supernumerary)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

CHURCH CHOIR  
SINGING BAND

**ORGANISTS**

BRO. SOLOMON ABAKAH  
BRO. ABEKU ARTHUR

**STEWARDS**

BRO. EMMANUEL ASIEDU  
SIS. MARY SAMPSON EDIAM  
BRO. STEPHEN TETTEH

Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee,  
On to the close, O Lord, abide with me.  
6. I need Thy presence every passing hour.  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's  
power?  
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with  
me.

7. I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy  
victory?  
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

8. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the  
skies.  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain  
shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

**MHB 976**

**NOW THE LABOURER'S TASK IS OVER**

1 Now the laborer's task is o'er;  
Now the battle day is past;  
Now upon the farther shore  
Lands the voyager at last.

Refrain:

Father, in thy gracious keeping,  
Leave we now thy servant sleeping.  
A-men.

2 There the tears of earth are dried,  
There its hidden things are clear,  
There the work of life is tried  
By a juster judge than here.

3 There the penitents, that turn  
To the cross their dying eyes,  
All the love of Jesus learn  
At his feet in Paradise.

4 'Earth to earth, and dust to dust,'  
Calmly now the words we say;  
Leaving him to sleep, in trust,  
Till the resurrection-day.

5 'Till the sea gives up its dead,'  
Calmly now the words we say,  
Laid in ocean's quiet bed  
Till the resurrection-day: Amen.



**MHB 468    CAN 152**  
**NEARER, MY GOD TO THEE**

1. Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!  
 E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,  
 Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to  
 Thee.

o*Refrain:*  
 Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

2. Though like the wanderer, the sun gone  
 down,  
 Darkness be over me, my rest a stone;  
 Yet in my dreams I'd be nearer, my God, to Thee.

3. There let the way appear, steps unto Heav'n;  
 All that Thou sendest me, in mercy giv'n;  
 Angels to beckon me nearer, my God, to Thee.

4. Then, with my waking thoughts bright with  
 Thy praise,  
 Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;  
 So by my woes to be nearer, my God, to Thee.

5. Or, if on joyful wing cleaving the sky,  
 Sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I'll fly,  
 Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to  
 Thee.

6. There in my Father's home, safe and at rest,  
 There in my Savior's love, perfectly blest;  
 Age after age to be nearer, my God, to Thee.

**MHB 948**  
**ABIDE WITH ME**

1. Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
 The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.  
 When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
 Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
 Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;  
 Change and decay in all around I see;  
 O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

3. Not a brief glance I beg, a passing word;  
 But as Thou dwell'st with Thy disciples, Lord,  
 Familiar, condescending, patient, free.  
 Come not to sojourn, but abide with me.

4. Come not in terrors, as the King of kings,  
 But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings,  
 Tears for all woes, a heart for every plea—  
 Come, Friend of sinners, and thus bide with me.

5. Thou on my head in early youth didst smile;  
 And, though rebellious and perverse  
 meanwhile,

**ORDER OF SERVICE**

**A. PRE-BURIAL SERVICE**

- |                                      |         |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 1. Opening Hymn                      | MHB 99  | CAN 25  |
| 2. Prayer                            |         |         |
| 3. Hymn                              | MHB 602 | CAN 196 |
| 4. Filing Past                       |         |         |
| 5. Tributes (If any)                 |         |         |
| 6. Lyrics/Song by choir/Singing Band |         |         |
| 7. Covering of Casket                |         |         |

**B. BURIAL SERVICE**

- |   |   |         |
|---|---|---------|
| 1. Procession by the Clergy, Choir & Singing Band |   |         |
| 2. Sentences                                      |   |         |
| 3. Purpose of Gathering                           |   |         |
| 4. Hymn   | MHB 528                                     | CAN 172 |
| 5. Prayers  |   |         |
| 6. Biography & Tributes                           |   |         |
| 7. Hymn   | MHB 498                                     | CAN 164 |
| 8. Scripture Readings                             | a. Revelations 7:9-17<br>b. John 14:1-6, 27 |         |
| 9. Hymn   | MHB 608                                     | CAN 199 |
| 10. Sermon  |   |         |
| 11. Apostles Creed                                |   |         |
| 12. Offertory                                     |   |         |
| 13. Notices                                       |   |         |

**C. COMMENDATION SERVICE**

- |                            |         |         |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|
| 1. Hymn                    | MHB 615 | CAN 203 |
| 2. Prayer and Commendation |         |         |
| 3. The LORD'S PRAYER       |         |         |
| 4. Hymn                    | MHB 468 | CAN 152 |
| 5. Dead March in Saul      |         |         |
| 6. Benediction             |         |         |

**D. AT THE GRAVE SIDE**

- |                   |         |         |
|-------------------|---------|---------|
| 1. Hymn           | MHB 948 | CAN 305 |
| 2. Prayer         |         |         |
| 3. Committal      |         |         |
| 4. Prayer         |         |         |
| 5. Vote of thanks |         |         |
| 6. Hymn           | MHB 976 |         |
| 7. Benediction    |         |         |
| 8. Dismissal      |         |         |

**E. MEMORIAL AND THANKSGIVING SERVICE (SUNDAY)**

- |                      |         |         |
|----------------------|---------|---------|
| 1. Hymn              | MHB 679 | CAN 227 |
| 2. Memorial Service  |         |         |
| 3. Concluding prayer |         |         |
| 4. Hymn              | MHB 831 |         |
| 5. Benediction       |         |         |

**MHB 608    CAN 199  
CAPTAIN OF ISRAEL'S HOST**

1. Captain of Israel's host, and guide  
of all who seek the land above,  
beneath your shadow we abide,  
the cloud of your protecting love;  
our strength, your grace; our rule, your word:  
our end, the glory of the Lord.

2. By your unerring Spirit led,  
we shall not in the desert stray;  
we shall not full direction need,  
nor miss our providential way;  
as far from danger as from fear  
while love, almighty love, is near.

**MHB 615    CAN 203  
GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH**

1. Guide me, O Thou great \*Jehovah,  
Pilgrim through this barren land  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty,  
Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven  
Feed me till I want no more;  
Feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer,  
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield;  
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

3. Lord, I trust Thy mighty power,  
Wondrous are Thy works of old;  
Thou deliver'st Thine from thralldom,  
Who for naught themselves had sold:  
Thou didst conquer, Thou didst conquer  
Sin and Satan and the grave,  
Sin and Satan and the grave.

4. When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's Destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to Thee;  
I will ever give to Thee.

MHB 528    CAN 172  
**IN HEAVENLY LOVE ABIDING**

1. In heav'nly love abiding  
No change my heart shall fear  
And safe is such confiding  
For nothing changes here.  
The storm may roar without me  
My heart may low be laid  
But God is round about me  
And can I be dismayed?

2. Wherever He may guide me  
No want shall turn me back  
My Shepherd is beside me  
And nothing can I lack.  
His wisdom ever waketh,  
His sight is never dim;  
He knows the way He taketh,  
And I will walk with Him.

3. Green pastures are before me  
Which yet I have not seen;  
Bright skies will soon be o'er me,  
Where darkest clouds have been.  
My hope I cannot measure,  
My path to life is free;  
My Savior has my treasure,  
And He will walk with me.

MHB 498    CAN 164  
**ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME**

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee;  
Let the water and the blood,  
From Thy riven side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure,  
Save me from its guilt and power.

2. Not the labor of my hands  
Can fulfill Thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know,  
Could my tears forever flow,  
All could never sin erase,  
Thou must save, and save by grace.

3 Nothing in my hands I bring,  
Simply to Thy cross I cling;  
Naked, come to Thee for dress,  
Helpless, look to Thee for grace:  
Foul, I to the fountain fly,  
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

4. While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When mine eyes shall close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown,  
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee.

**BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE**

**MADAM JANET ABA BAIDOO**

*For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord (Romans 14:7,8).*

The late Madam Janet Aba Baidoo was born on September 17, 1931 at Agona Asafo to Opanyin Kofi Baidoo and Madam Esi Gwira, all of blessed memory. She was baptized into the Methodist Church and remained a staunch member until her demise in March this year. She was an active member of the Christ Little Band and made it her goal to always attend church service and on time too; she frowned on lateness.

Maame Janet or Auntie Yayewa or Maame Shed, as she was popularly called (depending on who was calling her), began her primary education at Nsaba Presbyterian Primary School but had to stop schooling after the death of her parents. She then went to stay with her uncle at Agona Swedru who got her to take up dress making as a vocation. Later she abandoned dress making and took to petty trading and farming.

In 1953, she got married to the late Mr. J. K. Osei-Owusu, and were blessed with six children; four males and two females; one of the females have since passed on. The frequent transfer of her husband by his employers especially the Produce Buying Agency, took her to different towns and villages including Akim Oda, Akroso, Nyanoa etc, and brought her into contact with all manner of persons. This experience enhanced her housekeeping abilities and receptiveness to visitors. She opened up her home to many children, mostly orphans, some of whom are here with us today.

After the death of her husband in 1979, she intensified her trading and farming activities to enhance her income for her children and other dependent's upkeep. She relocated to Agona Swedru in 1987 and after a while moved to join her children in Accra until her demise in the evening of March 27, 2019. She was very strict and will insist her children comply with Christian principles. She loved singing and would often be heard singing her popular Methodist hymns, any time she had the opportunity.

May the Lord keep you even as you take a peaceful rest in paradise, till we meet again  
Fare thee well, Maame Aba Yayewa Darkoa Baidoo



## TRIBUTE BY CHILDREN

**Then I heard a voice from heaven say,**

**“Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.”**

**“Yes,” says the Spirit, “ they will rest from their labour,**

**for their deeds will follow them (Rev 14:13).**

**W**e could not believe it when news of your death was given to us. We lived in denial for days out of shock hoping it will be a bad dream but after a while reality set in and we had to accept that you are really gone to rest with the Lord.

Maame, we acknowledge your battle and struggle through the valley of shadow of death, yet you had to let go because you understand and believe that when the good Lord calls His children, there is nothing they can do than to comply. We do believe that everything happens for a reason as we take consolation in the Lord that giveth life and taketh it at his own will.

We owe our good upbringing and who we are today to your ceaseless prayers and support all through our childhood till now. We recount your selfless and complete devotion to the family even after the dead of our father 40 years ago.

Maame, we are forever grateful for the attribute of discipline and the fear of God that you instilled in us. We acknowledge and appreciate your continuous dedication, struggle and exceptional efforts towards our education and general upkeep when we lost our father in 1979 and the trial you went through as a widow. It's true you are gone but not forgotten, you were the best mother and we will always love you.

You were our trusted friend even in our adult years. You found a way of staying in touch with us and you

5. So I ask Thee for the daily strength, to none that ask denied,  
And a mind to blend with outward life while keeping at Thy side;  
Content to fill a little space, if Thou be glorified.

6. And if some things I do not ask in my cup of blessing be,  
I would have my spirit filled the more with grateful love to Thee,  
More careful, not to serve Thee much, but to please Thee perfectly.

7. There are briers besetting every path that call for patient care;  
There is a cross in every lot, and an earnest need for prayer;  
But a lowly heart that leans on Thee is happy anywhere.

8. In a service which Thy will appoints there are no bonds for me;  
For my inmost heart is taught “the truth” that makes Thy children “free”  
And a life of self-renouncing love is a life of liberty.

## MHB 528     CAN 172 IN HEAVENLY LOVE ABIDING

1. In heav'nly love abiding  
No change my heart shall fear  
And safe is such confiding  
For nothing changes here.  
The storm may roar without me  
My heart may low be laid  
But God is round about me  
And can I be dismayed?

2. Wherever He may guide me  
No want shall turn me back  
My Shepherd is beside me  
And nothing can I lack.  
His wisdom ever waketh,  
His sight is never dim;  
He knows the way He taketh,  
And I will walk with Him.

3. Green pastures are before me  
Which yet I have not seen;  
Bright skies will soon be o'er me,  
Where darkest clouds have been.  
My hope I cannot measure,  
My path to life is free;  
My Savior has my treasure,  
And He will walk with me.

## HYMNS

**MHB 99**    **CAN 25**

### HOW SWEET THE NAME OF JESUS SOUNDS

1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
In a believer's ear!  
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds  
And drives away his fear.
2. It makes the wounded spirit whole  
And calms the troubled breast;  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul  
And to the weary rest.
3. Dear name! the Rock on which I build,  
My shield, and hiding-place,  
My never-failing treasury, filled  
With boundless stores of grace!
- 4 .Jesus, my Shepherd, Brother, Friend  
My Prophet, Priest, and King;  
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,  
Accept the praise I bring.
5. Weak is the effort of my heart,  
And cold my warmest thought;  
But when I see thee as thou art  
I'll praise thee as I ought.
6. Till then I would thy love proclaim  
With every fleeting breath  
And may the music of thy name  
Refresh my soul in death!

**MHB 602**    **CAN 196**

### FATHER, I KNOW THAT ALL MY LIFE

1. Father, I know that all my life is portioned out  
for me,  
And the changes that are sure to come I do not  
fear to see;  
But I ask Thee for a present mind intent on  
pleasing Thee.
2. I ask Thee for a thoughtful love, through  
constant watching wise,  
To meet the glad with joyful smiles, and to wipe  
the weeping eyes;  
And a heart at leisure from itself, to soothe and  
sympathize.
3. I would not have the restless will that  
hurries to and fro,  
Seeking for some great thing to do or secret thing  
to know;  
I would be treated as a child, and guided where I  
go.
4. Wherever in the world I am, in whatso'er  
estate,  
I have a fellowship with hearts to keep and  
cultivate;  
And a work of lowly love to do for the Lord on  
whom I wait.

were always eager to know what was going on in our lives and support our efforts where possible.

Maame, your absence has created a vacuum in our lives. We will always be grateful to God for blessing us with such a wonderful mother who played her role to absolute perfection. It is really difficult to bid you farewell since we cannot accept losing you, however we are assured that you are resting in the bosom of the Almighty God.

We love you Maame and wish we could keep you with us forever but God knows best. Fare thee well Maame and may your gentle soul rest in perfect peace through the mercies of God. Amen.



## TRIBUTE BY GRANDCHILDREN

Praise we the glorious names we know;  
And they-whose names have perished,  
Lost in the haze of long ago  
In silent love be cherished. (MHB 896, stanza 5)

“Maame” or “Maame Shed” was how as grandchildren we often called our grandmother Madam Janet Aba Baidoo. She always expressed interests in the affairs of her grandchildren, and would ask about either your schooling or your work.

For some of us, we remember how our grandmother took care of us during our infancy at Swedru. We remember the good old days when she would be listening to Peace FM all the time. We remember how she will charge us for not listening to news, because she did not see us by any radio device. We have not forgotten our childhood days- anytime we are told of a trip to Swedru, and then it means we will be visiting you.

We remember her super excitement in the year 2000 when then Mr. John Agyekum Kuffour had just been elected president of Ghana. We remember her excellent cooking skills. We remember the yam “ampesi” which she would cook for us anytime we come to Swedru. We remember how she will marvel us by storing and recalling her children's (our parents) telephone numbers in her head. The memories are many- all we have now is memories and we thank God for the moments with her.

*Maame God be with you till we meet again. Amen!*



*Maame Dayie!!*  
1931 - 2019



### TRIBUTE BY BETHESDA METHODIST CHURCH

Lord it belongs not to my care whether I die or live; to love and serve thee is my share:  
And this thy grace must give (MHB 647 VERSE I).

**M**aame Janet Baidoo lived her life in a godly manner by practicing the Christian teachings with passion; one would rarely find her coming to church late. Maame Janet, you would forever be remembered for your punctuality and regularity to church and all other activities as well as prompt payments of your tithes together with all other church contributions.

The leadership of the church visited and prayed with you occasionally when you became ill and invalid. Meanwhile, the Reverend Minister continued to offer both physical and spiritual support to Madam Janet Baidoo. She paid frequent visits to you and gave you communion every month.

Few months ago, the church was informed that your son has taken you to Accra for better care. We were patiently waiting in prayers that you will come back again, only for us to be informed of your demise.

Today, as a church, we do agree with William Shakespeare that “the world is a stage and all of us are actors and actresses with different roles of play and when one is played one exist the stage” indeed you have played and contributed your quota.

In the same vain, Maame Janet Baidoo will also agree with Paul that she has fought a good fight, she has finished the race, she has kept the faith and what is left is the crown that the good Lord will give to her and all faithfuls on that day

The church bids you fare thee well  
Rest peacefully in the Bosom of your creator.  
Amen

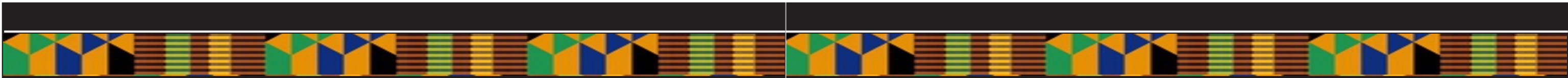
### TRIBUTE BY IN-LAWS

Through all the changing scenes of life  
In trouble and in joy  
The praises of my God shall still  
My heart and tongue employ (MHB 427)

It is with such a heavy heart and deep sense of loss that we pay this tribute to our mother-in-law. Maame, as we affectionately called her was a mother to all of us, and she treats us as her own. Maame will not hesitate to correct any of us when we go astray.

Maame always showed a deep sense of gratitude for the little given to her. We thank the Lord for such a mother, and it is our prayer that God keeps her in his arms until we meet again on the resurrection day. Amen! Maame Da Yie!





*Maame Rest In Peace!*

