

# Fare Thee Well



R. WALTER FRANCIS MAWULI KORMLA



at Transitions Place, Haatso Friday 16th August, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

Officiating Minister - Pastor Abraham Just-Wordi

# Programme for Church Service

# OFFICIATING MINISTER Pastor Abraham Just-Wordi

- 1. Filing past and Prayer Min. Eric Amuzu (Choir Hymns)
- 2. Opening Scripture Reading (1 Thess 4:13-17) Min. Femi Adeitan
- 3. HYMN 1 Nearer My God to Thee
- 4. Scripture reading

John 3: 1-3 - Esther Fafa Tetteh Esq.

Rev 21:4 - Mr. Bernard Tetteh

Rom 6:8-11 - Mr. Emmanuel Selom Kpikpi

- 5. Biography Dr. Mrs. Elmer Ametefe
- 6. Eulogy
- 7. Tribute by:

Children - Mrs. Dzifa Barnafo

Sons-in-law - Dr. Mawuli Ametefe

Siblings - Mrs. Clara Ahadzi (Sister)

Gaani Church - Pastor Atinga Danladi Simon

Family Health

- HYMN 2 Guide me o Thou great Jehovah
- Scripture reading 2 Tim. 4:7-8 Dr. Mrs. Esther Ona
- 10. Sermon Apostle Dr. John Kpikpi
- Prayer for the family Apostle Dr. John Kpikpi and other ministers present
- 12. Vote of thanks Honorable Kwabena Panin Nkansah
- 13. Announcements Mr. Nana Yaw Anim Barnafo
- 14. Recessional Hymn Through the love of God our Saviour.

#### INTERMENT - PRIVATE - GETHSEMANE

- 15. Officiating Minister Pastor Abraham Just-Wordi
- HYMN 3 Now the Laborer's Task is done Choir
- Committal prayers Rev. Alexander Kpikpi
- 18. Lowering of casket Gethsemane
- Laying of Wreaths Family
- 20. HYMN 4 Abide with me (Choir)
- 21. Benediction Pastor Abraham Just-Wordi



# BIOGRAPHY OF Dr. WALTER MAWULI KOMLA KPIKPI, PG Dip, BSc. M.Sc, PhD.

An influential and respected
leader in higher education delivery, church leader, family man,
Dr Walter Mawuli Komla Kpikpi
was a man who 'fought the good fight'
and has finished his race.

Dede Kpikpi on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November 1946 in Have in the Volta Region of Ghana where his father was working as the Headteacher of the local E.P Church schools.

Not long after his birth, his father was transferred to a new station in Bowiri, where young Walter started his primary school education. His Dad's love and passion for education was imparted to him quite early on as learning and teaching became his passion as well as a major pillar throughout his life.

He was an outstanding pupil from the early years in Bowiri Primary school, a trend which continued in Vakpo Primary and Middle Schools and in Have Middle School while he lived with his brother, Rev. Alex Y Mac Kpikpi who was teaching in the local E.P. Church School.

While teaching a class that was preparing for the then Common Entrance Exams, Rev. Mac Kpikpi remembers fondly a group of three outstanding students (of which Walter was one) whom he felt were all destined for great things. Without any doubt all three including Walter excelled in their entrance exams which opened the way for Walter to go to his dream secondary School, Mawuli School in Ho.

#### Secondary and University Education:

Walter studied for seven years in all at Mawuli School where he successfully obtained his GCE 'O'-Level Certificate and two years later, the Advanced Level Certificate in the three Science subjects: Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Walter was admitted to the University of Science and Technology (UST) now 1970 where he studied KNUST in Biological Sciences leading to a B.Sc Degree in the Biological Sciences (1974). He did a year's National Service at Ofori Panin Secondary school teaching science students up to the O-level standard.

## Marriage and family

It was during his time here in Tafo that the seeds of romance were sown which was later to develop into a full blown love and marriage to his beloved and dear wife Joyce of blessed memory) who was living with her parents in Asamankese at the time. Theirs was a happy and fruitful marriage which gave birth to 4 children between 1978 and 1985; Eunice Dzifa Yaa Dede, Elmer Nayra Abra, Emmanuel Selom Kwame and Esther Fafa Yawa. A very loving father, a strong pillar and tower of strength for his family.

After his National Service, his passion for higher education was to see him back to UST, to enroll on a novel course, an M.Sc. in Wood Science & Technology, that was introduced to provide young graduates with the requisite expertise needed to enhance the scientific harnessing and development of the Timber Industry in Ghana. During this time Walter's leadership qualities began to emerge as he stood for and won the student

elections to become the President of Independence Hall. He worked tirelessly and effectively to improve the experience of student life in Indece Hall and the Campus at large.

Walter got a job at the Mim Timber Company, in Mim, Brong Ahafo where he worked as a Manager for six years.

## Emigration and back to Higher Education.

At the end of his stint in the timber industry, Walter returned to the world of Education again. This time through a major relocation to Nigeria where he settled first, in the University of Ile Ife (1983-1986) where he lectured in, and also obtained his Ph.D in Botany.

# Life Change.

It was while here in Ile Ife that God's salvation through Jesus Christ came to him.

Walter came to know our Lord Jesus as his Lord and personal Savior; a commitment that changed his life completely. He became born again. He discovered a new passion, Jesus Christ as Saviour, Lord, Redeemer, Friend and much more. Dr. Walter served his Lord in many roles as a preacher, teacher and a church planter in Navorongo (All Souls for Christ Church, Gaani) and his faith was at work in all his work and in all his service that he did both in his

academic work and in everything that he put his hands to.

#### More service in Universities.

His passion for education, having led him to the highest qualification ever (- a PhD,) his career path was now set: to devote himself to teaching and research in tertiary education. This he did with real zeal and excellence first in the University of Ile Ife, Nigeria (1983-86), Ondo State University, Ado Ekiti (1986-1996) and later on in Ghana at the University of Development Studies (UDS) in Tamale and Navorongo from 1997 to 2013.

UDS became his main focus for his University work as in addition to teaching and research he also held the following positions:

Head of Department of Biology (1997-2000); Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences (2000-2006); Dean of Students (2009-2013).

His academic work extended to other institutions.

- Research Fellow, Kew Botanical Gardens. London, UK. (1992-1993).
- Visiting Scholar, Post Graduate Diploma in Oil Studies, Ben Gurion University, Beer Sheva, Israel (2001)
- Visiting Scholar, Botany Dept, University of Ghana, Legon. (2007-2008).

- Visiting Scholar, Kansas State University, (2008)
- Lecturer, Department of Biology Education, University of Education, Winneba, (2016-2017).

During his University career, Dr Walter Kpikpi, published many scientific papers from his research work in several international journals.

For over 40 years of service in academia and industry, Dr Walter distinguished himself in all of God's calling on his life. He has been a tremendous blessing to generations of students and an inspiration to countless people over the years in the churches and in several universities world-wide.

Well done, good and faithful servant. Rest well, and may your good works live on in many hearts and lives.





#### TRIBUTE TO OUR DEAREST DAD

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor seateth in the seat of the scornful

Psalm 1:1

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High, shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty Psalm 91:1

I will lift up my eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help, my help cometh from the Lord who made the heavens and the earth. Psalm 121:1-2 hese are some of the scriptures that our father, whom we affectionately called 'Daddy', taught us from an early age. He prioritized teaching us the scriptures - ensuring we grew up in an environment enriched with the Word of God. He also taught us to sing hymns and lead Bible study sessions at home.

Daddy ensured we took our studies seriously, often tutoring us himself. Our home was centered around schoolwork and the Bible. Occasionally, we were allowed to watch a 'good' movie, with an emphasis on good. Of course, we managed to sneak in quite a number of unauthorized story books. This led to some amusing consequences when we were 'caught'— memories that are quite hilarious in retrospect.

A botanist, he made sure botanical names were part of our vocabulary.



This is the reason the homes of my siblings and I have an array of plants. We can never forget the numerous road trips and picnics we had with him. There was never a dull school holiday with Daddy.

He was deeply involved in our household training and he personally created our work schedules. From dishwashing, cooking and through to feeding the rabbits, chickens and turkeys he bred, he ensured we were well-rounded in all our tasks. He maintained a respectable

farm, where we served as the farm-hands. This was no child labour (lol). Here, he taught us fascinating agricultural principles such as mixed cropping, fertilizer application and mound-making for yam cultivation.

Two particularly-memorable aspects of going to the farm

with Daddy were the meticulous preparation before leaving the house and the rewards during harvest season. He always dressed us in appropriate gear, making us look more like astronauts than farmers - reflecting his protective nature.

During harvest seasons, he had unique methods for roasting corn in the husk - which tasted exceptionally good.

Daddy was a versatile person who often took over the kitchen to prepare interesting recipes with his special touch.

While he used these sessions to teach us adaptive culinary skills, his cooking was always finger-licking good.

Unlike the original commander-in-chief of the kitchen (Mama) who always left a clean trail, Daddy on the other hand left behind an interesting trail of utensils to be cleaned up. Nevertheless, we always looked forward to his next treat.

Daddy was very kind. However, he was also firm and a disciplinarian.

He also knew how to laugh and could take and tell a good joke.

He was a great teacher and mentor. He invested his time, prayers and

financial resources in our lives and those of his students. Our home was always open to his students, church members, younger and older work colleagues, artisans etc. and he made sure he shared Jesus with all he encountered.

He was available anytime we needed him and even when we didn't want to be a bother by bringing him in on certain matters, he still ensured his presence and input was felt. He taught us to be independent, bold and to reach for the stars.

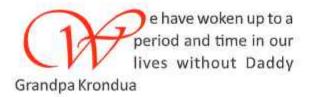
He was a great dad and a cool grandpa. We miss him terribly, but we know he is in a better place in the presence of our God and Father.

Farewell and rest well Daddy.

You will forever remain in our hearts
and we will ensure
all generations know that
you run your race exemplarily well.
We love you.
Till we meet again.....



### TRIBUTE TO ANOTHER DADDY - FROM SONS-IN-LAW



We have only sweet memories to share of our interactions with him. We would say it's all been friendship and warmth from the first day we were met till now. He welcomed us to his home with unconditional love, unbiased guidance, knowledge, motivation, and most importantly, a family that will forever stand by us.

Here was a man who remained positive to our struggles in spite of his own emotional struggles.

"God will pave the way for the victory" he would say. "I pray for a special overtaking anointing for you my son". "He would complete what he has started. He taught us to fight against any obstacle, no matter how hard it is, not with words or confrontation but with a reliance on the God in heaven.

He did not watch a game with us. He loved to invite us to listen and watch a sermon instead. "He loved to discuss Adeboye's sermon and not the economic difficulties. He always included us in the family, sometimes discussing pertinent things with us as though our opinions mattered and yes they did.

"I think I want to use these two colors, what do you think?" He would say. He had a peculiar habit of being too grateful for little things done. He would re-echo his gratitude until you are embarrassed.

In his later days, when his health begun to fail, we observed him cling more to his God. Those were trying days for his faith. Not that he had lost it but like John the Baptist, he wished he was sure of the will of the Lord.

He has taught us like a scientist that he was, that you could see God in every cell and in every organelle. No wonder he kept his zeal of doing the work of the Lord along his science work.

If we carry nothing away, let us know that it is possible to do God's work along any job that the Lord your God gives you on earth. May we learn to hold the plough and not look back.

Rest in perfect peace with your Maker.



#### TRIBUTE BY GRANDCHILDREN

ur grandpa was an inspiration to us. When he was
around, his presence in the
room could quell any argument and
generally leave the atmosphere tranquil.
He was a cool, calm and collected
individual who knew how to gain a
person's interest and help others
experience joy. He always brought a
smile to our faces.

Grandpa encouraged us whenever we were with him. He gave us little bits of wisdom and guidance which to this day help us in our daily life.

When he was alive, he would lovingly take care of us and was always there-

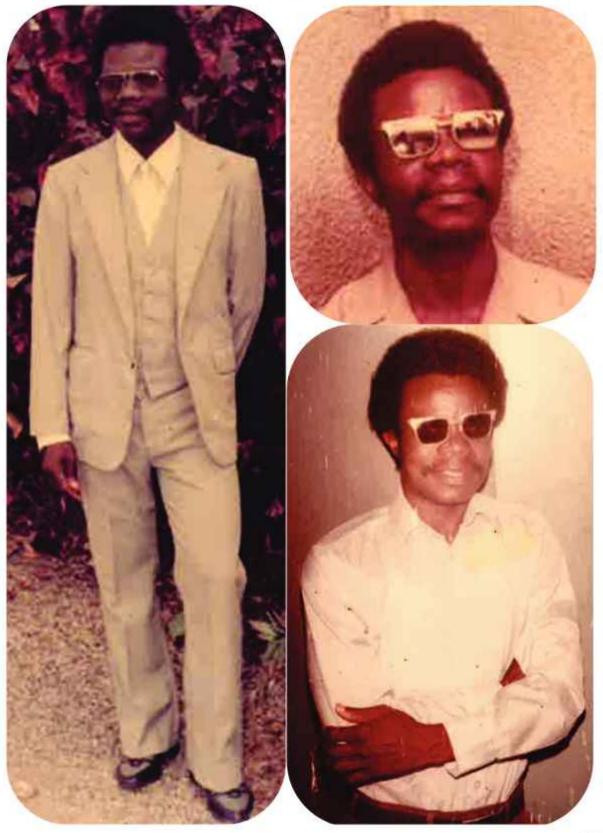
willing to listen to anything we had to say or talk about.

He was a devout man of God and helped us in our walk with God. He was a source of spiritual inspiration. He taught all of us about God and how to avoid things that would separate us from Him. We know he is in heaven with God and is watching us.

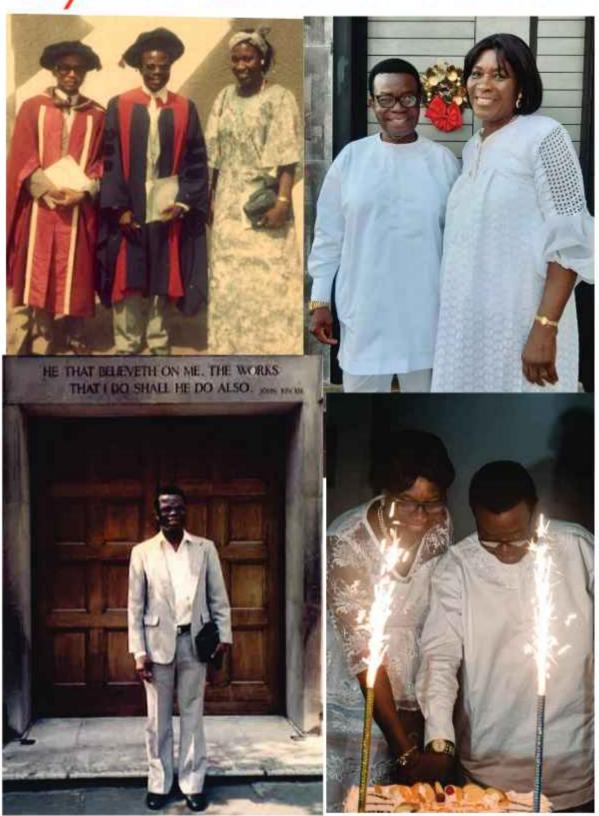


Grandpa, we miss you. Rest in perfect peace. Amen.



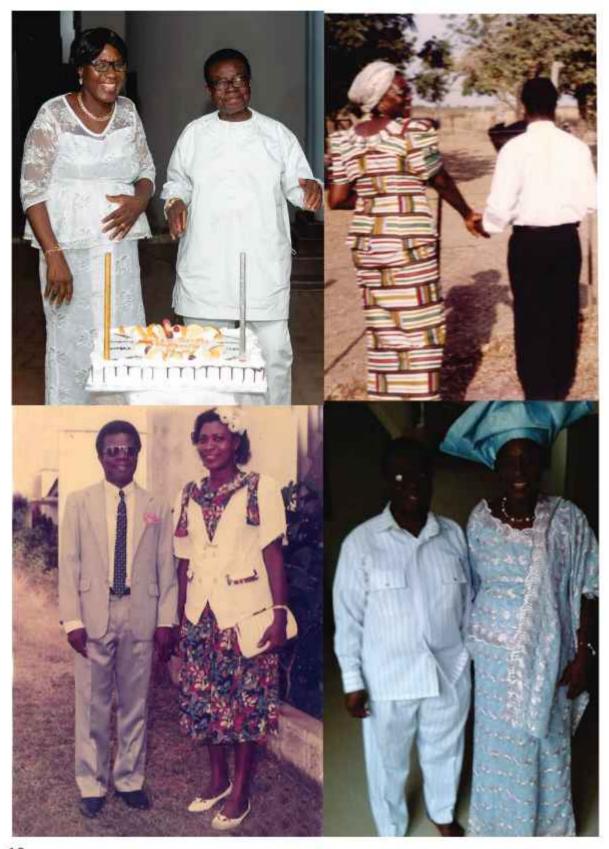


# ... Captured Memories Remain ...



# ...Forever In Our Hearts...





#### TRIBUTES FROM BROTHERS & SISTERS

#### From Efo Alex (Rev. A.Y Mac Kpikpi)

he life and mission of the departed, seem to be built on the hymn he loved so much:

My hope is built on nothing less
But Jesus' blood and Righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ the solid ground I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand

The lyric of the hymn above proclaims the faith of the departed, our beloved brother, Dr Walter Francis Mawuli Kpikpi. This faith in his creator, propelled him to the heights and insight he had attained in the life well spent.

We are grieved by your sudden departure but since, like the Apostle Paul, your desire is to depart and be at home with Christ your Savior, we are consoled by the fact that you are at rest with the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior Hede nyuie - Fare thee well!

NB: the hymn to be sung at the end of the tribute

#### From Emmanuel Kpikpi

We have our name 'Sakpo' & 'Sakpa' which goes back many years and carries so much of our very close relationship. Very sad to see you leave us now. Walter, my cherished brother, rest in perfect peace.

#### From Irene

While it is with a heavy heart I write to say Good bye to you, it is also with a profound sense of gratitude for having you as a brother who came directly after me. We were both born on a Tuesday for which we had a special bond with each other culminating into a pet name for you as KOMLA GYAM, to which you responded, DAVI ABRA.

In fact, I hate what happens when one dies, but I love to believe there is heaven past the sky. May your soul enter a well-deserved rest. Please give my love to Papa and Dada. Tell them I miss their wit and wisdom. Sleep well my dear brother Walter.

#### From Sister Dorothy Edem Kpikpi

My Brother, I don't know what to say or what to do but one thing I know is, I trust Jesus who has made the decision to call you home to rest with Him from this troubled world, to His peace and eternal joy. He de nyuie.

#### From Dora

Today is full of memories of our dear brother whom some of us affectionately called Efo Walter. We were 12 siblings from one source, one mother one father, and were raised up under one roof. Our parents brought us up in a very true Christian way where love for another was paramount. This bond existed among us so our home was

always full of joy love and happiness.

Efo Walter was equally loved and cherished by all and he always assisted and encouraged we the younger ones. He loved the sciences so he taught us the younger ones during the holidays, so he was actually our role model; our childhood days were full of laughter joy and peace.

Today is hard to accept that he is no more, we wished there is a way to say a proper goodbye but God chose to do it His way so brother may the angels take care of you to your final home. We love you dearly but God loves you best. Rest in perfect peace. Dora Atawa Forson Kpikpi.

#### From Clara

Efo Walter, I cannot believe you left us so soon. You were so jovial that all our interactions were full of jokes and laughter anytime we met. You hardly called me Clara, rather you preferred calling me Kakaaka, a name a 2- year old gave me in the 60's. I can still hear your voice calling me. Efo, I know you are resting comfortably where you are now. Continue to rest in the bosom of your maker.

### From Lawson, Brother-in-law

Fo Walter, we first met in Mawuli School when I came to form one in 1966 and 15

you were in 6th form. We got on well and little did I know I would be married to your sister, Clara. It's a small world they say. You were a great brother in law. Restin perfect peace.

#### From Yaya

Efo Walter, it's hard for me to see you go. I remember we worked together in your youth getting the clay all ready for making the hearth (emle) on which we did all our cooking. I really enjoyed those times. Somehow when everyone got to their tolerance limits with my tantrums you were always there by my side and assuring everyone that I was okay. So as it worked out you became the one person that I really listened to because you listened to me first. I will miss you and may you know God's perfect peace and rest.

#### From John

You were a great inspiration on this life's journey for me. I remember I got really excited about secondary school when you used to return from Mawuli School on holidays to see us all. I ended up doing my 6<sup>th</sup> Form in Mawuli.

Then when I learnt you were doing the sciences, I was sure I also wanted to do the sciences. I did the same first degree that you did, only in a different University where it was called Zoology & Botany.

Then when you pushed on to do a doctorate degree, I did same only in a different University and different area of Biology.

It was a surprise and a shock for me at first when I saw you had joined the 'Chrife' people at the University of Ile Ife. I'd never thought you'd join them! I was upset and confused about this but within a few days in your home, God revealed his Son to me and this reset my life's journey permanently for a much, much better life. Very grateful for all the pioneering things you did which I have immensely benefitted from.

Good bye, Efo Walter and, may He who called you, fill you with real rest and peace and exceedingly great joy in His presence. - John

My hope is built on nothing less
But Jesus' blood and Righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ the solid ground I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand



### TRIBUTE BY THE NKANSAH FAMILY

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

I first met "Uncle Kpikpi" as my husband and I affectionately called him and "Grandpa Kpikpi" as our daughters called him when I reported to assume a lectureship duty at the then Ondo State University in Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria. I arrived in Ado-Ekiti one late afternoon and the University escort took me to a house which was adjacent the residence of the Kpipki's. Auntie Kpikpi of blessed memory out of nowhere came out of her house and the escort introduced me to her as a new lecturer of the University who happens to be a Ghanaian.

Auntie Kpipki helped me to settle in my house and there and then invited me to her home and treated me to a delicious fufu with palm nut soup. She introduced me to her husband Dr. Kpikpi and said "Abena this is your father come here every morning and take a ride with him to work." I had no car of my own and the residence was very far from the faculty site, so that offer was a saving grace. From then I joined Uncle Kpikpi to work every day.

Uncle Kpikpi took me as his daughter and helped to mentor me to settle in the University as a young academic. He let me into his life as an academic and showed me the dynamics and politics involved in academia and how I should tread the academic path.

Uncle Kpikpi and his wife helped me to settle in Ado-Ekiti as they took me to the market and showed me where to get whatever I needed. I became a member of the Kpikpi family, often eating in their home and only sleeping in my house at night. Uncle kept a backyard rabbit farm and occasionally prepared roasted rabbit for us; a delicacy I enjoyed very well. We bonded closely.

During my wedding when my husbandto-be, at the time, came over to Ado-Ekiti for us to have the ceremony over there, Uncle Kpikpi welcomed him as his own son and helped him to settle down. Uncle and Aunty were in their highest natural elements for the wedding. They formed the wedding planning team and Uncle helped his wife to bake the cake, made the confectionary, and cooked the meals. My husband-to-be and I were very relaxed because there was practically nothing for us to do except to dress and show up for the ceremony. Uncle played the grand role of my Daddy on my wedding day because he walked



me to the altar of marriage and gave my hand in marriage to my husband. My family and I will live to remember his kindness and love for us.

Whilst my husband was in Ado-Ekiti they made it a point to feed us with cakes and other sweets from their kitchen/bakery. In our house today, the Kpikpis's confectionary remains the standard!!! We signal our approval of delicacies when we say; "this tastes like that of the Kpikpi's." They showed us the practical way of what it means to be a husband and a wife and parents as well. We are grateful to God for letting our paths cross with Uncle Kpikpi and his family.

Our paths crossed again years later in Ghana when Uncle Kpikpi came to Legon for his sabbatical leave from the University of Development Studies At that time God had blessed us with two daughters. Our children became so much acquainted with them. Anytime I went to the Legon Basic School; their school to pick them after school, I would be told that they had gone to their grandparents' home. Instead of picking them from school I had to pick them from the home of the Kpikpis. This shows how much Uncle and his family loved and cared for them.

We as a family were shocked and sad when we heard of Uncle's home-going. We however are consoled knowing that Uncle is resting with the heavenly father, the Almighty God, the Highest.

> Uncle Dayie Onyame mfa wo Nsie

# TRIBUTE TO DR. WALTER MAWULI KPIKPI BY FAMILY HEALTH MEDICAL SCHOOL

e are deeply saddened by the passing of Dr. Walter Mawuli Kormla Kpikpi, a highly respected Lecturer and a great intellectual. Our thoughts are with his family, friends, and colleagues during this difficult time, our hearts go out to the family.

Dr. Kpikpi joined the Family Health Medical School (FHMS) at its inception in 2014, and he quickly became a beloved figure among students and faculty. He was a Lecturer in Biology (Cell Biology & Genetics), and he taught the first three (3) batches of the Family Health Medical School (FHMS) students who have successfully passed out and are practicing as Medical officers in various hospitals and health facilities within and outside the country.

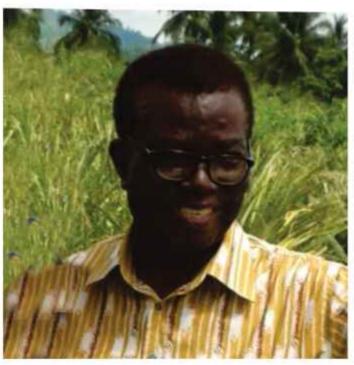
Dr. Kpikpi's engaging lectures and dedication to student success inspired students to develop more interest in the course. He was known for his innovative teaching methods and his ability to connect theoretical concepts to real-world issues.

Dr. Kpikpi's contributions to FHMS and his unwavering dedication to his students will be deeply missed. His footprints will live on through the countless lives he touched and the knowledge he imparted.

As we mourn his loss, we also celebrate the remarkable life he led, a life marked by curiosity, passion, and a deep commitment to education and the betterment of others. His legacy will continue to inspire and guide us, and he will forever hold a special place in our hearts.

Dr. Kpikpi, your contributions to the world of Biology (Cell Biology and Genetics) education will be remembered and cherished by all who knew you, and especially those of us at Family Health Medical School.

Rest in Peace with eternal sleep.



# TRIBUTE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED BIOLOGY, C. K. TEDAM UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED SCIENCES (CKT-UTAS) NAVRONGO, FORMERLY UDS NAVRONGO CAMPUS.

Blessed are the dead, who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them. (Rev. 14:13).

admiration that we honour the legacy of Dr. Walter Mawuli Kormla Kpikpi, whose distinguished career at the University for Development Studies (UDS) Navrongo Campus, which is now the C. K. Tedam University of Technology and Applied Sciences, left an indelible mark on both the institution and the many lives he touched throughout his tenure.

Dr. Kpikpi's journey with UDS began on 1st January 1996, when he was appointed as a lecturer in the Department of Biological Sciences at the Nyankpala Campus in Tamale. His vast expertise in Plant Anatomy and Wood Utilisation became the cornerstone of his teaching and research, shaping the minds of many students who passed through his hands.

Dr. Kpikpi's dedication and hard work did not go unnoticed. In December 1996, just months after joining UDS, he was appointed the Head of the Department of Biological Sciences. Despite the heavy responsibilities that came with this role, he continued to excel in his teaching duties, guiding his students with the same diligence and passion that defined his career. His leadership during this period was marked by his unwavering commitment to academic excellence.

In September 1997, He was appointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences which was then in Tamale, and in 2002 the Faculty was moved to Navrongo to start admitting its own students. Dr Kpikpi's leadership abilities were further recognized, when he was posted to the Navrongo Campus of UDS as a member of the Department of Applied Biology and the first Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences (FAS), a role he held with distinction until November His pioneering efforts in establishing the FAS laid a solid foundation for its future growth and success. Under his guidance, FAS flourished, producing graduates who have gone on to make significant contributions to their fields.

Dr Kpikpi's service to UDS extended beyond academic leadership. From September 2009 to August 2010, he served as the Dean of Students Affairs in UDS, where he demonstrated a deep concern for the welfare and development of students. His strong advocacy for staff prayer meetings, and his support for Students' Scripture Union.



activities have left a lasting spiritual legacy. His approachability, combined with his firm yet compassionate leadership, made him a beloved figure among students and staff alike.

Even after his formal retirement, Dr Kpikpi's passion for his work did not wane. He applied for and was granted a post-retirement contract, continuing to contribute to the University until his final retirement on 31st August 2013. His commitment to education, even in his post-retirement years, is a testament to his enduring dedication to the academic community.

His legacy will continue to inspire future generations of educators and students at CKT-UTAS.

We are grateful for his years of service and the profound impact he made on our institution. Dr Kpikpi will be remembered not just as a lecturer and leader, but as a mentor, a pioneer, and a true scholar whose contributions have left a lasting legacy.

Fare thee well
Dr Walter Mawuli Kormla Kpikpi.
N'yi Lanyerane Dr. Kpikpi.
Rest well in the bossom of your maker
till we meet again.

## TRIBUTE FROM MARANATHA CHARISMATIC CENTRE (MCC)

"For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens. (2 Corinthians 5:1 ESV)

r. Walter Mawuli Komla k p i k p i w h o w a s affectionately called Dr. Kpikpi was a valued member of Maranatha Charismatic Centre, Tamale. He joined the Church in 1996 together with his wife of blessed memory and their four children.

His genuine god-fearing nature immediately became evident to all. He was a devout Christian who loved the Lord sincerely. He was tireless in his ministry and service to the Lord. He served as a Sunday school teacher, a deacon and a board member of the church.

Dr. Kpikpi never missed a service and was available to visit anyone who did. Spreading the message of Christ was his priority and this made him an active member of the evangelism team.

His home was a house fellowship centre and apart from prayer, he used the opportunity to give career guidance to the younger ones who attended his house fellowship. With the courage of a jet pilot, the tenacity of a champion athlete, the humility and devotion of a disciple of the Lord, Dr. Kpikpi has completed his life's mission in a most exemplary way. He has passed the test of mortality and returned to his Maker.

The church would have wished that he would be with us today but we are consoled by the fact that he is in a better place - where there is no more night, no more weeping and no more pain.

Dr. Kpikpi, rest well In the bosom of our Lord till we meet again. Amen.



# TRIBUTE BY ALL SOULS A/G, GAANI/NAVRONGO (UPPER-EAST REGION)

And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from hence forth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours and their works do follow them (Revelation 14:13).

hero has fallen! An anointed man has fallen!! A giant in the service of God has fallen!!! The father of All Souls Church has fallen.

Dr. Walter Kpikpi came to Navrongo as a lecturer at the then University of Development Studies (UDS) - now C. K. Tedam University of Technology and Applied Sciences. He helped students to perform well in their academic work and also trained others to become preachers of the gospel.

Dr. Kpikpi did not only love the Lord. He genuinely loved people as well. With a heart filled with soul winning, he wanted everyone to be saved and so he went to the Gaani community to start a church. He was not welcome the first time. He did not give up. He prayed and went the second time. Yet again, he was not welcome. He prayed one more time and at his third attempt, he was finally accepted and allowed to commence a fellowship.

In 2007, Dr. Kpikpi started the church with seven members (four adults and three children) under a tree. However, 23 on the onset of the rainy season, it was difficult to hold meetings whenever it rained. In 2008, Dr. Kpikpi helped finance a mud building for us when our number increased to thirteen (eight adults and five children).

Unfortunately, when the rains came, the mud building collapsed leaving us with no choice than to go back to our old rugged tree.

This did not deter him and as he continued in his missionary work in the community and surrounding environs - coupled with us praying too - the church membership increased to one-hundred and five (seventy-two adults and thirty-three children) in 2009. The same year, Dr. Kpikpi put up two, concrete-block buildings for the church - one for the adults and the other for the children.

Looking at how difficult it was at the time for most of the members to afford a square meal daily, he supported many families with capital to start small-scale businesses.

After his retirement in 2013, he left for Accra and handed over responsibility and care of the church to some of his students. They did so to the best of their abilities. The church kept growing but when they also completed their education and left, attendance and membership dwindled. However, we

know that when God builds His church, the gates of hell cannot prevail against it and we have seen appreciable increases in our numbers year on year. We thank God for that.

Daddy, when we came for our mother's funeral, you prayed for us and we returned to Navrongo. So one can imagine our shock and deep sorrow when we heard of your sudden passing on 1st July 2024.

Daddy, who will advise us? Who will pray for us? All Souls wish that you could have stayed with us forever. Though we need you here, your Maker has called you home to be in His bosom.

Daddy, you have fought the good fight and you have finished the race. May your precious soul rest in perfect peace. Amen



# HYMN 1 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, 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, Nearer to Thee!

3 There let my way appear Steps unto heaven; All that Thou send'st to me In mercy given; Angels to beckon me Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee!

 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,
 Nearer to Thee

#### HYMN 2

1 GUIDE ME, O my great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore...



- 2 Open now the crystal fountain, where the healing waters flow. Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, ever be my strength and shield, ever be my strength and shield.
- 3 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 sing to you, I will ever sing to you.

#### HYMN 3

 NOW the labourer'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.

- There the tears of earth and dried;
   There its hidden things are clear;
   There the work of life is tried
   By a juster Judge than here, (Refrain)
- There the Shepherd, bringing home Many a lamb forlorn and strayed, Shelters each, no more to roam, Where the wolf can ne'er invade.

4. There the sinful souls, that turn To the cross their dying eyes, All the love of Christ shall learn At His Feet in Paradise. (Refrain)

#### HYMN 4

- 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.
- Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
   Earth joys grow dim, the glories pass away;
   Change and decay in all around I see
   Thou who changest not, abide with me.
- 3. I need Thy presence every passing hour; What but Thy grace can foil the temper's power? Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.
- 4. I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness; Where is deaths sting? where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.
- 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!

(Refrain)

